



## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT | AUGUST 18, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Trabuco Canyon Water District (TCWD or District) conducted on August 18, 2022, was called to order by President Chadd at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Administrative Facility located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon, California. Ms. Lisa Sangi, District Assistant Board Secretary, transcribed the minutes thereof.

### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

President Don Chadd  
Vice President Stephen Dopudja  
Director Michael Safranski

### **DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Director Glenn Acosta  
Director Edward Mandich

### **STAFF PRESENT**

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

### **DISTRICT CONSULTANTS PRESENT**

Laura Ratcliff, General Legal Counsel – Hanson Bridgett LLP

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Paludi led the Board of Directors, District staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED**

None

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION & ORAL COMMUNICATION**

None

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Director Safranski reported on his attendance at the City of Rancho Santa Margarita (RSM) City Council meeting which included a presentation by Orange County Vector Control.

Director Dopudja reported on his attendance at the Building Industry Association (BIA) Water Conference which included a review of the Governor's plan on water conservation, storage, and supply.

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Director Chadd commented on the Orange County Register article on state reservoir capacity, and he requested that District staff incorporate the reservoir levels in the next On Tap Newsletter. Discussion occurred concerning the impacts of wildfires in the District's service area.

**REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Paludi reported on the following matters:

- Mr. Perea is on vacation this week.
- His upcoming attendance at the UWI conference on August 26 and an update on a panel presentation regarding the impacts of COVID on remote work.
- Reschedule September Executive Committee meeting due to Labor Day holiday. He also mentioned that a placeholder calendar invite be sent on upcoming scheduled Committee meetings.
- All rental equipment at the Golf Club Sewer Lift Station was removed except the fence. There was a brief discussion on the recent power outage and how it affected the Barneburg Lift Station and Golf Club Lift Station.
- IRWM grant application for the Dove & Tick Creek pump stations is proceeding through the approval process.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

President Chadd 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 Safranski and seconded by Director Dopudja to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

**ACTION CALENDAR**

***ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS***

**ITEM 5: RATIFICATION OF DIRECTORS' FEES AND EXPENSES, AND TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETINGS/ ATTENDANCE**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration, and he reported this matter was reviewed with the Finance/Audit Committee.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Mandich and seconded by Director Safranski to approve of the Directors' Fees and Expenses Report. The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

**ITEM 6: DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE HOLDING OF REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND AMENDING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration, and he reported this matter was reviewed with the Executive Committee. Discussion occurred concerning the staff proposal to reschedule the Regular Board Meeting to an earlier time. President Chadd asked that this matter be agendized at the October 20, 2022 Regular Board meeting to allow for a discussion with the full Board.

**Action:** No action was taken.

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**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**ITEM 7: APPROVAL OF PARTICIPATION IN THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY (MWDOC) OC WATER SUMMIT**

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Mr. Paludi introduced this matter for Board consideration, and he mentioned that the District sponsored and attended the 2021 event. Mr. Paludi recommended the Board approve a sponsorship at the same level as the prior year.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Safranski to approve District participation in the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) OC Water Summit and a table sponsorship level of \$1,600. The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

**ITEM 8: APPROVAL OF FIRST AMENDMENT TO GENERAL MANAGER'S EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT**

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President Chadd provided a brief background on this matter, and he mentioned that Mr. Paludi was halfway through his two-year contract. Ms. Collins provided a review of the proposed adjustments, salary and automobile allowance was previously discussed in closed session.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Safranski and seconded by Director Dopudja to authorize the Board President to execute the General Manager employment contract. The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

**ITEM 9: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING TCWD RESPONSE TO 2021-2022 ORANGE COUNTY GRAND JURY REPORT "WATER IN ORANGE COUNTY NEEDS 'ONE VOICE'"**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration, and he mentioned that this matter was reviewed with the Executive Committee. Mr. Paludi presented the Orange County Grand Jury (OCGJ) report for Board review, and he reviewed the response timeline. Discussion occurred the proposed responses to the OCGJ. The Board directed the General Manager to respond to the OCGJ directly on behalf of the Board.

**Action:** No action was taken.

**ITEM 10: DISCUSSION CONCERNING TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT HEALTH BENEFIT COSTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023**

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Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter for Board consideration, and he mentioned that this matter was reviewed with the Finance/Audit Committee. Discussion occurred concerning the year over year health costs and the projected impacts to the District's benefits budget. Mr. Paludi recommended the Board approve the resolutions for the District's health benefit costs for 2023.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Safranski to adopt Resolution No. 2022-1310 – Fixing the Employer Contribution at an Equal Amount for Employees and Annuitants Under the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act (PERS Members). The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Safranski to adopt Resolution No. 2022-1311 – Fixing the Employer Contribution at an Equal Amount for Employees and Annuitants Under the Public Employees' Medical and Hospital Care Act

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(Non-PERS Members). The motion was approved by a vote of 3 - 0- 2 with Director Acosta and Director Mandich absent.

**ITEM 11: SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY (SOCWA) JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (JPA)  
DISCUSSIONS UPDATE**

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Mr. Paludi introduced this matter for Board consideration, and he provided a brief review of the Ohlund Technical Services report and the DDB Engineering Draft Technical Memo concerning recycled water permitting, monitoring, reporting, and compliance. Discussion occurred concerning ongoing discussions concerning the costs associated to participating in the JPA.

**Action:** No action was taken.

***LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER MATTERS***

**ITEM 12: INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS OF ORANGE COUNTY (ISDOC) 2022 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
ELECTION SCHEDULE AND NOMINATION PROCESS**

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Mr. Paludi introduced this matter for Board consideration, and he reported that ISDOC is seeking candidate nominations for the 2022 Executive Committee election. President Chadd provided a brief overview of the process and board positions. Mr. Paludi commented that this matter will be agendized for Board action for the October Regular Board Meeting.

**Action:** No action was taken.

**ITEM 13: LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AND LEGISLATIVE MATTER(S)**

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Mr. Paludi provided updates on the following matters:

- Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) Upper Feeder Pipeline shutdown for repairs is scheduled for early September 2022. There will be no direct messaging to Orange County residents to restrict outdoor watering.
- Discussion occurred concerning the impacts of the statewide drought on reservoir supplies and restrictions on the Southwest states.

**Action:** No action was taken.

**ITEM 14: REPORT OF ACTION(S) TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

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There was no closed session.

**GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT**

Ms. Ratcliff commented that it was great to see everyone.

**OTHER INFORMATION/MATTERS**

There were none.

**ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

President Chadd provided a brief update on his attendance at the South Orange County Agencies Group meeting,

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Chadd adjourned the August 18, 2022, Regular Board Meeting at 7:49 p.m.