

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
the Aromas Water District Board of Directors
September 27, 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, September 27, 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 Girón. 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 August 23, 2022, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Director Smith moved for approval of the minutes as presented; Vice President Morris 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 a case regarding endangered species where the District Court of Appeals ruled that bumble bees are protected as an invertebrate under the Fish portion of the Endangered Species Act. This ruling stands in the absence of the Supreme Court's refusal to take the case, which may change in the future.

In addition, Counsel Bosso will prepare an outline of changes to the recently passed statute regarding the changes to meetings that occurred during the pandemic are now being formalized.

C. Manager's Report

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Production & Well Levels

GM Johnson apologized for an error in total production and the values for Carpenteria and San Juan Wells that occurred in the Manager's Report sent electronically this month; addendums were provided at the meeting.

Total production in August 2022 was 10,740,700 gallons, with a daily average of 346,474 gallons. August's production was about 4% lower than July 2022.

The District now has 972 total connected meters with a new installation on Seely Avenue.

Carpenteria and San Juan Wells were used for the entire month and Pleasant Acres was used for one day. All water testing reports were filed on time and represent satisfactory results.

Operational well levels; Carpenteria Well is down one foot and San Juan Well is up three feet. Observational wells; Marshall Well is up one foot and Aimee Meadows is down one foot.

INCIDENTS

The Carr Avenue resurfacing project has resulted in a total of six line breaks so far. The first was fixed by AWD Operations Team, the second was too large so West Valley were called in; some reimbursement is expected at some point. A small break occurred when a small undocumented connection was being removed; this was repaired in less than four hours.

WUSp Girõn and ASO Coombes effectively utilized the Public Alert program to automate messages via voicemail, text and email to all ninety six customers affected during these breaks instead of telephoning customers, saving valuable staff time.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

WUSp Girõn and Operator Smith are continuing the Valve Marking and Exercising Program in the field as other duties allow, information obtained will be returned to ASO Coombes to update data in the GIS mapping.

PROJECTS

Orchard Hill Road proposed annexation progress

Counsel Bosso and GM Johnson continue to answer questions on an ongoing basis. The requestors are working on recruiting other interested parties and arranging a public meeting to discuss alternative configurations. Meanwhile the temporary line is still in place.

Cole and Rocks Road Annexation

The Protest Hearing meeting was held in the District Board Room on September 15, 2022. There were no objections to the annexation either via mail beforehand or at the meeting. The final authorization by LAFCo needs to occur on October 13, 2022 due to the fact that the annexation involves multiple parcels. Once this is done and the Authorization Agreement has been received by the District, customers can connect.

Conservation & Rainfall

Since the start of the rainfall year on October 1, 2021, a total of 16.60 inches of precipitation have been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden pass including the recent 0.28" of rainfall.

Correspondence: GM Johnson brought the Board's attention to an email sent by NHA Advisors related to the reporting on the loan; the District is handling everything correctly. Additionally, the email regarding the State Business ID # for the District; the number still continues to be elusive.

X CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-18 authorizing the continuation of hybrid/remote teleconferencing meetings pursuant to AB 361.**
- B. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-19 declaring October 1-9, 2022, Water Professionals Appreciation Week.**

Vice President Morris moved to adopt Resolutions 2022-18 and 2022-19 as presented; seconded by Director Smith. The consent calendar was unanimously adopted by roll call vote with all Directors present.

XI ACTION ITEMS

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

The search for an additional site has potentially been identified; further discussion will occur later in this meeting during closed session.

The grant application has been submitted after being re-written to be more general, however, there is currently no information on the award schedule.

A draft final layout has now been developed to build the 40' x 60' Operations Shop at Marshall Yard, with a loft area for organized storage and a specialized "hot room" for welding. Ancillary tasks to ready the site include installing a septic system with leach field, moving the power pole and performing a lot line adjustment.

This report was received by Board consensus.

B. Financial Reports for the Month of August 2022

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,572,966.75, of which Total Current Assets are \$10,333,615.51, and Total Fixed Assets are \$6,090,231.24. In Liabilities, the Total Current Liabilities are \$368,544.53, Total Long Term Liabilities now stands at \$9,687,340.61. In the P&L Report, Water Revenue for August was \$186,316.80. Total Expenditures were \$268,851.69 between August 17 and September 20, 2022.

On the graphical representation of the Financials, when compared to the current budget there is 6.8% difference of budgeted revenue versus actual income. The Expenditures had a 3.2% difference above budget.

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


XII FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS. The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, October 25, 2022, and will be the same hybrid format as this meeting.

XIII ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION. President Leap adjourned the open meeting at 7:58pm to begin the closed session. Pursuant to California Government Code section 54956.8, the closed session is to discuss the real property located at 300 Aromas Road, owned by Aromas Community Center Foundation (ACCF).

XIV RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: 8:30pm. GM Johnson was directed on property negotiations.


XV ADJOURNMENT. President Leap adjourned the open meeting at 8:32pm until Tuesday, October 25, 2022.

Read and approved by:



President, Jim Leap

Attest



Board Secretary, Louise Coombes

Date: 10 - 25 - 2022

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