

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors February 27, 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, February 27, 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 JANUARY 23, 2024.** GM Johnson was given direction.
- VII. MINUTES.** The minutes of the January 23, 2024, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval. Director Powers moved for approval of the minutes; Vice-President Holman seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.
- VIII. ORAL COMMUNICATION.** GM Johnson reported that the annual Form 700's will be coming out soon for the Board members to fill out.
- IX. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS**
 - A. Director's Report.** Director Norton reported on the San Benito Business Council lunch meeting; focus topics included information regarding the future of Hazel Hawkins Hospital and a presentation by Sunnyslope Water District.
 - B. Attorney's Report.** Counsel Bosso reported about the upcoming cross-connection program from the State and the requirements related to implementing such a program.
 - C. Manager's Report:**
 - OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE***
 - Production & Well Levels***

Total production in January 2024 was 5,180,254 gallons; roughly 12% lower than December's production, and 10% lower than January's average production. The average daily production was 167,105 gallons.

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

San Juan well was operated the entire month, Carpenteria well was operated 30 days, and Pleasant Acres well was operated only one day. All water testing reports were filed on time.

Operational well levels: Carpenteria well was up one foot from last month, and San Juan well was up eight feet from the previous month. Observational wells: The Marshall well level showed an increase of two feet from the previous month, while the Aimee Meadows level was up three feet.
 - INCIDENTS***

The Board was informed about a large leak that staff calculated the loss was over 500,000 gallons in less than two-week's time.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Staff & Board Recognition

GM Johnson reported on the following staff activities: 1) Management Analyst (MA) Girõn and GM Johnson worked to complete the LAFCo application for the Kang Annexation. The application will be sent in soon. Once the application is accepted, the wait to get on the LAFCo agenda will commence, 2) Chief Operator (CO) DeAlba and Operator Smith worked on some puzzling operations issues related to pressure transducers and their respective accuracies, 3) MA Girõn and GM Johnson worked on the Lead and Copper Public Information Program (including the initiation of a campaign to gain additional homes for the lead/copper sampling), and 4) GM Johnson worked with Pavletic Consulting LLC to develop the Rate Study proposal.

Conservation & Rainfall

The beginning of the new rainfall year was on October 1, 2023. Since then, 15.64 inches of precipitation has been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden Pass, with 5.64 inches recorded in February.

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 January Closed Session, and the General Manager was given direction.

Progress on the District's Capital Improvement Plan

Staff has provided comments to the consultants for incorporation. Board members requested a two-week lead time to review the report and a workshop-type meeting to go through the report.

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 hopes to turn the application in before the March Board meeting.

D. Correspondence:

GM Johnson went through the monthly correspondence list and provided information on specific items, especially the State Water Resources Control Board required Public Information Program on Lead and Copper in Drinking Water as well as LAFCo related matters.

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X. ACTION ITEMS

A. Consider approving the Rate Study proposal from Pavletic Consulting LLC in the amount of \$17,160.00, and providing direction to staff.

Staff presented the Rate Study proposal from Pavletic Consulting LLC. The timing for the Rate Study is critical to the development of budget for next fiscal year, as well as incorporating the Capital Improvement Plan information.

There was a motion to approve this action by Vice-President Holman that was seconded by Director Capron. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Financial Reports for the Month of January 2024

Total Assets / Liabilities & Equity are \$16,219,843.18. In the P&L Report, Revenue for January was \$118,975.18. Total Expenditures were \$286,146.72 between January 17, 2024, and February 16, 2024.

Director Powers moved to adopt the Financial Reports which were seconded by Director Norton. The Financial reports were unanimously approved.

XI. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS.

The next meeting date will be Tuesday, March 26, 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 8:00pm.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION.

Closed Session discussion consisted of real property negotiations status and direction to the GM.

XIV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION.

The Board returned to Open Session at 8:22pm.

XV. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION.

The General Manager was given direction for real property negotiations.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT.

President Morris adjourned this meeting at 8:23pm.

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

Date: 4-23-24

Attest: [Signature]
Board Secretary, Robert Johnson

Date: 4/23/24