



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MALAGA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
3580 SOUTH FRANK AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93725
Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 6:00PM

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in a District Board Meeting, please contact the District Office at 559-485-7353 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting, to ensure that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

Please submit all written correspondence for the Board of Directors by 12:00 pm the Friday prior to the meeting. Please deliver or mail to the District Clerk.

1. Call to Order: 6:01

2. **Roll Call:** President Charles Garabedian, Jr.; Vice President Salvador Cerrillo; Director Irma Castaneda; Director Frank Cerrillo, Jr.; Director Carlos Tovar, Jr.

Not present: President Garabedian, Jr.

Also present: Norma Melendez and Michael Slater.

3. **Certification:** Certification was made that the Board Meeting Agenda was posted 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Legal Counsel requested the addition of two items, Resolution 1-25-2024 (item 6.f.) and Resolution 1-25-2024A (item 6.g.), for approval as they cannot wait for the next board meeting. Motion by Director Cerrillo, Jr., Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 4-0 vote to add item 6.f and item 6.g.

4. **Consent Agenda.** The items listed below in the Consent Agenda are routine in nature and are usually approved by a single vote. Prior to any action by the Board of Directors, any Board member may remove an item from the consent agenda for further discussion. Items removed from the Consent Agenda may be heard immediately following approval of the Consent Agenda or set aside for discussion and action after Regular Business.

a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of January 9, 2024.

Recommended action: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented or amended.

Vice President Cerrillo asked if there were any comments on the consent agenda, there being none, President Garabedian requested a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Motion by Director Castaneda; Second by Director Cerrillo, Jr. and by a 4-0 vote to approve the consent agenda as presented.

5. **Old Business: No old business for this meeting.**

6. **New Business:**

a. **Fowler HS Scholarship.** Fowler USD is requesting confirmation of participation for the 2023-2024 local scholarships for graduating seniors. The application criteria to receive

the scholarship includes: student who attended Malaga Elementary school, description of future goals, dreams, and/or aspirations, and a description of how attending Malaga School impacted you. In the 2022-2023 school year, the district gave three \$500 scholarships.

Recommended action: To confirm participation and to review criteria and scholarship amount.

The board of directors moved this item to closed session to further discuss the financial aspect of the scholarship. After coming out of closed session board consensus is to continue supporting the Fowler High School Scholarship, and award \$1,500.00. This award can be divided between the top essays received.

- b. **Recreation Center Use.** Olga Placencia, Project Specialist for Fresno Building Healthy Communities has reached out to the district for the use of the center once a month for the 2024 year. Use of the center would take place on the last Wednesday of the month from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Fresno BHC will provide information to the residents of Malaga on topics such as Caltrans expansion of Highway 99, COVID-19 and tips on how to stay safe from the flu. The use of the center can potentially be waived.

Recommended action: Provide staff with direction regarding use of facility and fee waiver.

Due to existing programs, and limited resources, including availability of staff, the District cannot accommodate the request at this time.

- c. **Soccer Rental.** Max Garcia is interested in renting the field for soccer games each Sunday between 8:00am and 1:00pm. Rental may come into conflict with another rental which has a tentative start time of 1:00p.m.

Recommended action: Provide staff with direction regarding use of facility and potential scheduling conflict.

Motion by Director Castaneda; Second by Director Cerrillo, Jr. and by a 4-0 vote to reach out to Max Garcia regarding the rental of the soccer field on Sunday's. Due to an existing rental agreement, soccer will be limited to using the field on Sunday's from 8:00am to 12:00pm. This timeframe will prevent overlapping of rental times.

It was also mentioned that the baseball coach agreed to use the baseball field near Muscat Avenue when Park Area #5 is rented.

- d. **Well 5A and the Tank at the Well 5A site.** The two projects are funded by ARPA and administered by the County of Fresno. The two projects are intended to be constructed together and a bid opening was conducted on January 4, 2024. The construction bid for the well portion exceeds the grant awarded to MCWD. As directed, a request for additional funds was submitted to the County of Fresno. The County of Fresno has stated that no additional funds are available. A meeting with the County of Fresno is recommended to determine options to proceed with a portion of the overall project.

