



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT | MAY 19, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Trabuco Canyon Water District (TCWD or District) conducted on May 19, 2021 was called to order by Vice President Dopudja at 7:00 p.m., via conference call in the Board Room at the District Administrative Facility, located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon, California. Mr. Rob Anslow, Assistant District Secretary, transcribed the minutes thereof.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Vice President Stephen Dopudja
Director Edward Mandich
Director Michael Safranski

DIRECTORS PRESENT ON CONFERENCE CALL

President Don Chadd

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Director Glenn Acosta

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant
Lisa Marie Sangi, Executive Assistant

STAFF ABSENT

Michael Perea

STAFF PRESENT ON CONFERENCE CALL

None

DISTRICT CONSULTANTS PRESENT

Rob Anslow, District General Legal Counsel (Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo - AALRR)

DISTRICT CONSULTANTS PRESENT ON CONFERENCE CALL

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

Dennis Erdman, Director, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET)

PUBLIC PRESENT ON THE CONFERENCE CALL

Beth Heard, Resident
Harvey De La Torre, Municipal Water District Orange County

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Mandich led the Board of Directors, District staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

None

VISITOR PARTICIPATION VIA CONFERENCE CALL

Beth Heard addressed the Board of Directors with regards to the new 180-day Ordinance for developments in the City of Rancho Santa Margarita (RSM) to be taken off the calendar.

A brief discussion occurred concerning challenges associated with residential home fire insurance premium increases and availability.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

Mr. Paludi introduced Director Erdman to the Board of Directors. Director Erdman provided a brief update concerning the current drought conditions throughout the State, environmental impacts at the Delta, and regional recycled water projects. Discussion occurred concerning the District's customers positive response and efforts during the 2015 statewide drought.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Safranski reported on his attendance at the City of RSM Council Meeting, he mentioned the 180-day closure of projects. The provision is not currently in place.

Director Mandich mentioned the site visit at the Districts Bell Canyon Sewer Lift Station. He was also in attendance at the South Orange County Integrated Regional Watershed Committee Meeting, and he mentioned the presentation on the Oso Creek project and the funds received from Prop 84.

Director Dopudja mentioned the SOCWA meeting he would be attending on Thursday, May 20, 2021. There was a brief discussion on the budget, JPA Agreement and how to work better for the Agencies.

Director Chadd had no comments.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Paludi provided the following District personnel updates to the Board:

- Mr. Robbie Barger, Wastewater Operator I had successfully passed his Operator II Certification Examination.
- Mr. Phil Serpas, Lead Water System Operator had successfully passed his Water Distribution 5 Certification Examination.
- Mr. Brent Monson Water Operator III had successfully passed his Water Distribution 4 Certification Examination.
- The District received seven applications for the Wastewater Superintendent recruitment, and an onsite second interview was scheduled for Friday, May 21, 2021.

Mr. Paludi reported the May 2021 On Tap Newsletter included updates on the District's past due balance charges billing policy, Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District use of drones in the District's service area, and an update on the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). Mr. Paludi commended Mr. Michael Perea for his work preparing the newsletter.

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CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice President Dopudja indicated that all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one motion unless a Board member or staff member requests a separate action on a specific item.

Action: A motion was made by Director Mandich and seconded by Director Safranski to approve the Consent Calendar.
The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – 0 – 1 with Director Acosta absent.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

ITEM 4: RATIFICATION OF DIRECTORS' FEES AND EXPENSES, AND TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETINGS/ ATTENDANCE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration. There were no requests from the Directors to change or amend the Directors' Fees and Expenses Report.

Action: A motion was made by Director Safranski and seconded by Director Mandich to approve of the Consent Calendar.
The motion was approved by a vote of 4 – 0 – 1 with Director Acosta absent.

ITEM 5: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING THE CORONAVIRUS, INCLUDING SAFETY OF DISTRICT SERVICES AND EMPLOYEES, AND IMPACT TO BOARD & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on COVID-19 related matters throughout the County, and he reported that Orange County is currently in the yellow tier. Mr. Paludi added that the Office of the Governor has indicated that the State is scheduled to open on June 15, 2021, and to eliminate the current tiered system with certain caveats. Mr. Paludi reported that District staff are currently targeting a reopening date of July 2021, pending any other new executive orders and/or mandates. Discussion occurred concerning potential Brown Act meeting requirements and Cal-OSHA workplace requirements.

Action: No action concerning this matter was taken.

ITEM 6: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) RELATED TO THE PROPOSED PALOMA SQUARE DEVELOPMENT (DOVE CANYON PLAZA) AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Mr. Paludi reported that District staff has not had any contact with the developer or property owner concerning this proposed development since the prior Regular Board Meeting. Mr. Paludi mentioned that a District Property Ad Hoc Committee has been scheduled for the following week. Director Dopudja provided a brief update on certain matters reviewed at the Ad Hoc Committee meeting, and he recommended continuing to agendize this matter for the next few months.

Action: No action concerning this matter was taken.

LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER MATTERS

ITEM 7: LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AND LEGISLATIVE INFORMATIONAL MATTER(S)

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on the following items:

- Proposed Brown Act legislation – Mr. Paludi reported that the legislature is currently proposing certain changes to the Brown Act concerning video conferencing for public meetings, and he mentioned that District staff will keep the Board updated on this matter.

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- Statewide Drought Update: Mr. Paludi reported that the Governor has issued a proclamation concerning significant drought conditions in certain parts of the state and has established emergency funds for infrastructure improvements and public messaging.

Action: No action concerning this matter was taken.

Director Chadd left the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Vice President Dopudja assumed the position of Chair.

CLOSED SESSION

Director Mandich recused himself from the agendaized Closed Session. There was no Closed Session due to lack of quorum.

ITEM 8: REPORT OF ACTION(S) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There was no need for this agenda item.

Action: No announcement concerning this matter was taken.

OTHER INFORMATION/MATTERS

There were no other information or matters received.

ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

None

ADDITIONAL GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Dopudja adjourned the May 19, 2021 Regular Board Meeting at 7:53 p.m.