

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – President Unger called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. via teleconference.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM – General Manager Ban asked for a roll-call and the following Directors were present; President Unger, Vice President Floen, Director Doolittle, and Director Jarlsberg are in attendance via teleconference.

STAFF PRESENT –Mark Ban, General Manager, Sarah Johnson, Director of Administration, Jim Corbin, Director of Operations, and Beverly Waszak, Executive Assistant, are in attendance via teleconference.

CONSULTANTS PRESENT –Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach Consultant, is in attendance via teleconference.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – MSC<sup>1</sup> (Reynolds/Doolittle) 5/0 motion carried to approve the Agenda.

Ayes: Doolittle, Floen, Jarlsberg, Reynolds, and Unger

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

LOCAL CANNABIS GROWS – General Manager Ban led the meeting via a presentation that was updated and given at the MWA Board of Directors meeting by Marina West, General Manager of the Big Horn Desert View Water Agency, which provided insight on marijuana grow farms in the local area. The Board and members of the public discussed ways to combat this issue, which is growing at an alarming pace. Main topics discussed were:

1. Water theft
2. Where is the water coming from to continue to grow the marijuana farms
3. Can their water supply be cut off
4. What about unsanctioned wells

The water districts formed a coalition called HWY 62/247 Initiative and General Manager Ban stated that they are approaching it the same as the Mojave Water Agency Technical Advisory Committee, which is to provide outreach to regulators and legislators and offer local assistance to what water districts can do. One of the biggest complaints we receive is “can’t we just turn off their water”, we cannot legally go around shutting off people’s water especially with what our current rules and regulations are.

Currently, we are working with our attorneys to see how we can include this into our current rules & regulations that could go under “Drought Conditions”. The second part of this having our employees actually go out to some of these sites (where some individuals are not law-abiding citizens) and shut their water off and could endanger the employee so we would need to send someone from the Sheriff’s office with them.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT – General Manager Ban turned it over to Sarah Johnson, Director of Administration who gave an update on COVID-19 and the new emergency temporary standards that include the following:

- Face Coverings
- Respirator Requirements
- Vaccination Status
- Social Distancing

- Testing Requirements
- Quarantine Requirements

Many provisions from the original standards are still in place, such as completing daily screening before coming on site. Face coverings are required indoors and in vehicles for unvaccinated individuals and are not required for vaccinated individuals.

#### DIRECTOR MEETING REPORTS -

The Board members commented on their Committee assignments and the public meetings they attended.

Kathleen Radnich, Public Information Consultant gave a brief overview of the grant we received from MWA Strategic Partnership in the amount of \$7,000. This will be used for media enticements that center around the drought that will aim toward rate payers to do their part in conserving water.

FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS & TRAINING OPPROTUNITIES – President Unger read off the list of upcoming meetings.

ADJOURNMENT – MSC<sup>1</sup> (Floen/Reynolds) 4/0/1 motion carried to adjourn the regular Board of Directors meeting at 6:46 p.m. Director Jarlsberg left the Board of Directors meeting at 6:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Mark Barr, General Manager and Board Secretary