Recommended Action: Direct staff to coordinate with the County of Fresno for an alternative project definition with the available funds.

Motion by Director Tovar, Jr.; Second by Director Castaneda and by a 4-0 vote to approve meeting with the County of Fresno to determine options to proceed with the project.

- e. **Site Plan Review 8359 – 3588 S Bagley Avenue.** The County of Fresno forwarded a Site Plan Review to MCWD for review and comment. The County requested comments by January 30, 2024. A draft response is attached for review and comment.

Recommended Action: Review the draft response and direct staff to submit a final response to the County of Fresno prior to January 30, 2024.

Motion by Director Cerrillo, Jr.; Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 4-0 vote to approve submittal of response for Site Plan Review 8359.

- f. **Resolution 01-25-2024.** A resolution authorizing investment of monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund.

Recommended action: to approve Resolution 1-25-2024.

Motion by Director Castaneda, Second by Director Cerrillo, jr. and by a 4-0 vote to approve Resolution 1-25-2024.

- g. **Resolution 01-25-2024A.** A resolution designating an Acting Secretary to the Board of Directors.

Recommended action: to appoint Norma Melendez as Acting District Secretary.

Motion by Director Castaneda, Second by Director Tovar, Jr., and by a 4-0 vote to approve resolution 1-25-2024A.

7. Recreation Reports:

Director Castaneda reported that there is a yard sale scheduled for 1/26 at the recreation center. Preparations are underway for the Valentines Dance which is scheduled for 2/9/24. Security was able to give a discount on security services and the DJ is donating his time to benefit the recreation department. Recreation bingo is scheduled for 2/7/24; tostadas will be sold. Finally, Director Castaneda gave an update on the budget meeting she had with recreation staff and VP Cerrillo.

Director Tovar, Jr. announced he will be donating the baskets for the Easter program.

8. Engineer Reports:

- a. District Engineer Report.
 - i. **Well 3A and Tank 1.** The project is funded with a Grant from DWR. Construction activities are proceeding. It is expected that completion of the project will be near the end of 2024. The primary activity has been development of the well. A bridge loan from RCAC is in place for interim financing of the construction activities.

For information purposes.

Vice President Cerrillo confirmed that the RCAC loan has been approved.

- ii. **WWTF Nitrogen Reduction Project.** The project is funded through the CDBG program. The project is now advertised for construction. The bid opening is scheduled for February 7, 2024.

Recommended Action: For information purposes.

- b. CDBG Engineer Report: None for this meeting.

9. General Manager's Report:

Vice President Cerrillo met with Turning Point representatives to get an insight of what the program provides and how it can benefit the community. He also had a person reach out to him interested in renting the Red Caboose on the weekends. The VP will reach out to him to gather more details of his proposal. Finally, he informed the board that there is a leak at the pool. In order to correct the issue, the pool will have to be drained. Board consensus was to move forward with draining the pool.

10. President's Report: Absent.

11. Vice President's Report: Report given during GM report.

12. Director's Reports: None for this meeting.

13. Legal Counsel Report: None for this meeting.

14. Communications:

- a. Written Communications: **None for this meeting.**

b. Public Comment: *The Public may address the Malaga County Water District Board on item(s) of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board, not appearing on the agenda. The Board will listen to comments presented; however, in compliance with the Brown Act, the Board cannot take action on items that are not on the agenda. The public should address the Board on agenda items at the time they are addressed by the Board. All speakers are requested to wait until recognized by the Board President. All Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes or less per individual/group per item per meeting, with a fifteen (15) minutes maximum.*

15. Closed Session: 7:19pm

- a. Public employment pursuant to Government Code Section 54957. All positions and all departments.
- b. Potential Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9).

Came out of closed session at 8:30pm.

16. Adjournment:

Motion by Director Cerrillo, Jr., Second by Director Castaneda and by a 4-0 vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm.

Certification of Posting

I, Norma Melendez, District Clerk of the Malaga County Water District, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of January 25, 2024, was posted for public view on the front window of the MCWD office at 3580 S. Frank Street, Fresno Ca 93725, on 02/14/2024.

Norma Melendez, District Clerk