

JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT

Minutes of the November 1, 2017

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Mickey Luckman Present  
Bob Johnson Present  
Geary Hund Present  
Rebecca Unger Present  
Tom Floen Present

STAFF PRESENT: Curt Sauer, General Manager  
Susan Greer, Assistant General Manager  
Randy Mayes, Interim Director of Water Resources & Ops.  
Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator  
Beverly Waszak, Executive Assistant

CONSULTANTS PRESENT: Alex Handlers, Bartles Wells Associates  
Gil Granito, Redwine & Sherrill  
Kathleen Radnich, Public Outreach

GUESTS 3

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA –

MSC/Johnson/Hund 5/0 to approve the Agenda of the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of November 1, 2017.

Floen Aye  
Hund Aye  
Luckman Aye  
Johnson Aye  
Unger Aye

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Marquez, Joshua Tree stated that he was surprised not to see the Agenda posted 72 hours in advance but noticed it had been posted 24 hours in advance.

President Luckman responded that the President of the Board can call a Special meeting with 24 hours advance notice.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approve Draft Minutes of the October 18, 2017, Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.
- B. Approve September 2017 Check Register (reviewed by Finance Committee on 10/30/2017 and referred to the full Board for approval)

MSC/Johnson/Hund 5/0 to approved the Consent Calendar with a change to the adjournment time of 9:15 pm. for the regular meeting of the Board of Directors meeting on October 18, 2017.

Floen	Aye
Hund	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Unger	Aye

7. DRAFT AGREEMENT WITH MWA FOR WATER SUPPLY CONNECTION AND TRANSFER FACILITIES AT RECHARGE TURN OUT – GM Sauer stated that when the Recharge Pipeline was constructed in the 1990’s, Mojave Water Agency (MWA) built and owned all facilities from the Turn-Out located on Linda Lee in Yucca Valley to the first pressure reduction station on Yucca Mesa Road.

This has left a 2,000 square foot section of recharge pipeline that is currently owned by the MWA. MWA has requested that we take ownership of that pipeline that is currently owned by the MWA. According to MWA, this is an oversight of past management activities, as they intended to have JBWD take ownership of all facilities downstream of the Master meter, located in the Turn Out vault. MWA has requested we take ownership and there are no costs associated with taking ownership.

After a brief discussion, the Board advised the GM to proceed with the Water Supply Connection.

8. DISCUSSION ON DRAFT WATER STORAGE AGREEMENT WITH MOJAVE WATER AGENCY – At the direction of the Board, the General Manager has been negotiating a Water Storage Agreement with Mojave Water Agency (MWA). The draft presented tonight represents several iterations and is close to being finished so that both the JBWD Board and the MWA Board can consider and approve a final agreement. A brief discussion with the Board followed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Marquez, Joshua Tree stated that the ratepayers are concerned about water quality and that the GM discussed the water is rising too fast, and then there would be a water quality problem. He hopes the Board will take into consideration about storing too much water for Mojave Water Agency.

PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED

9. RATE STUDY –Alex Handlers, Bartle Wells Associates, gave an updated Rate Study presentation to the Board with Q&A periods throughout. After a discussion with the Board, they asked Mr. Handlers to look at Scenario 3 with a lower amount to borrow which would mean less interest in the upcoming years and less of a rate increase to the ratepayers.

President Luckman asked the President of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), Karen Tracy, if they were agreeable to going into debt.

Karen Tracy agreed that the CAC was amenable to going into debt in order to make a difference in the District, i.e., replacing meters and pipes, etc.

The Board continued with a discussion on tier rates and how to structure the tiers better for low unit users vs. high unit users. The presentation is attached to the minutes at the District office and also can be viewed on the JBWD website.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

10. SOLAR ENERGY PRESENTATION AND GRANT APPLICATION – Director Hund gave a presentation consisting of the following benefits of Renewable Energy:

- Rate stabilization and substantial savings to the District over time
- Reduction in greenhouse gasses contributing to climate change
- All of the District’s energy needs could be met in a relatively small solar facility footprint
- Planning and construction is supported by the California Energy Commission

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Al Marquez, Joshua Tree asked Director Hund how many kilowatts it takes to run a 500/600 horsepower motor.

Director Hund clarified that the solar panels would create electricity, which would then be returned into SCE’s grid and then we would take electrons back out. We wouldn’t directly run our equipment with the solar facility.

**PUBLIC COMMENT CLOSED**

MSC/Unger/Luckman 5/0 to direct staff to apply for a Scope and Feasibility Grant and form an Ad Hoc Committee to work on this project specifically. Director Hund and Director Unger volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Floen	Aye
Hund	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Unger	Aye

11. DISTRICT GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT - Mr. Granito had no report but did mention that the State Water Board’s Emergency Conservation Regulations that are currently in effect will expire on November 25, 2017. The State Water Board had started the process for adopting Conservation Regulations, on a permanent basis, that will contain the prohibition of wasteful water practices similar to that currently in effect and beyond those, yet to be determined. The State Water Board is scheduled to hold public workshops as it moves forward with the rulemaking process.

12. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT - GM Sauer updated the Board on the following projects:

- Air conditioning project is almost completed with the attic insulation remaining.
- A local contractor has been approved for the remodel, however, he will not be able to start until February.
- Updated the Board on Well 14.

13. DIRECTOR REPORTS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED, COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Mojave Water Agency Board of Directors Meeting – October 26, 2017-Director Hund gave a brief summary of the MWA Board meeting.
- Finance Committee – October 30, 2017-Vice President Johnson gave a brief summary.
- Water Resources and Operations Committee – October 30, 2017, Director Floen gave a brief summary.
- Public Outreach Consultant – Kathleen Radnich reported on winterizing and that the District will be closed November 10, 2017, in observance of Veteran’s Day and November 23-24, 2017 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Director Unger commented that JBWD received a letter from the State Water and Resources Control Board stating that JBWD did not have to have a Chromium 6 Compliance Plan. She thanked GM Sauer, IDWRO Mayes, and the rest of the staff for their proactive approach.

GM Sauer recognized AGM Greer for her work on the Rate Study and the upcoming audit in December. He also reminded the Board, CAC members, and anyone else that would like to attend, about the Reserve Funding class from 1-4 p.m. on November 14, 2017.

Director Johnson thanked the first responders and the men and women in uniform for all of their hard work.

14. FUTURE DIRECTOR MEETINGS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- Mojave Water Agency Board of Directors Meeting – November 2, 2017, at 3:30 p.m.- President Luckman (Please note meeting date and time change)
- ASBCSD - Wood Grill Buffet, 14135 Main Street, Hesperia, CA 92345– November 13, 2017
- Finance Committee Meeting – November 20, 2017, at 9:00 a.m.- Vice President Johnson and Director Floen (Please note meeting date change due to Thanksgiving holiday)
- Water Resources and Operations Committee Meeting – November 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. President Luckman and Vice President Johnson (Please note meeting date change due to Thanksgiving holiday)
- ACWA Conference- Anaheim, CA – November 27th –December 1st, 2017

15. ADJOURNMENT –

MSC Unger/Johnson 5/0 to adjourn the November 1, 2017, Special Meeting of the Board of Directors at 8:05 p.m.

Floen	Aye
Hund	Aye
Luckman	Aye
Johnson	Aye
Unger	Aye

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Curt Sauer, GM and Board Secretary