

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
Minutes of the
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 16, 2011

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:00 PM

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:**

Bill Long	Present
Mickey Luckman	Present
Mike Luhrs	Present
Mike Reynolds	Present
Gary Wilson	Present

STAFF PRESENT:

Joe Guzzetta, General Manager
Susan Greer, Assistant General Manager/Controller
Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator
Ben Ruffner, Accountant

CONSULTANTS PRESENT:

Gil Granito, District Counsel
Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant

GUESTS 11

Mike Metts, District Engineer
Joe Popper, President Computer Gallery

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MSC Long/Reynolds 5/0 to approve the agenda for the March 16, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Marquez commented that some individuals in the community support development and the groundwater recharge project, and other people oppose development and the recharge project. He read from two letters to the editor concerning Director Luhrs.

Steven Whitman urged the Board to make emergency services a high priority in the wake of the Japanese disaster, and particularly to consider the need to have connections for emergency generators at all of the wells and pumps.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Long/Wilson 5/0 to Approve the Minutes of the February 16, 2011 Regular Board Meeting with a correction removing language after "Adjournment".

7. **MID-YEAR BUDGET REVIEW**

Assistant General Manager/Controller, Susan Greer reported that the midyear budget review shows the District in a favorable financial position with six-month expenses at less than 50% of the annual budget. Six-month income is at 77% of the year's budgeted income and projected to be at 100% by the end of the year. She discussed accounts that need additional appropriations. General Manager Joe Guzzetta noted that the Water Account Assistance Program currently is being implemented with the following guidelines: Generally, it applies only to residential customers with individual

accounts and not to businesses or investment properties. For high water bills less than the \$700 to \$800 range, a payment plan is usually offered rather than a subsidy. For residential customers who have average bills (in the \$40 to \$50 per month range) but an unusual bill of over \$700 to \$800, the District considers sharing the cost of the excess amount.

MSC Long/Reynolds 4/1 to approve staff recommendation to approve the following budget adjustments: increase Allow for WAAP/Billing Adjustment by (\$2,227); increase Pumping plant Repair & Maintenance by \$26,448; increase Maps & Drafting Supplies by \$916; increase Software & Computers by \$609 and bring back the WAAP Program for further discussion, with the understanding that the Board generally continues to support the current WAAP guidelines.

Long	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Luhrs	Aye
Wilson	No

8. EXTENSION OF NETWORK ADMINISTRATION CONTRACT

AGM Greer presented the staff report. Joe Popper, President of Computer Gallery, provided information about the administration of the network and services provided under the contract.

MSC Reynolds/Long 4/1 to approve the staff recommendation to authorize three-year extension of network administration contract at a cost of \$2,803 per month, \$33,636 per year, at a savings of 10% over the current pricing; authorize extension of Backup and Data Recovery contract to coincide with the network administration contract, at the current price of \$810 per month, subject to the amount of data being backed up; authorize withdrawal of \$10,678 from the Equipment and Technology Reserve account to fund installation and operating system software upgrade of 18 computer workstations and server.

Long	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Reynolds	Aye
Luhrs	Aye
Wilson	No

9. DISTRICT ENGINEER REPORT: C2B WATER TANK SITE CHALLENGES AND E1-D2 BOOSTER PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT PROJECT MOBILIZATION PAYMENT

Mike Metts, District Engineer, presented the staff report. The board asked questions about the D-2, E-1 pump station construction project, the AToM Engineering Construction contract for the pump station project, and the grading at the C-2b reservoir. It was the consensus of the Board to support staff's efforts to correct drainage and grading at the C-2b reservoir and consider the seismic capability of the tank.

10. PROPOSED CALIFORNIA IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (CIMIS) WEATHER STATION AT COPPER MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

Deb Bollinger, JBWD Conservation Consultant, presented a report on the proposed CIMIS station noting that the District costs would include about \$350 for a District ¾" meter, \$300 to \$500 for a backflow device, and two field crew for about one day to install the irrigation.

MSC Long/Reynolds 3/2 to approve the staff recommendation to authorize staff to join with the Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation (AWAC) in funding and installing a CIMIS weather station to collect local data needed to comply with the current Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance and for use in the Urban Water Management Plan.

