

MINUTES OF THE SIX HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO ALTO WATER DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16, 2021, AT 6:30 P.M., AT THE DISTRICT BOARD ROOM.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:

Craig Weaver, President
Louise Wilkinson, Vice-President
Rick Brubaker, Director
Ginny Mercer, Director
Peter Suggs, Director

STAFF PRESENT:

Martha Slack, General Manager

ABSENT:

No absences

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2 Agenda Item #1 - Public Comment. No public comment.

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4 Agenda Item #2 - Approval of Excused Absences. No absences.

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6 Agenda Item #3 - Manager's Report. The General Manager presented the Manager's Report
7 through June 11, 2021. We also discussed obtaining appraisals on our lots on North Marina.

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9 Agenda Item#4 – Approval of the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Eighteenth Regular Meeting
10 of the Board of Directors Held on May 19, 2021. Vice-President Wilkinson made a motion to
11 approve the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Eighteenth Regular Meeting of the Board of
12 Directors Held on May 19, 2021, seconded by Director Suggs. The motion carried (5-0).

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1 Agenda Item #5 – Approval of the May Disbursement Reports. Director Brubaker made a
2 motion to approve the May Disbursement Reports, seconded by Director Mercer. A brief
3 question and answer period followed. The motion carried (5-0).

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5 Agenda Item #6 – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding 2021/2022 COLA. Director
6 Mercer made a motion to discuss a possible COLA for the employees for fiscal year 2021/2022,
7 seconded by Director Brubaker. A lengthy discussion followed. Director Brubaker made a
8 motion to approve a 2% COLA for fiscal year 2021/2022 with the option for future evaluation, in
9 the form of a merit bonus, depending upon the financial standing of the District at that future
10 date, seconded by Director Mercer. The motion carried (5-0).

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12 Agenda Item #7 – Discussion and Possible Approval of the 2021/2022 Budget. Director Mercer
13 made a motion to approve the 2021/2022 Draft Budget, seconded by Vice-President Wilkinson.
14 A brief discussion followed. The motion carried (5-0).

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16 Agenda Item #8 ACWA Spring Conference – Class Highlights. The Directors shared the
17 highlights of the classes they attended at the ACWA Spring Virtual Conference. Directors Suggs
18 and Mercer advised the General Manager about potential grant funding for fire protection and 0
19 emissions projects they heard about in their classes.

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21 Agenda Item #11 Communications:

22 Staff - The Directors and the General Manager discussed moving the Well#4 Dedication
23 Service to August 15th at 12:30 pm. The General Manager will contact the Adams family

1 and the Hotchkiss family to see if that date works for them. She will email the Directors
2 with the outcome of those conversations.

3 Directors – Vice-President Wilkinson advised the Directors that she attended the Board
4 of Supervisors meeting and found out that Tehama County had received a 7.7million
5 dollar grant and that Lake California Drive road improvements will be in the 1st year
6 projects utilizing those funds. She also learned that a state program is currently
7 evaluating all communities with single access for additional grant funding. Director
8 Suggs advised the General Manager that he will be out of town the entire month of July.
9 He would like his July Board packet emailed to him and he will try to attend the meeting
10 by phone.

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12 Having no further business to discuss, Director Mercer made a motion to adjourn the meeting
13 at 8:25p.m., seconded by Vice-President Wilkinson. The motion carried (5-0).

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16 Respectfully submitted,

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19 Martha Slack, General Manager

Addendum A
Manager's Report
June 11, 2021

Drought/Water Consumption/SGMA:

The new water year begins October 1st of every year. As of June 11, 2021, the season to date precipitation of 13.80 inches is 19.61 inches below the average normal season to date of 33.41 inches. Shasta Lake level is 115.16 feet from the crest, down 16.2 feet from the level reported last month. The current discharge from Shasta Lake is 6,168cfs. At this time last year, the lake level was 41.08 feet from the crest, 74.08 feet higher than this year. The State has not announced mandatory restrictions in Tehama County yet, but I suspect it will soon. As a reminder to customers, I printed the conservation measures that were placed into permanent law in the May newsletter. This is going to be a very tough year on agriculture with very small water allotments and many well owners are seeing their wells go dry.

Field Crew:

We did not receive any water/sewer connections since last reporting. Our fiscal year to date remains at:

Connections to Date 2020/2021	#
Water 1" Meter	23
Water 2" Meter	2
Water 1" Landscape Meter	1
Water ¾" Landscape Meter	2
Normal Sewer/LPSS	19
Commercial Sewer	1

Sue has an additional 14 applications prepared based on information provided to her, but they haven't approached the District yet.

So far, the new machined part for the east aerator brush is still working. Repairs for the west brush are still being worked on at the machine shop. The field crew had to disassemble the muffin monster, order parts and repair it. The muffin monster went back on-line Tuesday and is working great now. We are getting prices for a new muffin monster. The current muffin monster is 24 years old and cost \$22K back in 1997. The communication issues at Lift Station #1 have been resolved. The field crew has finished up with landscape maintenance around the district facilities and at the wetlands walking trails. Weed eating for fire control has been completed on the District lots. We should revisit the idea of selling the lots down on South Marina. Lots are selling for good prices and those lots are prime lots. The POA provided a telephone pole for us to lay down in attempt to stop residents from launching their boats off that lot. We have had numerous plugs in our lift station pumps recently. Below is a picture of the most recent plug:



Maybe with the easing of the pandemic, more people will start attending the POA board meetings and I can get the word out to more customers about water conservation and sewer practices.

These tasks remain to be completed:

- Continue repairing broken meter stops
- Sewer line patch training and repairs
- Begin the valve exercising program again
- Begin flushing hydrants and blowoffs.
- Begin training new OIT

Solar:

No solar updates were available at the time of this report.

Regulatory:

Enclosed are the May water and wastewater reports.

Admin:

Good news! SB223 was not passed and SB 222 has set a requirement for a funding source before it will be approved. If you recall, these were the bills that basically required the Districts to fund low-income programs against Prop 218 legislation. I attended a virtual meeting about COVID-19 federal funding that is being issued to states for low income payment assistance (LIHWAP). The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 included a relief program to expand access to affordable water and assistance to low-income households impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to pay their water and wastewater bills, prevent shutoffs, and support water system reconnections related to non-payment. I hope to have more information in the weeks to come.

We are currently working on the RFP for the tank rehab and maintenance contract. The RFP will go to legal and engineering before it comes to the Board for approval.

Our tentative date for the Well#4 dedication ceremony is Sunday, July 11th at 12:30 p.m.