

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
the Aromas Water District Board of Directors
August 23, 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, August 23, 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 Acting Board Secretary Girõn. 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 July 26, 2022, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Director Smith moved for approval of the minutes as presented; Director Holman seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved with all Directors present.
- VII. ORAL COMMUNICATION.** There were no public comments.
- VII. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS**

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

B. Attorney's Report. Counsel Bosso reported on the action filed against the driver who damaged the hydrant on San Juan Road in October 2021. Within ten days of filing, the driver's insurance company declared that once they receive the release, they will send the District the full \$10,000, which is the maximum for any single claim.

C. Manager's Report

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Production & Well Levels

GM Johnson reported total production in July 2022 was 11,189,998 gallons, with a daily average of 360,967 gallons. On average, production is generally lower than in previous years; it would seem that customers are conserving.

Carpenteria Well and San Juan Well operated the entire month; Pleasant Acres was used for one day.

All water testing reports were filed on time and represent satisfactory results. The District has 971 total connected meters.

Operational well levels; Carpenteria Well is down three feet and San Juan Well is down five feet. Observational wells; Marshall Well is down two feet and Aimee Meadows has not changed since last month.

INCIDENTS

The recent Anzar Fire started on Thursday, June 21, 2022 and was mostly suppressed by June 25, 2022. Fire cleanup continued for a few days after that. During this time, Contractors hired by Graniterock, CalFire and PG&E continued to pull water from the District's hydrants in that region, so they were provided with a hydrant meter; it is likely that the District will be getting some reimbursement for this metered water.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

WUSp Girōn continues to work with the Auditors through the Interim Testing of the Audit and into the Audit proper, beginning August 24, 2022.

Chief Operator DeAlba and Operator Smith worked with a contractor to install two new connections on Seely Avenue.

ASO Coombes organized the triennial Lead and Copper testing mandated by the state for certain customer homes that meet specific criteria. Since the last testing in 2019, some homes now have water softeners making them ineligible, so additional suitable residences are being sought for testing prior to the deadline at the end of September.

PROJECTS

Orchard Hill Road proposed annexation progress

Counsel Bosso is assisting GM Johnson to answer additional questions on an ongoing basis.

New Water Source – Marshall Well Project

GM Johnson worked with MNS Grant Team to develop a Small Community Drought Relief grant application for the Marshall Well Replacement Project. Since the test well at the Marshall site was abandoned, the grant application was rewritten with a more general approach for a new well source independent of a specific site.

An update with a potential new site is being presented in the Action Items later in this meeting.

Cole and Rocks Road Annexation

The presentation of the Cole & Rocks Roads annexation was made to LAFCo at their meeting on August 11, 2022. GM Johnson remotely attended this meeting to augment the LAFCo Executive Director's presentation and answer questions from the public.

The protest hearing will occur at 4pm on September 15th in the District's Board Room. During the interim, LAFCo will send letters to all landowners and registered voters on those parcels listed in the application. Final approval will be granted on the basis of a lack of protest from 50%+1 of those landowners. None have been received to the date of this meeting.

Conservation & Rainfall

Since the start of the rainfall year on October 1, 2021, a total of 16.32 inches of precipitation have been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden pass. This is approximately a 72% increase from the previous rain year total.

Correspondence: Director Dutra asked about the letter regarding the Betabel commercial development; GM Johnson explained that since this area is outside the District sphere of influence, he responded to them with no comment.

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-17 authorizing the continuation of hybrid/remote teleconferencing meetings pursuant to AB 361

Vice President Morris moved to adopt Resolution 2022-17 as presented; seconded by Director Smith. The consent calendar was adopted by roll call vote with all Directors present.

XI ACTION ITEMS

A. Consider receiving an update on the Marshall Well Replacement Project

Further to the abandonment of the first test well, a new site is being researched; GM Johnson is expecting an update on August 25, 2022. Preliminary enquiries into a section of the Aromas Community Park are under way.

If the re-written grant application is awarded, this will augment the existing well fund and provide for other District projects, including the development of a Water System Capital Facilities Plan and the replacement of the 2008 Operations vehicle.

At the next meeting, in closed session, more information will be provided to the Board Members regarding the real property at the Community Park.

This report was received by Board consensus.

B. Consider receiving a report on the Utilization of District Resources for the Anzar Fire and related activities

Fire broke out on July 21st, 2022, at the northeastern area of the District's sphere of influence. Nearby District infrastructure provided CalFire with hydrants and District Operations team kept water flowing for the fire fighters despite the loss of local power. A hydrant meter was provided during the cleanup operation over subsequent days. With representatives from CalFire, PG&E and Granite, GM Johnson was able to develop greater relationships and create the potential for reimbursement for water and facilities utilized during cleanup.

All Board Members expressed appreciation for the efforts involved in containing the fire by both District staff and other parties. VP Morris asked if GM Johnson knew how other communities handle the reimbursement? Apparently, it is not usual to be reimbursed, however, there is a procedure in place for such an eventuality.

This report was received by Board consensus.

C. Financial Reports for the Month of July 2022

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,589,669.04, of which Total Current Assets are \$10,461,781.70, and Total Fixed Assets are \$5,978,767.34. In Liabilities, the Total Current Liabilities are \$369,984.99, Total Long Term Liabilities now stands at \$9,687,340.61. In the P&L Report, Water Revenue for July was \$158,388.52. Total Expenditures were \$136,419.48 between July 20 and August 16, 2022.

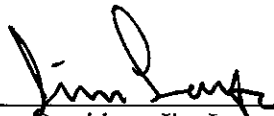
On the graphical representation of the Financials, when compared to the current budget there is 2.7% difference of budgeted revenue versus actual income. The Expenditures had -19.7% difference below budget.

Director Smith moved to adopt the Financial Reports as presented; seconded by Director Dutra. With all Directors present, the Financial Reports was adopted by roll call vote.

XII. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS. The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, and will be the same hybrid format as this meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT. President Leap adjourned the meeting at 7.55pm until Tuesday, September 27, 2022.

Read and approved by:



President, Jim Leap

Attest: 

Board Secretary, Louise Coombes

Date: 9-27-2022

Date: 10/5/2022

