

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
the Aromas Water District Board of Directors
April 26, 2022**

- I. CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors was called to order by President Leap on Tuesday, April 26, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in a hybrid setting; attendees were present both in the Board Room and online via Zoom.
- II. ROLL CALL.** President Leap, Vice President Morris and Directors Dutra, Holman and Smith were present. Also present was General Manager Johnson and Board Secretary Coombes; Counsel Bosso attended via Zoom.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** President Leap led the pledge of allegiance.
- IV. STATEMENTS OF DISQUALIFICATION.** There were no disqualification statements.
- V. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.** There were no additions to, or deletions from, the Agenda.
- VI. MINUTES.** The minutes of the March 22, 2022, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Vice President Morris moved for approval of the minutes as presented; Director Dutra seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved with all Directors present.
- VII. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION, March 22, 2022.** The General Manager was evaluated and there was no further direction.
- VIII. ORAL COMMUNICATION.** There were no public comments.
- IX. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

A. Director's Report(s). There were no Director's reports.

B. Attorney's Report. Counsel Bosso mentioned that AB361, regarding teleconferencing during an emergency situation, has a provision to extend the ability to do teleconferencing until January 2024. It has been substantially changed, including provisions for a Board Member attending from outside the area.

SB1157 Hertzberg, passed in 2018, regarding guidelines the indoor water use being restricted to 55 gallons per capita daily up to January 1, 2025, reducing to 52.5 gallons thereafter. In January 2030 this further reduces to 50 gallons or a standard recommended by the department and the Board as the standard for indoor residential water use. The new Hertzberg bill is in the Senate again and reduces those numbers to 47 between January 2025 to 2030, then 42 from January 2030. No provision for outdoor water use appears to have been stipulated. The Department of Water Resources has been invited to review these numbers and make recommendations.

Public Agencies are exempt from new requirements passed in March 2022 specifying conservation measures that prohibits permits for new wells prior to contacting any regional agency to determine that there will be no impact on groundwater by drilling a new well.

Vice President Morris asked Counsel Bosso whether redistricting will affect Aromas Water for future Board seat elections. Counsel Bosso indicated that as long as the demographics of the local community is well mixed and does not have pockets of minorities, then there are no grounds for a lawsuit for underrepresentation.

C. Manager's Report

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Production & Well Levels

GM Johnson reported total production in March 2022 was 7,508,200 gallons, with a daily average of 242,200 gallons. March's production was 20% higher than February's. Again, both Carpentaria Well and San Juan Well ran the entire month; however, Pleasant Acres was not used at all.

December 2021 and January 2022's pumping was about 10-15% below normal. In February this increased to 18% above normal and March was up 20% over February's pumping total, which is around 2% higher than the average in March.

All water testing continues to be both filed on time and represent satisfactory results. The total number of connected meters increased to 971 with the recent installation at 0 Pine Tree.

Operational well levels; both Carpentaria Well and San Juan Well are down one foot. Observational wells; Marshall Well is down four feet and Aimee Meadows is down six feet.

INCIDENTS

The installation of a 1-inch meter at 0 Pine Tree proved to be challenging as the locating the main line was difficult due to culverts and large chunks of debris under the asphalt. Several days of manual digging and debris removal ensued, however, eventually West Valley was called in to help as the road asphalt needed cutting almost the full width. The use of West Valley's vacuum truck greatly sped up the process. The main was eventually located 46" down from the road level with a culvert running parallel right above it. It was then discovered that two steel saddles in place on the line were badly corroded and needed to be replaced before the actual new connection could be made. New coordinates will help to make maps more definitive for future operations. Director Dutra asked if we have a handheld scanner for locating water lines, but unfortunately the display is broken, so a new one is likely to be in next fiscal year's capital budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

WUSp Girōn and Operator Smith continue with the Valve Marking and Exercising Program to establish the location and functionality of our water main and lateral valves as well as provide confirmation of mapped data.

ASO Coombes and WUSp Girōn completed the application to LAFCo for the Cole and Rocks Road annexation and is now with GM Johnson for review, and recalculation of the system capacity.

At the beginning of the month, ASO Coombes electronically sent the Consumer Confidence Report for 2021 out to the customer base who have current emails. The remainder will be sent a hard copy once they are received from the printing company.

Operator Smith, XiO and the electrician are working to get the backwash working at San Juan Well. Replacement of the old SCADA with XiO is now complete. This means the CalNet lines and their associated expense will soon be phased out.

GM Johnson and Vice President Morris met with NHA, the Municipal Advisors again resulting in two Action Items later in this meeting.