Long	Aye
Luckman	Aye

Reynolds Aye
Luhrs No
Wilson No

11. WATER SUPPLY ASSESSMENT FOR CASCADE SOLAR PROJECT

GM Guzzetta presented the staff report recommending that the Board state its intent to conduct a Water Supply Assessment for the Cascade Solar Project under direction of Joshua Basin Water District at the cost of Cascade Solar/Axiom; and authorize staff to retain Kennedy Jenks at a cost of approximately \$17,000 for the study.

MSC Luhrs/Long 5/0 to approve staff recommendation.

12. FUNDING FOR PROPOSITION 84 APPLICATION FOR GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROJECT

GM Guzzetta presented the staff report. The Board discussed the proposed funds. Gary Given spoke in support of providing \$7,000 for the Proposition 84 grant application. Al Marquez spoke in opposition to providing the funding.

MSC Long/Reynolds 3/2 to approve staff recommendation to authorize the expenditure of \$7,000 for the preparation of the Proposition 84 grant application of \$4 million for the Groundwater Recharge Project to be paid from the unappropriated reserves.

Long Aye
Luckman Aye
Reynolds Aye
Luhrs No
Wilson No

13. CONSIDERATION OF SPONSORSHIP OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY WATER CONFERENCE

GM Guzzetta presented the staff report recommending the Board to co-sponsor the annual San Bernardino County Water Conference at no cost to the District.

MSC Reynolds/Long 4/1 to approve the staff's recommendation.

Long Aye
Luckman Aye
Reynolds Aye
Luhrs Aye
Wilson No

14. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

Director Long asked about the status of the GIS/GPS program. Keith Faul reviewed the status.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Marquez questioned \$101 in mileage charges reimbursed to a director for mileage to Mojave Water Agency.

Steven Whitman spoke in favor of line item bids for construction projects such as discussed with the Atom contract for the D-2 and E-1 Booster Pumps.

Kathleen Radnich, JBWD Public Outreach Consultant, invited the Board, on behalf of Mojave Water Agency, to attend the Mojave Water Agency Morongo Basin tour on Tuesday, April 26.

Bob Johnson stated that he had attended a meeting of the Twentynine Palms City Council recently where Jose Angel of the Water Quality Control Board, Colorado Region, spoke highly of Joshua Basin Water District proactive approach in addressing the waste water problem, avoiding problems encountered by other water districts.

16. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

GM Guzzetta reported on the following:

- The Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation, Mojave Water Agency, and the District are sponsoring a toilet exchange day where District customers meeting certain guidelines will be eligible to exchange high water usage toilets (in excess of 1.6 gallons per flush) for low water usage toilets. Details of the program will be in the JBWD April Newsletter.
- Staff will conduct an emergency preparedness “table topic” exercise on May 10 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon. Up to two Board Members may attend (in compliance with the Brown Act).
- California Emergency Management Agency and the District will co-host a two-hour workshop for elected officials on emergency preparedness and their roles in an emergency.
- The Board ad hoc committee and staff will meet with the County of San Bernardino planners this week to discuss the new County Landscape Ordinance.

17. DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Relative to the recent financial claim by Southern California Gas Company due to a water line leak, Director Michael Luhrs suggested that staff review the construction requirements for gas lines to determine if the gas line was installed at the required depth; and if not, to determine if the Gas Company is liable for some of the damage from the recent leak.

Director Luhrs commented on a recent trip by Board President Mickey Luckman and General Manager Joe Guzzetta to Washington DC in reference to seeking funding for the ground water recharge project. He also requested that the Board be notified when legal and other notices are put in the newspaper about the District.

Director Mike Reynolds reported on attendance at the Mojave Water Agency Board meeting of March 10, 2011 and the Special Districts Governance Workshop on February 17–19, 2011. He explained that the mileage referred to by Al Marquez resulted from going to multiple meetings in one day and being reimbursed for attendance at only one meeting, while being reimbursed for the total number of miles driven to all meetings that day. Legal Counsel Gil Granito confirmed that such practice was in compliance with District policy.

President Luckman reported that she and GM Guzzetta met with Congressman Lewis and representatives from Senator Boxer’s and Senator Feinstein’s offices and the Bureau of Reclamation in Washington DC regarding future funding for water projects.

18. CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

19. REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

None.

20. ADJOURNMENT

9:37 PM

MSC Long/Reynolds 5/0 to adjourn the March 16, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted;



Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday April 6, 2011 at 7:00 pm.