

MINUTES

Thursday, August 17, 2023
Mammoth Community Water District
Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors convened in session at the hour of 5:31 p.m. There was a brief recess taken and the meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Prepared by:



Stephanie Hake
Executive Assistant

ATTEST:



Mark Busby
Board Secretary

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District was held on Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Present

Director: Tom Cage
Director: Elizabeth Hylton
Director: Tom Smith
Director: Gary Thompson

Board Absent

Director: Dennis Domaille

Staff Present

General Manager: Mark Busby
District Engineer: Garrett Higerd
Finance Manager: Jeff Beatty
Operations Superintendent: Clay Murray (*remote attendance*)
Maintenance Superintendent: Rob Motley
Information Services Manager: Justin Mulbay
Principal Administrative Analyst: Michael Draper
Executive Assistant: Stephanie Hake
Legal Counsel: Josh Horowitz (*remote attendance*)

Guests Present

Mike Lesiak – MCWD Staff Member

PUBLIC FORUM

President Smith opened the public forum at 5:32 p.m.

Garrett Higerd provided a brief PowerPoint presentation to the Board updating the demolition progress of the District's water storage tank, T-8.

No one else addressed the Board and President Smith closed the public forum at 5:54 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

President Smith opened the public hearing to receive comments concerning the proposed dissolving of Sewer Improvement District No. 1 at 5:54 p.m.

No one addressed the Board and President Smith closed the public forum at 5:54 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA A

A-1 Approve the July 2023 Check Disbursements

A-2 Approve the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held July 17, 2023

President Smith called for a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To approve Consent Agenda A

MOVED BY: Director Cage
SECONDED BY: Director Hylton
AYES: Directors Cage, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Director Domaille

CONSENT AGENDA B – DEPARTMENT REPORTS

B-1 Operations Department Report

B-2 Maintenance Department Report

B-3 Finance Department Report

B-4 Engineering Department Report

B-5 Information Services Report

B-6 Personnel Services Report

B-7 Regulatory Support Services Report

B-8 General Manager's Report

President called for a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To approve Consent Agenda B

MOVED BY: Director Thompson
SECONDED BY: Director Cage
AYES: Directors Cage, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Director Domaille

CURRENT BUSINESS

C-1 Discuss and Consider Enacting Ordinance No. 08-17-23-18 Dissolving the Juniper Ridge Sewer Improvement District No. 1 and Repealing Chapter 11, Division XIV of the MCWD Code

Mark Busby told the Board that only one person had made an inquiry about the proposed dissolution of the sewer improvement district.

There was no discussion and President Smith called for a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To enact Ordinance No. 08-17-23-18 dissolving the Juniper Ridge Sewer Improvement District No. 1 and repealing Chapter 11, Division XIV of the MCWD Code

MOVED BY: Director Hylton
SECONDED BY: Director Thompson
AYES: Directors Cage, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS: None
ABSENT: Director Domaille

C-2 Discuss and Provide Direction to Staff Regarding Staff Regarding Proposal to Expand the Trucked Recycled Water Program to Areas Outside of the MCWD Service Area

Garrett Higerd addressed the Board and said the District has been approached on occasion to sell recycled water to construction projects, particularly road work, in the region. Currently, the permit does not allow this. By allowing recycled water to be trucked to construction projects outside the District's service area it would be supporting other agencies and relieve pressure on small water companies in the region, i.e., June Lake and Crowley Lake. He said requirements of the current trucked water program would apply and there would be no risk of water quality issues by allowing recycled water to be used for construction projects in the local region. Additionally, there would be very little impact on operating expenses or revenue.

Mr. Higerd noted that there is an exemption for non-potable water uses, therefore LAFCO approval is not required to expand service. He stated that the next steps would be to develop a fee for the use that would be added to the District's Master Fee Schedule, update the Engineering Title 22 Report then file a Notice of Exemption with CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act). The goal is to have the updates in place for the 2024 summer construction season.

There was very little discussion and the Board directed staff to move forward with the next steps to expand the service area for recycled water use.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD DURING THE MONTH

Ad-Hoc MCWD Code and Policy Committee – August 3, 2023

Tom Smith
Dennis Domaille

Technical Services Committee – August 16, 2023

Dennis Domaille (*absent*)
Gary Thompson

Finance Committee – August 16, 2023

Tom Cage
Elizabeth Hylton

Ad-Hoc MCWD Code and Policy Committee:

Director Smith reported that the committee met and discussed proposed updates to the Board's Delegation of Authority Policy and the Procurement Policy. Mark Busby added that staff and legal counsel have made progress on both policies and expect to present the amendments to the Board at the September Regular Board meeting.

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Technical Services Committee:

Director Thompson reported that the committee was updated on the tank T-8 project and other ongoing projects at the District.

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Finance Committee:

Director Hylton reported the Finance Committee discussed the slight increase in employee housing expenses due to special assessments in the wake of last winter's enormous volume of snowfall and drilling new monitoring wells at Laurel Pond. There was also an update on the fuels reduction project in the region that MCWD along with many other local stakeholders is supporting. The project group is working to determine funding gaps and how to best fill those.

Director Cage added that the District's investment returns have been doing better due to recent increased interest rates.

DIRECTOR COMMENTS, REQUESTS, AND REPORTS

There were no comments from the Directors.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Horowitz updated the Board on the status of SB 389, the water rights bill. He said the senate bill has been significantly amended but is still moving through the legislature and expected to be signed. It is now being considered by ACWA to be somewhat harmless and is simply on a watch list. He will continue to monitor and report back any developments.

Attorney Horowitz also stated that another of his clients has worked with the same third-party company that is being considered for forest resiliency grant writing and has had big success tapping into available grant funds.

CLOSED SESSION

D-1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54954.5(e) and 54956.8

Property Description: Mono County APNs – 033-148-005-000 and 033-148-006-000

Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment

MCWD Negotiators: Mark Busby and Garrett Higerd

Property Owner Negotiator: Greg Eckert

REPORT OUT AND ADJOURNMENT

There was no report from closed session and President Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.