Conservation & Rainfall

Since the start of the rainfall year on October 1, 2021, at total of 16.08 inches of precipitation have been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden pass, with a further 0.72 inches falling in April so far. This is approximately a 70% increase from the previous rain year total of just 9.48 inches.

PROJECTS

Response to COVID-19 Virus

The plexiglass screen between CSR Bowman and WUSp Girōn has now been removed and staff are no longer required to take a daily temperature measurement.

Visitors to the office are still required to wear masks to enter the office as staff are not in a position to evaluate the vaccination status of each visitor.

Orchard Hill Road proposed annexation progress

No further news since the completion of the Technical memorandum.

Cole Road & Rocks Road Annexation Project

The application packet for LAFCo is complete and under review.

New Water Source – Marshall Well Project

GM Johnson will present an update in Action Item XI.A later in this meeting.

Correspondence: GM Johnson called the Board's attention to the correspondence with the Monterey District Engineer for SWRCB regarding the 1,000 connection threshold and what this may entail at the District as annexations and potential connections increase. However, it appears that 10,000 connections is the level at which changes in testing occur.

GM Johnson also mentioned the formaldehyde testing recently performed at the Monterey RV Park. In essence; their testing showed positive for formaldehyde and they wanted to check the District's supply. Tests were performed and proved to have a barely detectable amount in the fire hydrant water. GM Johnson suspects a

potential backflow issue on their site. He has also contacted the SWRCB to get advice and a plan to resolve this issue. Formaldehyde is a disinfection by-product of RV wastewater however it is not yet understood how any cross contamination may have been possible.

Vice President Morris enquired about the correspondence with the office of Assembly Member Rivas; GM Johnson explained that he has been seeking State funds for the District’s capital projects and the new well project in particular, however, there has been no indication of any potential funding possibilities yet.

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-06 authorizing the continuation of hybrid/remote teleconferencing meetings pursuant to AB 361**
- B. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-07 May is Water Awareness Month**

Director Smith moved to adopt both Resolution 2022-06 and 2022-07 as presented; seconded by Vice President Morris. With all Directors present, the consent calendar was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

XI ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-08, ordering an election for three seats on the Aromas Water District Board of Directors on November 8, 2022**

Director Smith moved to adopt Resolution 2022-08 as presented; seconded by Vice President Morris. With all Directors present, Resolution 2022-08 was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

- B. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-09, establishing a District Debt Management Policy**

This policy is mandatory for the Well Project loan approval. Once adopted, this policy will be included in the Board of Director’s Handbook.

Vice President Morris moved to adopt Resolution 2022-09 as presented; seconded by Director Smith. With all Directors present, Resolution 2022-09 was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

- C. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-10, authorizing the borrowing of funds in a principal amount not to exceed \$5,759,500 to finance the Marshall Well Project and approving related documents and actions**

Director Holman moved to adopt Resolution 2022-10 as presented; seconded by Director Smith. With all Directors present, Resolution 2022-10 was unanimously adopted by roll call vote.

- D. Financial Reports for the Month of March 2022**

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$10,850,730.77, of which Total Current Assets are \$4,812,462.26, and Total Fixed Assets are \$5,889,148.51. In Liabilities, the Total Current Liabilities are \$255,947.13 and Total Liabilities are \$4,417,545.81.

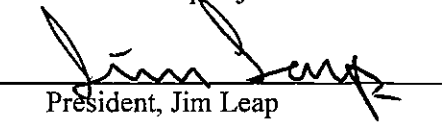
In the P&L Report, Water Revenue for March was \$103,519.80. Total Expenditures were \$122,504.94 between March 16 to April 19, 2022.

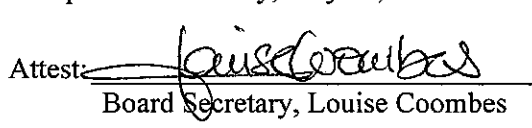
On the graphical representation of the Financials, when compared to the current budget there is a +0.7% above budget and -3.2% difference from YTD Expenditures and therefore below budget since the beginning of the year, inflation has made an impact.

Vice President Morris moved to adopt the Financial Reports as presented; seconded by Director Holman. The financial reports were unanimously adopted with all Directors present.

XII. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS. The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, May 24, 2022 and will be the same hybrid format as this meeting. Topics should include the Expense and Capital Budgets and further information on the completion on the loan.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT. President Leap adjourned the meeting at 8:28pm until Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

Read and approved by: 
President, Jim Leap

Attest: 
Board Secretary, Louise Coombes

Date: 5/24/2022

Date: May 24, 2022

