



REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MALAGA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
3580 SOUTH FRANK AVENUE
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93725
Tuesday, February 27, 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: 6:00pm

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

All present.

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.

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 February 13, 2024.

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

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo; Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to approve the consent agenda as presented.

5. Old Business:

a. **Well 5A and the Tank at the Well 5A site.** Discussions with County staff have taken place to determine a course of action for the projects. The County of Fresno has communicated that the proposed course of action is acceptable. A letter has been submitted to the County of Fresno for processing of proposed adjustments to the grants received by MCWD.

It is recommended that MCWD notify the bidders that all bids are rejected. A draft letter is attached for consideration.

Recommended Action: Direct staff to issue the letter rejecting all bids to the bidders, with a copy to the County of Fresno.

Motion by Director Cerrillo, Jr.; Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to provide a copy of the letter rejecting all bids to the bidders to the County of Fresno.

6. New Business: None for this meeting.

7. Recreation Reports:

Director Castaneda reported that the next recreation bingo is scheduled for March 6. Hamburgers will be sold. The Easter program is scheduled for March 16. Discussion about the program are being discussed. The treasurer of the recreation committee is reviewing a list of potential restaurants that can host a large group for the Recreation Christmas dinner in December.

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.

A bridge loan from RCAC is in place for interim financing of the construction activities. Recommended Action: For information purposes.

- ii. **Sewer Units/Groundwater Sustainability.** Meetings have been conducted with several commercial and industrial dischargers regarding sewer units, groundwater sustainability impacts, and the potential rate study. A review of sewer unit assignments has been conducted and recommendations have been submitted for several additional actions to address several loose ends.

Staff is proceeding to clarify and update sewer unit assignments. Recommended Action: For information purposes.

- iii. **Shady Lakes Mobile Home Park Consolidation Project.** Self Help Enterprises and the State of California conducted a meeting on February 20, 2024 to re-initiate the Preliminary Engineering Report needed as a portion of an application for a Construction Grant for a sewer line extension from Malaga County Water District to the Shady Lakes Mobile Home Park (south of American Ave on Chestnut Ave) and improvements at the Malaga County Water District wastewater treatment facilities necessary to accommodate the proposed connection. It is likely that Self Help Enterprises will contract with Provost & Prichard to provide technical services for the proposed project. Recommended Action: For information purposes.

- iv. **Motion by Vice President Cerrillo, Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to add item 8.a.4. to the agenda.**

Lift Station at SPR 8180. President Garabedian expressed his concern over the location of the lift station. The board was under the impression that it would be located on a public roadway. After further review of the plans, it was noted that the lift station is located inside a private roadway, therefore the district would be servicing a private lift station. The board discussed the prior approval from the last board meeting and decided it would be best to rescind the approval and re-submit proposal. It was suggested that this new proposal includes an easement as lift station is located on a non-public street, a clause that states that the owners of the

property will take ownership of the lift-station, and that MCWD would charge the owners to maintain the lift-station.

Motion by Vice President Cerrillo, Second by Director Tovar, Jr. and by a 5-0 vote to rescind the previous approval made on February 13, 2024, for item 5.f. after further review and to re-submit the proposal with the new suggestions mentioned above.

b. CDBG Engineer Report:

- i. **WWTF Nitrogen Reduction Project.** No bids were received for the project. Communications with the County of Fresno are proceeding to determine a course of action. Recommended Action: For information purposes.

President Garabedian, Jr. would like an explanation of why no bids were received for the WWTF Nitrogen Reduction Project.

9. **General Manager's Report:**

- a. **President Garabedian, Jr. mentioned that Wells Fargo does not have lines of credit for government entities. He suggests looking into local credit union banks.**
- b. **Vice President Cerrillo informed the board that staff has found the leak that prevented the pool from retaining water. There were some tiles where the grout had completely disintegrated. Staff repaired the issue, and the pool pump will be turned. The VP also informed the board that he has gathered signatures from the district employees acknowledging the new policies that came to effect February 13, 2024. PG&E will be shutting off electric at the water shop March 1st and will be off for months. The Lead Water Operator will be relocated to another office. Finally, the RCAC loan has been approved.**

10. **President's Report:**

- a. **President Garabedian, Jr. expressed his gratitude towards Vice President Cerrillo for undertaking the significant task of managing the district. There is a better understanding of the stress that comes with being the manager of the district.**

11. **Vice President's Report:**

- a. **Report made during GM report.**

12. **Director's Reports:**

- a. **Director Castaneda excused herself from the meeting at 6:43pm.**
- b. **Director Cerrillo, Jr. thanked everyone for their hard work for the district.**

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: 7:04pm

- a. Potential Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9).

16. Adjournment:

Motion by: _____, **Second by:** _____

Certification of Posting

I, Norma Melendez, District Clerk of the Malaga County Water District, do hereby certify that the foregoing agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of February 27, 2024 was posted for public view on the front window of the MCWD office at 3580 S. Frank Street, Fresno Ca 93725, at 5:00P.M. On 02/23/2024.

Norma Melendez, District Clerk