

**JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT**  
**Minutes of the**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**September 10, 2008**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** 7:02 PM

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** By roll-call vote:

Bill Long	Present
Gary Given	Absent
Gary Lovelace	Present
Gary Wilson	Present
Karl Wyne	Present

**STAFF PRESENT:** Joe Guzzetta, General Manager  
Susan Greer, Assistant GM/Controller  
Joe Bocanegra, Interim Chief of Operations  
Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator  
Marie Salsberry, Executive Secretary

**GUESTS:** 13

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MSC Lovelace/Wyne 4/0 (1 Absent) to approve the agenda of the September 10, 2008 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

MSC Wyne/Long 3/1 (1 Absent) to Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 6, 2008; to authorize staff to write-off bad debt of \$15,620.97 for fiscal year 07/08; to approve Resolution 08-835 Providing for Employee Contributions to the Public Employees Retirement System on a Pre-Tax Basis; to accept the work for the H Zone Phase II project and authorize filing of Notice of Completion; and to receive the informational report on payment for pavement.

Given	Absent
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

7. **WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS IN JOSHUA TREE**

General Manager Guzzetta and consultant Deborah Bollinger reported on the "Living Wise" energy and water savings education program for elementary school students. The program has been used by Mission Springs Water District with good results, and is endorsed by the California Urban Water Conservation Council. Deborah Bollinger also reported that she performed a water audit at the memorial park and will make several recommendations to the management that could be dramatically reduce the water use there. Director Wilson said, "Well I believe Bollinger and the whole program is a waste of time and money." The following action was taken:

MSC Lovelace/Wyne 3/1 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to authorize staff to participate with the gas and electric utility companies in the "Living Wise" elementary school conservation program at a cost of about \$2,400.

Given	Absent
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**8. ATTENDANCE AND SPONSORSHIP OF THE "PASS" ECO-SUMMIT (PRACTICAL ADVANCES IN SOUTHWESTERN SUSTAINABILITY) AND MORONGO BASIN WATER SYMPOSIUM**

GM Guzzetta reported that the Morongo Basin Water Symposium will be held in conjunction with the Eco-Summit; he introduced Tasya Herskovits, the Eco-Summit conference administrator, who gave information about the event.

MSC Long/Lovelace 3/1 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to authorize sponsorship of the PASS Eco-Summit at a cost of \$2,000, giving unlimited access by District officials, and to support the bi-annual Morongo Basin Water Symposium on October 9, 2008.

Given	Absent
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**9. RESERVOIR MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

Interim Chief of Operations Joe Bocanegra reported on the ten-year plan and proposed agreement for repair and maintenance of the District's 17 reservoirs. Director Wilson said, "If I understand you correctly, you said it wasn't put out to bid. What are your references, you're showing Bighorn water district, have you ever done work for Bighorn water district? If you take one of these tanks out of service for maintenance, especially the one up that's sitting on BLM land, is that a problem, for bringing in material or anything, from the Bureau of Land Management? The one behind the hospital?" Following further discussion, the Board took the following action:

MSC Lovelace/Wyne 4/0 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to approve a maintenance contract with Utility Service Co., Inc. for maintenance and repair of the District's water storage tanks at a cost of \$171,008 per year for years 1-7 and \$83,556 per year for years 8-10.

**10. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY GENERATORS**

Interim COO Joe Bocanegra reported that two bids were received for the two 600 kw emergency generators. Director Wilson said, "I have a question for you. Was there ever a report written on what happened to the old generator, and why it's out of service? There was never any report or someone that checked it out." Director Wyne stated that

staff had reported to the board that the old generator had been checked by electricians and it was determined not to be capable of operating as needed. "How large of fuel tanks do these have on them? Almost the same question, what is happening to the trailer with the generator that's out there now, with five hundred gallons of diesel in it; is it going to be moved? And the plug-ins for Well 14 are the same as for Well 10; they're both the same. It used to be moved from one to the other, the trailer." Further discussion by the Board and staff ensued. Al Marquez of Joshua Tree asked what fuel would be used and was told that diesel will be used.

MSC Wyne/Long 4/0 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to award the contract for two 600 kw trailer-mounted emergency generators to Generator Services Company at a cost of \$353,420.00.

**11. AWARD CONTRACT FOR PROPERTY ACQUISITION SERVICES**

GM Guzzetta reported that the District received proposals from three firms and then conducted a review process; CE Prime Inc. was determined to be the best choice for the District. Representatives Fred Clark and Dana Abney were present to answer questions from the Board and staff. Following discussion the following action was taken:

MSC Lovelace/Long 3/1 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to enter into an agreement with CE Prime Inc. for property acquisition services.

Given	Absent
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**12. TEMPORARY PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE STAFF**

GM Guzzetta reported that District staff is involved in an aggressive valve maintenance program and is inspecting all hydrants and air vacs in the District. Director Wilson said, "was that valve that was partially open up off Quail Springs Road? That pressure zone's been changed two or three times; one time it was in the middle of the road down a ways, and then it was at the corner, I can't remember the street name, but it was off Quail Springs Road. A lot of that steel pipe was installed in 1967, and if you ever have to replace that it'll cost a fortune because most of it's put in solid rock. How many new services has the District put in the last two months? Are these jobs going to be advertised out?"

MSC Wyne/Lovelace 3/1 (1 Absent) to approve staff recommendation to authorize hiring two temporary Maintenance I employees to assist with the preventive maintenance program at a cost of \$40,000 to \$80,000 for the year.

Given	Absent
Long	Aye
Lovelace	Aye
Wilson	No
Wyne	Aye

**13. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST**

Director Wilson said, "Question for the manager; did you have a report on that meeting you had with Katz; the Katz project person? I'm just asking him a question." GM Guzzetta replied that he had not met with Mr. Katz recently.

**14. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

GM Guzzetta reported that JBWD customers have used \$12,000 worth of incentives offered through the rebate program offered by the Alliance for Water Awareness and the local

water agencies. An additional \$65,000 is being granted for the demonstration garden and related projects. Well 17 has a misalignment; the wellhead will be pulled and an inspection will be performed.

It was decided to hear items 18 and 19 before the Closed Session.

**18. DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Director Lovelace read a statement detailing the reasons why he is not running for re-election to the Board. Director Wyne commended staff for doing a good job, and encouraged residents to investigate before casting their votes. Director Wilson said "Well I don't know if Karl is talking about me or Gary Given, since we were both appointed, but I'll assume he was talking about me. Well, the Board of Supervisors appointed me."

**19. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Marquez of Joshua Tree commented that he and others in the community would like to ask for continued transparency from the Board of Directors and the Water District.

**15. CLOSED SESSION**

**Property Acquisition – Conference with Real Property Negotiator. APN 588-152-13**

There was no closed session discussion regarding property acquisition; the item was tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

**16. CLOSED SESSION**

**Conference with labor negotiator regarding MSC unit; pursuant to Government code 54957.6. District negotiator: Joe Guzzetta**

The Board went to closed session at 8:47 pm. The meeting was returned to Open Session at 9:15 pm.

**17. CONSIDER RESOLUTION APPROVING A COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE MANAGEMENT, SUPERVISORY, AND CONFIDENTIAL UNIT**

No discussion or action was taken on this item.

**20. ADJOURNMENT 9:15 PM**

MSC Wyne/Lovelace 4/0 (1 Absent) to adjourn the September 10, 2008 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted;

  
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Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for September 17, 2008.