

MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2020
Mammoth Community Water District
Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors convened in session at the hour of 5:31 p.m. A brief recess was taken and the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Prepared by:



Stephanie Hake
Executive Assistant

ATTEST:



Mark Busby
Board Secretary

THE REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Mammoth Community Water District held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 at 5:31 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board Present

Director: Tom Cage
Director: Robert Creasy
Director: Dennis Domaille
Director: Tom Smith
Director: Gary Thompson

Board Absent

None

Staff Present

General Manager: Mark Busby
District Engineer: John Pedersen
Operations Superintendent: Clay Murray
Information Services Manager: Justin Mulbay
Finance Manager: Jeff Beatty
Administrative Analyst: Betty Hylton
Executive Assistant: Stephanie Hake
District Counsel: Joshua Horowitz (*via phone*)

Guests Present

Eric Holmes - Desert Research Institute
Theresa Brocia
Brandon Brocia
Jerry Baker - MCWD Staff

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:31 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

President Smith opened the public forum at 5:32 p.m.

Eric Holmes of the Desert Research Institute addressed the Board requesting that the Board consider sponsorship of the "Stories in the Snow" program for 6th graders in the Mammoth Unified School District. The Board asked a couple of questions. President Smith thanked Mr. Holmes for his presentation and directed staff to put the item on a future agenda for consideration.

Mark Busby introduced MCWD staff member, Jerry Baker. Mr. Baker was recently promoted to Water and Wastewater Maintenance Superintendent and will assume the position on Monday, February 24, 2020.

President Smith congratulated Mr. Baker and closed the public forum at 5:41 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA A

A-1 Approval of January 2020 Check Disbursements (Springbrook #'s 57121 – 57288)

A-2 Approval of Minutes from the Special Board Workshop held January 21, 2020

A-3 Approval of Minutes from the Special Board Meeting held January 23, 2020

Director Cage noted that item C-1, from the minutes of the January 23, 2020 meeting, should reflect that Director Cage was the one who nominated Director Creasy for the position of Vice President.

BOARD ACTION – To approve Consent Agenda A with the noted amendment to the minutes from the January 23, 2020 Board meeting

MOVED BY: Director Cage
SECONDED BY: Director Creasy
AYES: Directors Cage, Creasy, Domaille, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: None

CONSENT AGENDA B – STAFF REPORTS

B-1 Operations Department Report

B-2 Maintenance Department Report

B-3 Finance Department Report

B-4 Engineering Department Report

B-5 Information Services Report

B-6 Personnel Services Report

B-7 Regulatory Support Services Report

B-8 General Manager's Report

Director Cage made a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To approve Consent Agenda B

MOVED BY: Director Cage
SECONDED BY: Director Domaille
AYES: Directors Cage, Creasy, Domaille, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

CURRENT BUSINESS

C-1 Discussion and Direction to Staff Regarding the “Ban the Bottle” Proposal Sponsored by Members of the Mammoth Lakes Community

There was a brief discussion and Director Creasy made a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To have staff prepare a letter to the Mammoth Lakes Town Council supporting the “Ban the Bottle” proposal

MOVED BY: Director Creasy
SECONDED BY: Director Thompson
AYES: Directors Cage, Creasy, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: Director Domaille

C-2 Presentation and Discussion of Draft FY 2021 Capital and Operating Budget

Jeff Beatty provided a thorough review of the draft budget, describing the methodology for the projected expenses and income reflected in the draft budget.

There was a brief discussion regarding the District’s financial reserves. The Directors expressed their support of the Finance Committee’s direction and philosophy of having adequate funds available for several expensive projects scheduled to occur in the next five years.

Director Cage noted that the Finance committee thoroughly reviewed the draft budget and didn’t have any significant recommendations.

Director Creasy asked a couple of clarifying questions then ended with complimenting Mr. Beatty, the Finance team, and all staff on their good work in preparing the budget.

BOARD ACTION – None

C-3 Discussion and Possible Approval of an Amendment to the Reserve Policy

Jeff Beatty described his recommended changes to the reserve policy for the coming fiscal year based on changes to goals for long-range planning.

Director Cage commented that the changes were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting and the committee agreed that changes to the target amounts were prudent. The committee, however, recommends that the combined reserve level for funds 21 and 31 be reduced to only \$2,000,000 and not the proposed amount of \$1,000,000.

Director Creasy made a motion.

BOARD ACTION – Approve the amended Reserve Policy with the noted change to funds 21 and 31 incorporated

MOVED BY: Director Creasy
SECONDED BY: Director Cage
AYES: Directors Cage, Creasy, Domaille, Smith, and Thompson
NAYS: None

Meetings Held During the Month

Technical Services Committee – February 19, 2020

Dennis Domaille
Gary Thompson

Finance Committee – February 19, 2020

Tom Cage
Robert Creasy

Technical Services Committee:

Directors Domaille and Thompson, along with Mark Busby, recounted the items reviewed during the committee meeting.

1) The USGS is requesting to install a new radio telemetry tower next to the District's Engineering Building once USGS' lease agreement is renewed later this year.

2) Staff received notice from Neptune Technology, Inc. that it is planning to advance the technology for its meter data collectors from the current 450 MHz to 900 MHz. This change could potentially leave all of the District's 450 MHz collectors unsupported at some point in the future. The extent of the impact to the District is unknown at this time and options are being discussed.

3) The renewal of the Master Services Permit with the USFS is in the final stages of preparation and is expected to be ready for signatures by the end of February. The term of the new permit is 20 years.

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Finance Committee:

Director Creasy noted that the bulk of the discussion at the committee meeting was regarding the draft budget and reserve policy.

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There were no other committee meetings held during the month.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Horowitz reported that the state legislature was back in session and there was very little affecting the District to report on.

He made note of a proposed senate bill, SB 378, which pertains to funding for claims that result from PSPS events. Attorney Horowitz's office will be following the bill and will advise the Board of any potential impacts to the District.

The Board members went into closed session at 6:50 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

D-1 Conference with Legal Counsel

Anticipated Litigation – Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(a); consideration of initiating litigation involving one case

D-2 Conference with Legal Counsel

Existing Litigation – Pursuant to Government Code section 54956 (a); International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 12 v. Mammoth Community Water District; Public Employment Relations Board

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned out of closed session at 7:36 p.m.

There was nothing to report from closed session.

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.