

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of
the Aromas Water District Board of Directors
July 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, July 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 and Directors Dutra, Holman and Smith were present. Also present was General Manager Johnson. Board Secretary Coombes and Counsel Bosso attended via Zoom. Vice President Morris was absent.
- 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 June 28, 2022, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Director Dutra moved for approval of the minutes as presented; Director Smith seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved by Directors Dutra, Holman, Leap and Smith present. Vice President Morris was absent.
- 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 stated that there is currently nothing to report on in water law.
- C. Manager's Report**

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Production & Well Levels

GM Johnson reported total production in June 2022 was 10,587,430 gallons, with a daily average of 352,914 gallons. Carpentaria Well operated for 29 days and San Juan Well operated the entire month; Pleasant Acres was used for eight days. June's average production is 13% lower than its average production.

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

Operational well levels; Carpentaria Well is down one foot and San Juan Well is down three feet. Observational wells; Marshall Well is holding at 77 feet and Aimee Meadows is down one foot.

INCIDENTS

As mentioned last month, during resurfacing work along Carr Avenue, a main was uncovered and a saddle was damaged. Water loss was estimated at 10,000 gallons.

In next month's Incident Report, the recent Anzar Fire (starting Thursday, June 21st) will be discussed further, however, GM Johnson is planning to ask for reimbursement from the State for water used to quench hot spots after the main fire was out. A local tree service is being employed by PG&E and have been using significant quantities of water.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

WUSp Girón recently worked with the Auditors to go through the Interim Testing of the Audit; all went smoothly. The actual Audit will take place towards the end of August.

Both Chief Operator DeAlba and Operator Smith are to be congratulated as they recently passed their Backflow Testing which has both a written and practical examination.

ASO Coombes submitted the application for the District of Distinction back in March; earlier in July, we were informed that we have attained this prestigious award. More regarding this in the Action Items later in this meeting.

PROJECTS

Orchard Hill Road proposed annexation progress

The Orchard Hill group continue to ask questions regarding their concerns. Currently under scrutiny is who pays for the extension of the water mains based on Ordinance #70. GM Johnson expects to send answers to them this week.

New Water Source – Marshall Well Project

Since the proposed well site at the Marshall Yard has not proven fruitful, GM Johnson needs to revisit the grant application to do some minor revisions.

More about this project in the Action Items of this meeting.

Cole and Rocks Road Annexation

The Cole/Rocks Rd annexation packet will be presented to the LAFCo Board on August 11th. Thereafter, a protest hearing will occur after five weeks, during which 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.

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: GM Johnson drew the Board's attention to the following items.

The permit for the office solar panels has been granted, however, Monterey County need to also approve a battery permit. GM Johnson has tried contacting the Monterey County staff for completion of the permits but, has not been able to get a definitive date of issuance.

Counsel Bosso recently filed a claim for the damaged fire hydrant. This was sent with a letter to the driver of the vehicle with advice to turn that claim into her insurance company. If this does not happen, Counsel Bosso will arrange to have the defendant personally served with the claim.

On July 13th an email was sent to stop the work on the test well project.

X. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-15 authorizing the continuation of hybrid/remote teleconferencing meetings pursuant to AB 361**
- B. Consider adopting Resolution 2022-16 authorizing the Small Community Drought Relief Grant application, acceptance and execution for the Marshall Well Replacement Project**

Director Holman moved to adopt both Resolution 2022-15 and 2022-16 as presented; seconded by Director Smith. With Directors Dutra, Holman, Leap and Smith present, the consent calendar was adopted by roll call vote. Vice President Morris was absent.

XI ACTION ITEMS

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

The drilling of the test well began on schedule, however the electronic logging demonstrated there was a lack of water present and what was present was unusable. Work on this site has now been halted and the test hole will be destroyed.

The consultant hydrogeologist, Martin Feeney, is currently seeking an alternative site. Bi-weekly progress meetings will continue to occur to strategize for the future site. As indicated in the Consent Calendar Item B., the Grant Application will be adjusted to be less specific to the Marshall Well site. Despite the failure of the test well at the Marshall Yard, plans will continue for rebuilding the workshop.

This report was received by Board consensus.

B. Consider receiving an update on Board Member Training Plan

Earlier in July, the District was pleased to receive the District of Distinction Award. Considering there are 3000 Special Districts in California, this District is one of only thirty-six who have attained this award. Achieving this Award was part of the strategic plan for Board Training developed prior to the pandemic and was a major achievement in spite of it. This achievement was made possible by the dedication of the Board Members and General Manager in the development of a consistent learning culture by attending training and developing the Board Policy Manual as part of the Board Handbook.

To continue and enhance the major milestones achieved, there are only a few additional requirements necessary to achieve the platinum level of the District of Distinction which is the highest level. Required trainings are a part of those requirements and one or two of the Board have those coming due soon. In addition, six additional hours are needed to get to platinum level distinction; it will be assessed if this is possible with the training that has already been taken or whether additional training is needed. Achieving this Award would put our District in the 0.4% of all Special Districts in California.

C. Financial Reports for the Month of June 2022

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,588,913.35, of which Total Current Assets are \$10,629,395.89, and Total Fixed Assets are \$5,810,397.46. In Liabilities, the Total Current Liabilities are \$222,248.74, Total Long Term Liabilities now stands at \$9,951,217.61. In the P&L Report, Water Revenue for June was \$152,553.67. Total Expenditures were \$355,226.79 between June 22 and July 19, 2022.

On the graphical representation of the Financials, when compared to the current budget there is -4.2% difference of budgeted versus actual income. Similarly, the Expenditures had 4.5% difference. This results in only 9% greater than budgeted. However, the rate of inflation has had an effect on the budget, especially since no budget adjustment was performed in the middle of the fiscal year. Plus there are a few final reimbursements yet to be received to close off the books for FY 2021-22.

Director Holman moved to adopt the Financial Reports as presented; seconded by Director Smith. With Directors Dutra, Holman, Leap and Smith present, the Financial Reports was adopted by roll call vote. Vice President Morris was absent.

XII. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS. The next meeting date will be on Tuesday, August 23, 2022 and will be the same hybrid format as this meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT. President Leap adjourned the meeting at 8:22pm until Tuesday, August 23, 2022.

Read and approved by: Jim Leap
President, Jim Leap

Attest: Louise Coombes
Board Secretary, Louise Coombes

Date: 8.23.2022

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