

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2018

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Luckman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Directors Present – President Luckman, Vice President Johnson, Director Floen, Director Hund, and Director Unger.

STAFF PRESENT

Curt Sauer, Mark Ban, AGM – Operations, Sarah Johnson, HR Manager, Anne Roman, Accountant, Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator, Beverly Waszak, Executive Assistant

CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach
Gil Granito, Legal Counsel, Redwine & Sherrill

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the Agenda. Director Hund seconded the motion.

MSC¹ (Johnson/Hund) motion carried by the following vote

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Luckman, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Steve Whitman, Joshua Tree chastised the Board for not having the final Organization Assessment videotaped at the Helen Gray Center on April 25, 2018.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- Approve Draft Minutes of May 16, 2018
- 2nd Quarter Ending 12/31/2017 Financial Report (reviewed by the Finance Committee at May 23, 2018 meeting)

Vice President Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Director Floen seconded the motion.

MSC¹ (Johnson/Floen) motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Luckman, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

Abstain: None

UPDATE ON LOW –INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT – GM Sauer updated the Board on the Low-Income Assistance Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Tom Kayne, Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) thanked Curt Sauer for taking care of this.

Steven Whitman, Joshua Tree stated that \$50 per year is so poor and asked the Board why they were even considering it. Why is the District, with the wealth that we have, debating \$50 once a year for a family when it may not even be enough for a month?

President Luckman responded that they had spoken to several individuals and \$50 is enough.

Vice President Johnson made a motion to authorize the General Manager to initiate a one (1) year pilot program at the cost of \$6,650 to be drawn from the Property Tax Revenue Fund. Director Floen seconded the motion.

MSC¹ (Johnson/Floen) motion carried by the following vote

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Luckman, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

GM Sauer thanked the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for their input and that this started with Karen Morton's idea of rounding up. Three of the members went with me to Coachella Valley to learn about the program. They were supportive as members of the CAC and members of the community.

18/19 BUDGET – GM Sauer gave a presentation on the 18/19 budget. A Q&A period with the Board followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

Vice President Johnson made a motion to accept the 18/19 Budget. Director Hund seconded the motion.

MSC¹ (Johnson/Hund) motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Floen, Hund, Johnson, Luckman, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

AGM Ban showed a spreadsheet of what the total costs are to have the pipe work outsourced and not outsourced. A brief Q& A period followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT – Mr. Granito reported on SB 623, which is commonly referred to as the Water Tax Bill. Mr. Granito indicated that the proposed drinking water tax issue is heating up with statewide media coverage. Mr. Granito reported that ACWA has organized a large coalition of water agencies and others to oppose the Water Tax Bill on the premise that rather than a water tax, other more reasonable funding sources are available that should be considered. At this point and time, the ultimate destiny of SB 623 is uncertain.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT –

GM Sauer stated that the stolen trailer that had two 500-gallon tanks, one generator, breaking package and a trailer hitch, had been recovered. Unfortunately, the equipment on the trailer was not recovered. This breaks down to \$8,000. In theft and \$8,000 to replace everything. Many thanks to the Sheriff's Department. GM Sauer and AGM Ban updated the Board on the following:

- Well 14
- Organization Assessment
- Received two proposals for the Strategic Plan for \$30,000.
- Solar Feasibility is planned for the week of July 9th.
- Beverly Waszak received her Notary Certification
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan is set for June 20th.
- Mojave Water Agency/Hesperia meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED, COMMENTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS-

Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach, informed the Board that the June Farmer's Market booth theme covers the water meter basics. 1. How to read your meter to check for leaks, especially during this high water demand season. 2. How to lock up your meter, especially if you are leaving for vacation to avoid unfortunate water leak disasters on your property, or even to prevent water theft. Ms. Radnich discussed upcoming wild crafting classes, landscape irrigation tune-up class, District tours in September and the Water Education Festival.

Director Johnson spoke about the riveting Finance Committee and asked that everyone attend.

Director Floen spoke about the MWA Board meeting he attended on May 24, 2018.

Director Unger commented about the Memorial services she attended at Memorial Park.

FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES –

President Luckman informed everyone of all upcoming meetings.

CLOSED SESSION –

Mr. Granito reported that the Board went into Closed Session at approximately 8:02 PM. Mr. Granito further reported as follows:

In Part 1 of the Closed Session, the Board conducted the annual performance evaluation of the District's General Manager as referenced in Item 13 of tonight's agenda, during which the General Manager participated. No reportable action was taken.

In Part 2 of the Closed Session, during which the District's General Manager was excused, the Board consulted with the Board's designated representatives (Ad Hoc Negotiation Committee (Directors Unger and Johnson as referenced in Item 13 of tonight's agenda with regard to potential compensation adjustments/increases to the District's General Manager. Final action on any such adjustments would be considered at a future open session of a Regular Meeting.

The closed Session ended at 9:42 PM and the Board returned to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT – Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:


Curt Sauer, GM and Board Secretary