



Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District
March 11, 2014 - 6:00 p.m.
Location: District Office

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

President Szu Pei Lu-Yang
Vice President John Bellah
Director Anthony J. Lima
Director Teresa P. Rios
Director Robert W. Lewis

ABSENT:

None.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Janet Morningstar, Legal Counsel
Dan Horan, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Joe Ruzicka, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Kirk Howie, Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Erin La Combe Gilhuly, CV Strategies
David and Teri Malkin, Residents
Harry Peterson, Resident
Mike Touhey, Upper San Gabriel Municipal Water District

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT STAFF

Ken Deck, General Manager
Ted Carrera, Assistant General Manager
Tom Coleman, Assistant General Manager
Rose Perea, Director of Administrative Services
Sean Henry, Finance Officer

ADDITION(S) TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

General Manager, Ken Deck, responded to the question posed by Mr. Peterson at last month's meeting in connection with an expense item shown on the General Account. Resident, Teri Malkin, commended staff on their participation in the Cherry Blossom Festival held at Schabarum Park on March 8, 2014.

Tab 1 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Lima, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved.

- Ayes: Directors Lu-Yang, Bellah, Lima, Lewis and Rios
- Noes: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: None

The approval of the Consent Calendar included:

1.1 Approval of the Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held on February 11, 2014

1.2 Demands on General Fund Account for February 2014

1.3 Investment Report for February 2014

1.4 Water Purchases for January 2014

Next Special Board Meeting – President’s Dinner	March 25, 2014, 5:00 p.m.
Next Regular Board Meeting	April 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

Tab 2 - ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Approve Directors’ Meeting Reimbursements for February 2014

Upon motion by Director Lima, seconded by Director Lewis, the Directors’ Meeting Reimbursement Report was unanimously approved.

- Ayes: Directors Lu-Yang, Bellah, Lima, Lewis and Rios
- Noes: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: None

2.2 Approve/Decline Claim for Damages Submitted by Auto Club Enterprises (Afni-Subrogation Department) on behalf of Sandra Christensen in the Amount of \$710.41

After a brief discussion and a description of the claim filed against the District on behalf of Sandra Christensen for damages sustained to her automobile caused by water from a broken fire hydrant which was apparently damaged in a hit-and-run accident, it was staff’s recommendation that the Board deny the claim. Staff was instructed to forward the appropriate Notice of Rejection of Claim to Ms. Christensen’s insurance carrier with a copy to the District insurance carrier, ACWA/JPIA.

A motion was made by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Lima, to deny the claim for damages. The motion was unanimously carried.

- Ayes: Directors Lu-Yang, Bellah, Lima, Lewis and Rios
- Noes: None
- Abstain: None
- Absent: None

2.3

Consider Participation in San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

The Board discussed participation in the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership. Kirk Howie, Three Valleys MWD, advised that they were members and would extend an invitation to its member agencies to attend as their guest when available. Members of the Board agreed to attend a meeting to be better able to assess the value of the District's participation in this partnership. It was the consensus of the Board to further discuss this item at a later Board meeting.

2.4

Public Relations (Rose Perea)

- Traveling Art show is here. The deadline for posters to be delivered to the District for this year's poster contest is May 1, 2014. Our last program for this school year is the "Water Conservation Contest" (Video and Digital Art), which targets Middle School and High School Students. The deadline to submit entries is March 15, 2015 and the awards presentation will be held in May. First place is \$600, second place \$400, and third place \$200.
- **Communications Outreach (CV Strategies)**
Erin La Combe Gilhuly, CV Strategies, high-lighted the drought outreach campaign CV Strategies is working on with the District which includes a press release, also to be included on the website, and talking points which have been provided to the customer service staff and a newsletter bill stuffer to be distributed to District customers in the billing statements. These collateral pieces stress the fact that Southern California, Rowland Water District and its customers and the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) member agencies have all done a great job of conserving water and implementing sound water conservation practices. Mr. Deck noted that in connection with water reliability for its customers, the District, for the first time in its 60-year history, has started importing groundwater from the Central Basin through the La Habra Heights interconnection. The District took in two (2) acre feet of water in February and saved \$200 per acre foot over the imported MWD water.
- **Education Update**
Rose Perea, Director of Administrative Services, asked the Board whether they had any questions in connection with the Education Update provided in the Board packet.

