

1 MINUTES OF THE SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY SECOND REGULAR MEETING AND
2 PUBLIC HEARING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RIO ALTO WATER
3 DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M., AT THE
4 DISTRICT BOARD ROOM.
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8 DIRECTORS PRESENT:
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10 Rick Brubaker, President
11 Ginny Mercer, Vice-President
12 Craig Weaver, Director
13 Louise Wilkinson, Director
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15 STAFF PRESENT:
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17 Martha Slack, General Manager
18 Scott Russell, Lead Water Operator
19 John Kenny Esq, District Legal Counsel
20 Ken Shuey, RCE, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
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22 ALSO PRESENT:
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24 Kathy Bezgayiff, Resident
25 Roger Horton, Resident
26 Pete Ferren, Resident
27 Kathleen Weaver, Resident
28 Luis Gomez, Resident
29 Max Hanewinkel, Resident
30 Mike Thomas, Resident
31 Josh Sabanovich, Resident
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34 ABSENT:
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36 Peter Suggs, Director
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39 PUBLIC HEARING

40 Agenda Item No. 1 –Testimony of any interested persons will be heard, whether for or against
41 and collection of any written protests of the Proposed Water and Wastewater Rate Increases in
42 accordance with Exhibit A (Water and Wastewater Rate Study prepared by Bartle Wells
43 Associates 2023, Page 2, Tables 1 and 2.)

President Brubaker opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m. Ken Shuey, RCE, of Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group shared the power point presentation about the Rate Study, 10 Year Capital Plan and Proposed Water and Wastewater Rate Increases. President Brubaker opened the floor for comments and questions. Resident Kathy Bezcyiff asked Board and Staff what impact we would have on services if we do not make the Capital Improvements with repair parts being so difficult to procure. The General Manager relayed the example of the thrust bearing we needed for the aeration brush taking 18 months to receive and how we were really concerned that if the second aeration brush went down, the District would not be able to process the wastewater, effectively shutting down treatment of all sewage entering the wastewater treatment plant. Having no further questions or comments from the audience, President Brubaker called for all written protests to be turned in so that the District could determine if a Majority Protest was received.

Agenda Item No. 2- Determination of Majority Protest. President Brubaker asked the General Manager for the count of all written protests received for the Proposed Water and Wastewater Rate Increases. The General Manager stated that we had received one written protest for Water Rate increases and one written protest for the Wastewater Rate Increases. She further stated that we had four undeliverable notices that we will consider protests making the final counts be:

Service	Total Count 1/17/24	Required Written Protests for a Majority Protest	Protests Received 1/17/24
Water Customers	1417	709	5
Sewer Customers	926	463	3

Vice-President Mercer made a motion declaring that the District had received insufficient written protests by the Water and Sewer Customers to constitute a Majority Protest, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

Agenda Item No. 3 – Adjourn Public Hearing and Move to Regular Agenda. Director Weaver made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. and to move to the regular Meeting Agenda, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Agenda Item #1 – Public Comment: No public comment.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of Excused Absences. Vice-President Mercer made a motion to approve the absence of Director Suggs, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

1 Agenda Item #3 – In the Absence of a Majority of a Written Protest, Approval of Resolution 01-
2 24, Amending Article 13 of Resolution 8-73 (and all Associated Resolutions Establishing Rules
3 and Regulations for the Distribution of Water) to Change Water Rates. Director Wilkinson made
4 a motion to amend Resolution 01-24 to accept the Water Rate Increases as Proposed in Page 2,
5 Table 1 of Water and Wastewater Rate Study 2023, prepared by Bartle Wells Associates with
6 changes to the implementation dates to read the first year increase effective March 3, 2024 and
7 each subsequent increase to be implemented on January 1st of each year in response to comments
8 received at the January 10th Informational Meeting from residents, seconded by Vice-President
9 Mercer. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.. Director Wilkinson then made a
10 motion to approve Resolution 01-24 as amended, seconded by Vice-President Mercer. The
11 motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

12
13 Agenda Item #4 – In the Absence of a Majority of a Written Protest, Approval of Resolution 02-
14 24, Amending Article 13 of Resolution 9-73 (and all Associated Resolutions Establishing Rules
15 and Regulations for the Collection and Treatment of Sewage) to change Sewer Rates. Director
16 Wilkinson made a motion to amend Resolution 02-24 to accept the Sewer Rate Increases as
17 Proposed in Page 2, Table 2 of Water and Wastewater Rate Study 2023, prepared by Bartle
18 Wells Associates with changes to the implementation dates to read the first year increase
19 effective March 3, 2024 and each subsequent increase to be implemented on January 1st of each
20 year in response to comments received at the January 10th Informational Meeting from residents,
21 seconded by Vice-President Mercer. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent. Vice-
22 President Mercer then made a motion to approve the amended Resolution 02-24, seconded by
23 Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

1 Agenda Item#5 –Manager’s Report. The Manager presented the Manager’s Report through
2 January 12, 2024.

3
4 Agenda Item #6 – Presentation and Approval of the Rio Alto Water District Final Audited
5 Financial Statements for the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year as Prepared by Fechter & Associates.

6 Director Wilkinson made a motion to approve the Rio Alto Water District Final Audited
7 Financial Statements for the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year as Prepared by Fechter & Associates,
8 seconded by Director Weaver. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

9
10 Agenda Item #7 – Approval of the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Fiftieth Regular Meeting of
11 the Board of Directors Held on December 13, 2023. Director Wilkinson made a motion to
12 approve the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Fiftieth Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
13 Held on December 13, 2023, seconded by Vice-President Mercer. The motion carried (3-0).
14 Director Suggs absent, Director Weaver abstaining.

