

# **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors April 23, 2024**

- I. CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors was called to order by President Morris on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in a hybrid setting; attendees were present in the Board Room, and online via Zoom.
- II. ROLL CALL.** President Morris, Vice-President Holman, Directors Powers, Norton, and Capron were present in the Board Room along with General Manager Johnson. Counsel Bosso attended via Zoom.
- III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** President Morris led the pledge of allegiance.
- IV. STATEMENTS OF DISQUALIFICATION.** There were no statements of disqualification.
- V. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.** There were no additions or deletions.
- VI. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION ON MARCH 26, 2024.** GM Johnson was given direction.
- VII. MINUTES.** The minutes of the February 27, and March 26, 2024, Board Meetings were presented for review and approval. Director Norton moved for approval of both sets of minutes; Director Capron seconded. Both sets of minutes were unanimously approved.
- VIII. ORAL COMMUNICATION.** Mr. Dutra spoke regarding his discontent with the way the District was being managed and the fact that the operations shop had not been built.
- IX. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS**
  - A. Director's Report.** Director Norton reported that he attended the San Benito Business Council meeting where there was an interesting discussion regarding the improvements to Highway 25.
  - B. Attorney's Report.** Counsel Bosso reported that there was not anything to report on that affected our District. He fielded a couple questions from the directors.
  - C. Manager's Report:**
    - OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE***
    - Production & Well Levels***

Total production in March 2024 was 5,111,556 gallons; 4% higher than February's production (roughly 175,764 gallons), and 18% lower than March's average production. The average daily production was 164,889 gallons.

The District has 976 total connected meters – no new connections this month.

San Juan and Carpenteria wells were operated the entire month, and Pleasant Acres well was operated only one day. All water testing reports were filed on time.

**Operational well levels:** Carpenteria well was the same as the previous month, and San Juan well was up one foot. **Observational wells:** The Marshall well level showed an increase of one foot from the previous month, and the Aimee Meadows well reading showed no change from the last reading.
    - INCIDENTS***

Staff found a hose illegally connected to the District's Oakridge Water Tank. Appropriate actions were taken by staff with both the State Water Resources Control Board and the Monterey County Sheriff's office.

## ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

### ***Staff & Board Recognition***

GM Johnson reported on the following staff activities: 1) Management Analyst (MA) Girõn and the Operations staff provided materials for customers to complete the Lead and Copper water sampling effort, 2) MA Girõn, GM Johnson and the Operations staff continue to work on the Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory (LCSLI) requirements from the State, 3) MA Girõn, GM Johnson and the Operations staff are continuing to reach out to tank repair consultants to develop a scope of work for the tank repairs identified in the tank cleaning report, and 4) GM Johnson has been working closely with the Rate Study consultant.

### ***Conservation & Rainfall***

The beginning of the new rainfall year was on October 1, 2023. Since then, 20.36 inches of precipitation has been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden Pass.

## ***PROJECTS***

### **Cole and Rocks Road Annexation**

Customers have been connected, based on initial request and payment timing. No new installations were performed this month.

### **New Water Source**

This matter was discussed in the March Closed Session, and the General Manager was given direction.

### **Progress on the District's Capital Improvement Plan**

A public workshop for the Capital Improvement Plan (Plan) was held on April 22, 2024. The Plan was discussed and there were many reasons the Board was not happy with the Plan. To help move this matter forward as a component to ongoing Rate Study, an Ad Hoc Committee was formed to discuss the matter further.

### **Follow-up on the Kang Annexation effort**

The Kang Annexation, approved by the District Board in November 2022, is completed in DRAFT Form and will be reviewed and edited as necessary. Staff submitted the application electronically and via hard copy to San Benito LAFCo.

## **D. Correspondence:**

GM Johnson went through the monthly correspondence list and provided information on specific items, especially the San Benito County Broadband Hut project as well as the illegal connection to the Oakridge Water Tank.

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**X. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Consider approving the Capital Improvement Plan projects, and providing direction to staff**

Staff presented the Capital Improvement Plan (Plan) projects and related costs. After much discussion the following motion was made, "Request the General Manager to update the Capital Improvement Plan to reflect the input received from the Board and staff."; Director Capron made the motion, and Director Powers seconded it. Motion was unanimously approved.

**B. Consider receiving a preliminary progress report about the current Rate Study analysis, and providing direction to staff**

Staff introduced the District's Rate Study consultant who presented the financial model and associated assumptions developed for the District. Issues and possible permutations to the proposed rates were discussed and resulted in the request for additional work. An Ad Hoc Committee of President Morris, Director Capron and GM Johnson was appointed to work with the Rate Study consultant on various scenarios to bring back to the Board for discussion.

**C. Financial Reports for the Months of February and March 2024**

February: Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,221,209.19. In the P&L Report, Revenue for February was \$121,777.99. Total Expenditures were \$96,368.90 between February 17, 2024, and March 16, 2024.

March: Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,173,571.55. In the P&L Report, Revenue for March was \$117,439.68. Total Expenditures were \$79,611.15 between March 17, 2024, and April 15, 2024.

President Morris moved to adopt both sets of the Financial Reports which were seconded by Vice-President Holman. The Financial reports were unanimously approved.

**XI. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS**

The next regular Board meeting date will be Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at the District office. At that meeting, there will be a Closed Session related to real property negotiations.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING TO CLOSED SESSION**

The regular meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

**XIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Closed Session adjourned at 9:48pm with direction given to the General Manager.

**XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

President Morris adjourned this meeting at 9:40pm.

Read and approved by: V. Morris  
President, Vicki Morris

Date: 6-18-24

Attest: [Signature]  
Board Secretary, Robert Johnson

Date: 5/21/24