2.5

Discussion of Upcoming Conferences, Workshops, or Events (Including Items that May Have Arisen after the Posting of the Agenda)

- None.

Tab 3 LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

3.1

Updates on Legislative Issues

For information purposes only.

Tab 4 REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing to report.

Tab 5 COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1

Three Valleys Municipal Water District

President Lu-Yang reported on her attendance at the February 19, 2014 Board meeting and reported that Joe Ruzicka had been appointed to serve as an alternate on the LAFCO Board to serve an unexpired term and is now running for re-election for the next term of office.

5.2

Joint Powers Insurance Authority

Director Lewis commended staff on continuing to adhere to sound safety practices which continues to have a positive affect on the District's JPIA policy.

5.3

Association of California Water Agencies

Director Lewis reported on ACWA Legislative Day.

5.4

Puente Basin Water Agency

Director Lima reported that the Commission had discussed pending projects and that the next meeting will be held on March 13, 2014. Director Lewis advised the Board that Director Lima had been named as Chair of the Agency for the 2014 calendar year.

5.5

Project Ad-Hoc Committee

President Lu-Yang reported that the next Ad Hoc meeting will be held on March 14, 2014.

5.6

Regional Chamber of Commerce

Director Lewis reported on his attendance at the Government Affairs Committee meeting held on March 10, 2014, and advised that they discussed three pieces of legislation, however, nothing affecting the local level.

5.7

PWR Joint Water Line Commission

Director Lima reported on the meeting held on February 20, 2014, and that they had reviewed the budget.

5.8

Sheriff's Community Advisory Council

Director Lu-Yang reported that no meeting was held last month.

5.9

Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council

Director Rios reported on her attendance at the March 10, 2014 meeting and advised that they discussed the Nogales Grade Separation and the closure of Nogales Avenue on March 22, 2014 at which time they will be opening the by-pass road. Once the Nogales grade separation is completed, the Fullerton Road grade separation will be commenced. Staff was asked to obtain further information on the Water Forum to be discussed at the next meeting. Director Bellah advised that a hotel project which includes commercial buildings will be presented to the community. It is still in the "scoping" stages and nothing is definite.

Tab 6 OTHER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMENTS

6.1

Personnel Report

Mr. Deck advised the Board that a new employee, Jonathan Vasquez, will be starting with the District on March 17, 2014 as a “General Services Worker” which will replace the facilities maintenance position and will require expanded responsibilities and certification(s).

6.2

Engineer’s Report

Mr. Carrera displayed a 50-year old brass broken valve which was the cause of a recent mainline leak and illustrated how a very small leak wore away the valve which eventually caused it to burst.

Tab 7 ATTORNEY’S REPORT (Ms. Morningstar)

Nothing to report.

Directors’ and General Manager’s Comments

Director Lewis reported on his attendance at the Urban Water Conference held in February and noted that in connection with the San Juan Capistrano Proposition 218 litigation, it is very important to include a written description of the costs and methodology for calculating the rates, in addition to the charts and data supporting water rate increases in the Proposition 218 Notice to rate payers. Directors Lima and Bellah reported on their attendance at the CUEMA Elected Officials Summit and commended President Lu-Yang on her presentation. President Lu-Yang thanked Mr. Deck, Dr. Mathis and CV Strategies for the excellent job they did in coordinating the summit and in providing her with the information and documents on the District Strategic Plan and the Directors’ Information Cards which she distributed and which she felt represented the District at the highest level. Director Rios noted that after listening to comments made at the summit, she felt very proud of the District and of what they have accomplished.

Future Agenda Items

- Provide and discuss information on the Los Angeles County Water Forum to be held on June 6, 2014

Late Business

None.

Next Special Board Meeting-President’s Dinner
Next Regular Board Meeting

March 25, 2014, 5:00 p.m.
April 8, 2014, 6:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Director Lima, seconded by Director Lewis, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned 6:54 p.m.

SZU PEI LU-YANG
Board President

Attest: _____
KEN DECK
Board Secretary