

Antelope Valley Watermaster Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 26, 2023, – 10:00 a.m.
Location: Antelope Valley – East Kern Water Agency
6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551

1) Call to Order 10:01am

2) Roll Call

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kathy MacLaren, Public Water Supplier Representative – Vice-Chairperson
Russ Bryden, Los Angeles County Waterworks District 40 Representative
Brandon Calandri, Landowner Representative
Derek Yurosek, Landowner Representative
Matthew Knudson, AVEK Representative Alternate
Angelica Martin, Landowner Representative Alternate
Adrienne Lewis Reca, Landowner Representative Alternate

Jim Beck, Hallmark Group – Watermaster Administrator
Joshua Montoya, Hallmark Group – Watermaster Administrator
Phyllis Stanin, Todd Groundwater – Watermaster Engineer
Arden Wells, Todd Groundwater – Watermaster Engineer
Craig Parton, Price, Postel & Parma LLP – General Counsel
Cameron Goodman, Price, Postel & Parma LLP – General Counsel

3) Adoption of the Agenda

A motion was made by Director Knudson, seconded by Director Yurosek, and unanimously carried to adopt the agenda.

4) Public comments for non-agenda items

- Benny Moore, provided public comment regarding the letter that was sent on March 27, 2023, which is provided in the Board packet.

5) Consent Agenda *(Staff Report: Administrator)*

Item	Description
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a.	Financial Report and Payment of bills through March 31, 2023,
b.	Minutes of March 22, 2023, Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Director Yurosek, seconded by Director Bryden, and unanimously carried to adopt the Consent Agenda.

6) Advisory Committee Report *(Advisory Committee Chair Chaisson)*

Item	Description
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a.	Advisory Committee Written Report
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7) Administrative Committee Report *(Staff Report: Administrator)*

Item	Description
a.	Administrative Committee Written Report

8) Update on Delinquent Annual Reports *(Staff Report: Administrative Staff)*

Item	Description
a.	<p>Report on delinquent annual reports as of April 12, 2023,</p> <p>Report on delinquent annual reports as of April 12, 2023 was presented to the Board and noted will the updated delinquent report will be included in the upcoming annual report.</p> <p>The Board requested an update on what power under the judgement and rules and regulations the Board has to enforce the submission from the delinquent production reports at the May Board meeting.</p>

9) Update on Annual Audit *(Staff Report: Administrative Staff)*

Item	Description
a.	<p>Update on time spent on audit and outcome of engagement with auditor</p> <p>Watermaster Administrative Staff provided an update on the current year audit and reviewed the memo, which is provided in Watermaster Administrative Staff provided in the Board packet.</p>

10) Update on Amendment to the Rules and Regulations for Repayment of Delinquent RWA's *(Staff Report: General Counsel)*

Item	Description
a.	<p>Amendment to the Rules and Regulations for Repayment of Delinquent RWA's</p> <p>Legal Counsel Craig Parton provided an update on the amendment to the rules and regulations and informed the Board a public hearing will take place at the upcoming May Board meeting where the Board will then vote on the amendments.</p>

11) Update on Amendment to the Rules and Regulations Placing Limitations on New Production *(Staff Report: General Counsel)*

Item	Description
a.	Amendment to the Rules and Regulations Placing Limitation on New Production

12) Consideration and Possible Action on Transfer application *(Staff Report: Engineering)*

Item	Resolution No.	Description
a.	R-23-27	<p>High Desert Dairy to Craig Van Dam</p> <p>Administration reported that they received a request via email from council representing Craig Van Dam, to table the request for an additional 30 days.</p>
b.	R-23-30	<p>AV Water Trust to Perini</p> <p>A motion was made by Director Knudson, seconded by Director Yurosek, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. R-23-30 Transfer Application for AV Water Trust to Perini</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>
c.	R-23-31	<p>Caruso to Perini</p> <p>A motion was made by Director Bryden, seconded by Director Martin, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. R-23-31 Transfer Application for Caruso to Perini.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>
d.	R-23-32	<p>PWD to LCID</p> <p>A motion was made by Director Yurosek, seconded by Director Knudson, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. R-23-32 Transfer Application for PWD to LCID.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>

13) Consideration and Possible Action on New Production application *(Staff Report: Engineer)*

Item	Resolution No.	Description
a.	R-23-04	<p>Barrel Springs (120 AF)</p> <p>This was discussed with the council as a term of conditional approval, and it was determined that the amount of water that the well could potentially yield is not a concern regarding the material injury to the surrounding area.</p> <p>The Board heard from a representative for Barrel Springs. Barrel spring is in process of acquiring land and have been issued a permit form LA County Environmental Health to do a test well. This is the reason for the application with the watermaster board. They will move forward with the test well once the rights to the water are approved. They agree with current conditions and have submitted a request for the test well condition to be added as well.</p> <p>The board heard from Nathan McGrath on behalf of their client in advocacy to approve the application.</p>

		<p>A motion was made by Director Yurosek, seconded by Director Knudson, and Resolution No. R-23-04 New Production Application for Barrel Springs was not approved.</p> <p>Roll Call Vote: Kathy MacLaren, - No Russ Bryden - Yes Derek Yurosek -Yes Angelica Martin - Yes Matthew Knudson - Yes</p> <p>Motion does not pass.</p>
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14) Consideration and possible action on Well application *(Staff Report: Administrative Staff)*

a.	R-23-33	<p>Bolthouse Properties, LLC – Replacement Well Application</p> <p>A motion was made by Director Knudson, seconded by Director Bryden, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. R-23-33 Bolthouse Properties, LLC Replacement of Existing Well Application.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>
b.	R-23-34	<p>Bolthouse Properties, LLC – Replacement Well Application</p> <p>A motion was made by Director Knudson, seconded by Director Bryden, and unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. R-23-34 Bolthouse Properties, LLC Replacement of Existing Well Application.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>

15) Administrator's Report

Item Description

a.	<p>Update on Administration Activities</p> <p>Jacqueline Harris provided a brief update on the Antelope Valley Watermaster cash flow. Ms. Harris informed the Board the Watermaster would be operating at a cash deficit as early as August and likely by the end of September.</p>
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16) Watermaster Engineer's Report

Item Description

a.	Summary of New Production and Qualified Small Pumpers
b.	Model Update

17) General Counsel's Report

Item Description

a.	Update on Court Proceedings
c.	Update on March 27, 2023, Letter Sent to Mr. Moore.

18) Board Members Request for Future Agenda Items

- Provide update on finances.
- Provide update on FDIC Insurance for cash balance.


19) Closed Session, Conference with Legal Counsel General Counsel's Report

Item Description

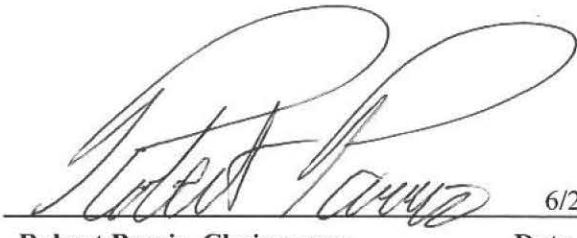
a.	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Watermaster Motion against Zamrzla Parties
b.	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Watermaster Motion against Rancho Sierra Properties, LLC
c.	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Watermaster Motion against Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District
d.	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2): Gary Van Dam.

20) Closed Session Report

21) Adjournment at 12:21



Jessica Alwan, Secretary



Robert Parris, Chairperson

6/28/2023

Date

