

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
the Board of Directors of the
Aromas Water District
February 28, 2017**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Aromas Water District was called to order by President Leap on Tuesday, February 28, 2017 at 7:02 p.m. at the District office located at 388 Blohm Ave, Aromas, California.

II. ROLL CALL:

President Leap, Vice-President Smith, and Directors Holman, Dutra and Norton were all present. Also in attendance were General Counsel Bob Bosso, General Manager Vicki Morris and Asst. General Manager/Board Secretary Mark Dias.

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 or deletions.

VI. MINUTES: The minutes of the December 21, 2016 and January 24, 2017 Board Meetings were presented for review and approval. There were no comments or corrections. Vice Pres. Smith moved for approval of the December minutes and Director Holman seconded. With Director Norton abstaining the December Minutes were approved by all remaining directors. Director Norton moved for approval of the January minutes and Vice Pres. Smith seconded. Minutes were approved unanimously.

VII. ORAL COMMUNICATION: There were no public comments.

VIII. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

A. Director's Reports

Vice Pres. Smith complimented District staff on their response to the power outages Feb 17-19. Director Norton noted that staff outreach via NextDoor Aromas during the power outage was helpful to educate the public. He also appreciated the new weather station to track weather events. Directors Leap, Norton and Smith had completed their harassment prevention trainings.

B. Attorney's Report

Counsel Bosso briefly reported on two items: (1) the State Supreme court cases regarding various Proposition 218 cases have been briefed but not yet argued. There are no mandatory timelines to argue the cases. Once argued decisions are typically issued within 90 days. (2) Regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the wording of SB 1069 legislation was creating confusion. While Counties and cities cannot require separate connections and charges, this does not apply to special districts due to differences in how these entities are funded.

C. Manager's Report: See detailed report in agenda packet. Items highlighted include:

Production:

GM Morris noted production was at the lowest it has ever been with the current number of customers. Rainfall to date in the region was already much higher than the average yearly total.

Operations:

GM Morris noted staff responded admirably during the power outages of Feb 17-19. The generator at Carpentaria was successfully used to maintain tank levels in the majority of the pressure zones. No customers were without water. Staff met the following week and identified several improvements. Carr and Oakridge boosters would be retrofitted to connect to a portable generator that the District will purchase. An electrician has been consulted to match the transfer switches and generator to the pump sizes. Also a standby generator (natural gas) is recommended for the office building so it can operate as a full response center during an outage/emergency. In the event of a major incident a rental generator would be secured for the San Juan site. Other improvements included bringing new staff up to speed on response procedures and learning system hydraulics to understand how some customers in six pressure zones may be impacted during an extended outage.

The intermittent power outages during the storm damaged the Variable Frequency Drive on the San Juan well. The VFD was removed for evaluation and repair -- or replacement -- given its 8 years of service. The VFD will be out of service for up to 6-10 weeks. The system can operate smoothly using the Pleasant Acres and Carpentaria wells.

Work on the warranty repairs at the Oakridge tank is scheduled for the next week. Truck access to haul in the temporary tank was a potential issue under investigation.

Water levels in most wells were at their highest in several years.

Projects

- Shop Building. AGM Dias said he was preparing detailed plot plans for presentation to County Environmental Health.
- Water main relocation at Rocks Road Bridge (near Rancho Larios). AGM Dias reiterated the items in the staff report regarding County funding and bridge design.

D. Sustainable Groundwater Planning Report:

GM Morris and AGM Dias gave brief updates. The State had extended the comment from 60 to 90 days. PVWMA staff had said that the State indicated it would be at least six months before the Alternative plans could be reviewed. To date only two comments had been submitted on PVWMA's Alternative. Federal and State fishery agencies had concerns regarding quantifying surface water impacts from groundwater pumping. Counsel Bosso noted that State Fish and Game had filed legal arguments elsewhere that the "public trust doctrine" for surface water should be extended to apply to groundwater pumping.

E. Correspondence: The monthly correspondence list was reviewed. In response to Board questions GM Morris provided background on three items.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consider request for annexation and water service at APN 127-192-002, 1179 Via Del Sol. GM Morris presented the information in the staff report. The requester was not in attendance. No public members in support or opposition were present. The Board reviewed the District's Sphere of Influence and the history of annexations in the for Oakridge/Via Del Sol areas, and discussed the pros/cons of piecemeal annexation of single parcels. It was not known if the existing well could be repaired and if a public health issue existed. Director Norton moved to deny the request. The motion was seconded by Director Dutra. The motion passed unanimously with all directors present.

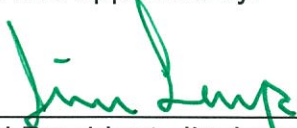
B. Financials: Revenue and expenses for January reporting period were \$59,585.44 and \$73,984.23 respectively. Total assets are \$8.97 million. Total liabilities were similar to last year at \$1.91 million making a net equity of \$7.06 million. The expenditures from January 14 to February 24, 2017 totaled \$73,631.65. President Leap had previously reviewed the expenditures. GM Morris noted that the budget was in line with the modified budget adopted in January. Director Norton moved to accept the financials as presented and Vice Pres. Smith seconded. The financials were accepted unanimously with all directors present.

X. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS:

President Leap requested the formation of an ad hoc committee to discuss succession planning. Director Norton volunteered. He and Pres. Leap would set a first meeting. Also the ad hoc Audit Committee would be meeting April 7, 2017.

XI. ADJOURNMENT - Pres. Leap adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM until March 28, 2017.

Read and approved by:



Board President, Jim Leap

Date:

3-28-17

Attest:



District Secretary, Mark Dias

Date:

3/28/17