15
16 Agenda Item #8 – Approval of the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Fifty First Board Meeting
17 Held on January 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Club located at 22431 Rio Alto Drive. Vice-
18 President Mercer made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Six Hundred and Fifty First
19 Meeting Held on January 10, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lake Club located at 22431 Rio Alto
20 Drive, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

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22 Agenda Item #9 – Update on Sewer Camera. Lead Water Operator Scott Russell updated the
23 Board on the progress of our search for a replacement sewer camera.

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2 Agenda Item #10 – Further Discussion on Commercial Sewer Connection Fee’s. The General
3 Manager handed out a copy of Shasta and Tehama County’s Household Equivalent Charts and
4 informed the Directors that we need to refine our definitions of Household Equivalents for
5 Commercial Sewer Connection Fees. She asked the Directors to review the charts and assist
6 with the establishment of our own chart with household equivalents based on possible
7 commercial growth in the community. Vice-President Mercer made a motion to table any action
8 on this item, seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

9
10 Agenda Item #11 – Approval of the December Disbursement Reports. Director Wilkinson made
11 a motion to approve the December Disbursement Reports, seconded by Vice-President Mercer.
12 A brief discussion followed, and the motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

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14 Agenda Item #12 – Discussion on Possible Date Change for February Board Meeting. The
15 General Manager advised the Board that it may be difficult to hold a February Board Meeting
16 with her impending surgery. Vice-President Mercer made a motion to cancel the February Board
17 Meeting with the option to call a Special Meeting if anything time-sensitive should arise,
18 seconded by Director Wilkinson. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs absent.

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21 Agenda Item #13 – Communications:

22 Staff –None.

1 Directors – Director Wilkinson thanked Lead Operator Scott Russell and John Kenny for
2 their attendance and input at the Informational Meeting held on January 10, 2024.

3 Director Weaver asked if the residents had been following the rules at the Wetlands or if
4 we were having anymore offenders. He asked if we had done any modifications to the
5 gate to prevent any future illegal entries. The lead Water Operator said we still need to
6 complete the modifications.

7
8 Having no further business to discuss, Vice-President Mercer made a motion to adjourn the
9 meeting at 8:02 p.m., seconded by Director Weaver. The motion carried (4-0). Director Suggs
10 absent.

11
12 Respectfully submitted,

13 
14

15 Martha Slack, General Manager

Addendum A
Manager's Report
January 12, 2024

Drought/Water Consumption/SGMA: The new water year began October 1st and compares with the last two water years as follows:

Water Year	January 10 Precipitation Received	Average Precipitation to Date	Percent of Average	Shasta Lake feet from Crest
2023/2024	10.77	13.71	79%	52.77
2022/2023	17.63	13.92	126%	114.00
2021/2022	14.77	14.12	105%	140.64

Consumption for the period 11/3/23 - 1/3/24 is 41.3% lower than 2013 consumption for the same period. Year-to-date consumption is 28.81% lower than the year-to-date for 2013. As of January 11, 2024, the statewide average percentage of snow water equivalents is 42% of the normal. Hopefully the storms this weekend will bring those totals up.

Field Crew:

We received 2 water and sewer hookups since last reported. Connections to date are:

Connections to Date 2023/2024	#
Water 1" Meter	4
Water 1" Duplex	1
Water 2" Meter	0
Water 1" Landscape Meter	0
Water ¾" Landscape Meter	0
Normal Sewer/LPSS	3
Commercial Sewer	0

The field crew have completed or are currently working on the following tasks:

- The estimate for new pumps for lift station #2 came back at 35K , so I authorized Industrial electric to repair the existing pump at \$7,412.
- Field crew have completed installing the additional sampling stations.
- In February, field crew will be attending 10 hour training course on OSHA Compliance sponsored by ACWA.
- Replaced 2 faulty meters.
- Meters installed and sewers marked for 2 new connections.
- Removed a softball sized rock from Lift Station #5 pump.
- Worked on getting quotes for sewer camera and L/S# 2 pump.

Pending projects and their estimated completion dates:

- More sewer patch repairs- as time allows and after we get camera back.

- Completion of Sewer Camera Project- pending camera repair.
- Hydrant identification painting in the Spring.

Regulatory:

The December Water and Wastewater Reports are included in this package.

Solar Updates:

Solar updates period December 5, 2023 through January 4, 2024:

	True-Up Month	Current Month Net Energy Usage	Cumulative Energy or Credits Dollar True-up	Cumulative Non-Bypassable Charges
Office	August	\$558.83	\$466.79	\$181.01
WWTP	November	\$3,779.81	\$6,035.45	\$640.13
Well#6	February	\$535.99	\$(11,501.66)	\$4,365.95
Well#5	March	\$404.92	\$ (6,335.62)	\$3/093.95

Admin:

The audit is complete and included in this board package. The January 10th informational meeting went well with approximately 25 attendees. The public hearing will be held on January 17, 2024. I will be having surgery on February 2nd and plan on being out a couple of weeks and in the absence of any pressing items and suggesting we do not have a board meeting in February.



Rio Alto Water District

22099 River View Drive, Cottonwood, California 96022

Telephone 530-347-3835 • Fax 530-347-1007

www.rawd.org

DATE: January 17, 2024

BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE

NAME

ADDRESS

AFFILIATION

Kathy Bezuyiff	2917 Hayfork Pl	resident
Ken Shuey	Provost & Pritchard	Consultant
Pete Ferrer	19413 Little Valley Dr	Resident
ROGER HORTON	18986 Compass	Resident
Kathleen Weaver	19505 Stringtown Pl.	Resident
Luis Gomez	21834 Chimney Rock Dr	Resident
Max HANERWINCKEL	19229 Espinoza Way	Resident
Mike Thomas	19821 Lake Ca. Dr	Resident
Josh Sabanovich	19836 antler way	Resident

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