# JOSHUA BASIN WATER DISTRICT Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS November 3, 2010

1. CALL TO ORDER

7:00 PM

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM:** 

Mickey Luckman

Bill Long

Mike Reynolds Steven Whitman Gary Wilson

STAFF PRESENT:

Joe Guzzetta, General Manager

Susan Greer, Assistant General Manager/Controller

Keith Faul, GIS Coordinator

GUESTS 5

### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MSC Long/Whitman 5/0 to approve the agenda of the November 3, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Marquez of Joshua Tree thanked candidates of the recent election and congratulated those elected; he reminded the Board that a director had made a public information request at the prior regular meeting.

# 6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Whitman commented that the minutes seemed incomplete; General Manager Guzzetta noted that this is an unfinished document and should not have been included in the agenda packet.

MSC Long/Reynolds 5/0 to approve the minutes of the October 20, 2010 Regular Board Meeting.

#### 7. WRITE-OFF BAD DEBT FOR FISCAL YEAR 09/10

Assistant General Manager/Controller Greer gave a presentation of the District bad debt from customers whose accounts have been turned off due to non-payment. She reviewed a number of options that will be brought back later for consideration to limit bad debt. It was emphasized that the bad debt was less than 1% which is a very low level.

MSC Long/Whitman 5/0 to approve staff recommendation to approve \$23,228.82 bad debt write-off.

- 8. LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GIL GRANITO SUPPORTING YORBA LINDA WATER DISTRICT (YLWD) IN DEFENDING AN INVERSE CONDEMNATION LAWSUIT ALLEGING THAT THE DISTRICT CONDEMNED PRIVATE PROPERTY BY FAILING TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT WATER DURING A CATASTROPHIC FIRE STORM
- GM Guzzetta reported that the Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) and the Association of California Water Agencies had requested a letter of support. At issue is a suit brought against YLWD alleging that YLWD has liability for property damage suffered during a severe firestorm. Discussion ensued, and the Board took the following action:
- MSC Whitman/Long 5/0 to approve staff recommendation to authorize Legal Counsel Gil Granito to submit an "Amicus Curiae" letter supporting the YLWD in defending the suit.

# 9. NOMINATION OF VICE PRESIDENT REYNOLDS FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ASSOCIATION OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS (ASBCSD)

President Mickey Luckman reported that there is a vacant director seat on the ASBCSD. JBWD Vice President Reynolds is the District's representative appointed to attend ASBCSD meetings; President Luckman recommended that Vice President Reynolds be nominated for the ASBCSD director position. Vice President Reynolds commented that he would accept this responsibility.

MSC Long/Whitman 4/1 to approve a resolution nominating Director Reynolds to the position of Director of the ASBCSD.

Long Aye
Luckman Aye
Reynolds Aye
Whitman Aye
Wilson No

#### 10. PROJECT PRIORITY LIST

GM Guzzetta reported that there has been no change to the project list. There were no questions from the Board or the public.

#### 11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Al Marquez of Joshua Tree commented opposing the cost of water that will be purchased in the future for the District's Recharge Basin and Pipeline project.

# 12. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

GM Guzzetta reported that the District received approval from Mojave Water Agency for \$350,000 to pay the cost of final engineering of the Recharge Basin and Pipeline Project; he noted that funds have not been budgeted for other costs related to the project at this time as the timing and amount of water purchases have yet to be determined. The timeline depends on completion of the project, which is dependent on grant funding. GM Guzzetta noted it is estimated that it will take from 18 months to 3 years for water in the recharge basins to reach the underground aquifer; once the ground under the recharge basin is saturated, water reaches the aquifer quickly. It is estimated that recharge from septage takes about 30 years to reach groundwater due to the relatively smaller amounts; USGS studies are near completion and will further refine these estimates. GM Guzzetta invited everyone to attend *The ABCs of Water* hosted by JBWD November 18<sup>th</sup>. Further discussion ensued regarding recharge.

# 13. DIRECTOR COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Wilson commented that he and Al Marquez paved a hole on Hallee Road that has been there for about 8 to 10 years; Board members and staff thanked Director Wilson and Mr. Marquez.

Vice President Reynolds reported on attending a webinar on legal updates last Friday with other Board members; he found the information helpful. Director Long, President Luckman, and Director Whitman also reported on attending the webinar. It was noted that this type of training is cost-saving for the District. Director Wilson reported that he found information regarding the responsibility of the District to prove a 20-year water supply for very large housing construction projects. Director Luckman congratulated Director Wilson on his re-election.

# 14. ADJOURNMENT 7:45 PM

MSC Long/Whitman 5/0 to adjourn the November 3, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted;

Joe Guzzetta General Manager

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Wednesday November 17, 2010 at 7:00 pm.