

**JUNIPER RIVIERA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

**Board of Directors**

**Meeting Minutes**

**July 24, 2023**

**Board of Directors, All Present:**

**Erin D’Orio, President**

**Jason Chormicle, Vice-President**

**Eric Engleman, Director**

**Waldo Stakes, Director**

**Brad Pace, Director**

**Staff, All Present;**

**Lorrie Steely, General Manager**

**Lee Logsdon, Director of Operations**

**Chris Garland, Admin Assistant**

- **CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL:** Erin D’Orio called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS/ Attendance:** There were no public comments. Members of the public Dean Steely, and Jerry Lyon were in attendance.
- **APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 22, 2023**  
Eric Engleman made the Motion; Second by Jason Chormicle; Ayes 5, Nays 0, motion passed 5/0.
- **APPROVE FINANCIAL REPORT AND MONTHLY OPERATING EXPENSES FOR JUNE 22, 2023**  
Jason Chormicle made the Motion; Second by Waldo Stakes; Ayes 5, Nays 0, motion passed 5/0.
- **INFORMATION ITEMS: The following items, announcements and/or reports are presented for information and discussion only:**

**OPERATIONS/WATER SYSTEM UPDATE – Lee Logsdon**

- Lee Logsdon provided a summary presentation to the Board reviewing his duties at the District, including hours worked for the month of June-July 2023.
- Lorrie Steely provided system updates for operations during the month of June, indicating there have been power outages and water level challenges in the tanks as a result of SCE power issues.
- Discuss System Operations & General Maintenance To-Do List, identify timelines and deadlines and what needs to be addressed operationally this fiscal year 2023-2024.

**DISTRICT BUSINESS/GENERAL MANAGERS UPDATE – Lorrie Steely**

- Discuss Operations Part-Time Position; Discussed position and the process that will need to occur prior to hiring. Staff will develop written the job description and requirements to present for Board and Staff discussion at future Board Meeting.
- Discuss alternative solutions for operational tasks District may be able to considering doing in-house with the proposed part-time help; ie flushing hydrants, exercising valves, painting hydrants, pouring concrete at base of hydrants. Lorrie Steely stated the District’s only backflow device was tested and passed on 7/18/2023.
- Small Water Systems Committee Meeting update: Staff attended the SWS meeting at Mojave Water Agency this week. Discussion included outreach to achieve more networking with other like districts in the Mojave Water Agency service area, upcoming grant funding opportunities as well as Lead and Copper Compliance Regulation that all Small Water Systems must comply with by October 2024. Staff stated this meeting is a great opportunity to network with other small districts as well as find opportunities that are available at a Local, State and Federal level. Staff participation with this Committee is absolutely the reason JRCWD was able to receive our grant last year for \$377,000 for infrastructure improvements as well as the Demonstration Garden.

- Apple Valley Fire Protection District Water Systems Meeting: Staff attended first ever AVFPD Small Water Systems meeting Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. Six of our local water purveyors in the AVFPD service area attended. Discussion included networking and problems/issues water purveyor's encounter. Hydrant theft was the impetus for the Fire Chief scheduling meeting.

- **GRANT UPDATES**

**IRWMP Grant Update:** Status remains unchanged; in June staff spoke to our grant administrator regarding the reimbursement payment and we were informed that the first draw from the State is delayed due to personnel changes and a missed deadline. We have been told to expect our reimbursement payment by August/ September, due to delays & fiscal year-end.

- **GRANT UPDATES CONTINUED:**

**PRV Stations:** Lorrie Steely stated the mock-shutdown of along Milpas was successfully performed by Roland Engineering on Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>, Lee Logsdon was onsite to help supervise the work. The next step is to create our "revised, written scope of work" re-advertise and set a bid date. Staff will work together to have this done in the next several weeks. Work will not be able to be performed until we are out of this heat due to the operational challenges in the summer for the District.

**State Water Resources Control Board Grant – Generators:** This original grant application has been reviewed by the State and will be incorporated into the overall SAFER/ Prop 1 Grant funding and construction process which has been underway since 2019. Until such time that we know this has occurred, we will keep this a topic of discussion on the Agenda.

**Prop 1 Grant (NV-5 James Nolte/Sac State):** NV-5 proposed a new section of pipeline on the south-west section of the District to incorporate loops in the infrastructure that will eliminate some problematic "dead-ends" in the District. This seems like a prudent recommendation. We will wait to see what feedback we receive from the State.

**Strategic Partnership Grant (MWA):** Our Grand-Opening occurred July 1<sup>st</sup> from 10am -2pm which included a drip irrigation workshop, master-gardener workshop and presentation/exhibit by High Desert Wildlife Control of live snakes and other native critters. The event was a tremendous success. There were over 50 people in attendance, the Landscaper who performed the demonstration garden work, Hanna's Nursery was in attendance and participated in a raffle giving away *eight* beautiful plants. Mojave Water Agency was present to see in person what the District was able to achieve with their generous grant funding.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

- Staff Performance Evaluations were performed, Board members provided written evaluations which will be added to staff personnel files.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Lorrie Steely discussed the need to implement a written Operations & Maintenance Program as well as update to the District's Rules and Regulations.

#### **ADJOURN THE MEETING**

Jason Chormicle made the Motion to adjourn the meeting; Waldo Stakes made the Second; motion passed 5/0 and the Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Approved:

  
Board Secretary, Lorrie L. Steely

08.17.2023