## **MINUTES**

## Thursday, November 21, 2024 Mammoth Community Water District Regular Board Meeting

The Board of Directors convened in session at the hour of 5:37 p.m. A short recess was taken, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 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 was held on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 5:37 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

## **Board Present**

Director: Tom Cage

Director: Dennis Domaille Director: Elizabeth Hylton Director: Tom Smith Director: Gary Thompson

## **Board Absent**

None

## Staff Present

General Manager: Mark Busby District Engineer: Garrett Higerd Finance Manager: Jeff Beatty

Operations Superintendent: Clay Murray Maintenance Superintendent: Rob Motley Information Services Manager: Justin Mulbay Principal Administrative Analyst: Michael Draper

Executive Assistant: Stephanie Hake

Legal Counsel: Josh Horowitz (remote attendance)

## **Guests Present**

Leanna Block – MCWD Jake Trauscht – MCWD

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

President Smith opened the public forum at 5:33 p.m.

No one addressed the Board and President Smith closed the public forum at 5:33 p.m.

## **CONSENT AGENDA A**

- A-1 Approve the October 2024 Check Disbursements
- A-2 Approve the Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held October 17, 2024
- A-2 Approve Changing the Dates of the January 2025 Board Activity Schedule:
  - a. Change the Date of the January 2025 Regular Board Meeting from January 16 to January 23, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.;
  - b. Change the Date of the January 2025 Standing Committee Meetings i.e., Technical Services and Finance from January 15, 2025 to January 22, 2025

Director Hylton made a motion.

## BOARD ACTION - To approve Consent Agenda A

MOVED BY:

Director Hylton

SECONDED BY:

**Director Cage** 

AYES:

Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

## **CONSENT AGENDA B - DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**B-1 Operations Department Report** 

**B-5 Information Services Report** 

**B-2 Maintenance Department Report** 

**B-6 Personnel Services Report** 

**B-3 Finance Department Report** 

**B-7 Regulatory Support Services Report** 

**B-4 Engineering Department Report** 

**B-8 General Manager's Report** 

Director Thompson made a motion.

## BOARD ACTION - To approve Consent Agenda B

MOVED BY:

**Director Thompson** 

SECONDED BY:

**Director Domaille** 

AYES:

Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

## C-1 Update on the District's Annual "Years of Service" Recognition Luncheon

Clay Murray 20 Years

Chris Weibert 10 Years

Huoy Sytha

15 Years

Bobby Larson 5 Years

Rob Motley

15 Years

President Smith expressed appreciation for the loyalty and contribution each of the recognized staff have made to MCWD over the years.

## **BOARD ACTION - None, informational only**

# C-2 Acknowledgment of Appointment of Tom Smith, Tom Cage, and Gary Thompson to the Mammoth Community Water District Board of Directors by the Mono County Board of Supervisors

President Smith congratulated his fellow board members for their continued commitment to serving the Mammoth Community Water District.

## BOARD ACTION - None, informational only

C-3 Discuss and Consider Approving an Adjustment in Directors' Compensation for Each Day's Service in an Amount Not to Exceed the Lesser of the CPI or Statutory Limit of 5.0%, Effective January 1, 2025

Director Cage made a motion to increase the Director compensation by the maximum allowed, 2.8%. There was no further discussion.

BOARD ACTION – To approve an adjustment in Directors' compensation for each day's service of 2.8%, equal to the CPI, effective January 1, 2025

MOVED BY:

**Director Cage** 

SECONDED BY:

**Director Domaille** 

AYES:

Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

## C-4 Update and Presentation on the GMRP (Geothermal Monitoring and Response Plan) with ORMAT

Garrett Higerd introduced the Engineering Department's Senior Engineer, Jake Trauscht, who has an extensive background in hydrogeology. Mr. Trauscht led an in-depth presentation updating the Board on the status of the GMRP and the results of the quarterly well sampling to date. Mr. Trauscht included some historical and scientific information to give a better perspective of how the District's wells tie in with the region's aquifer.

The report summarized that all GMRP parties agree that at this time there doesn't appear to be any impact on the local shallow groundwater aquifer from ORMAT's CD-IV geothermal operation.

The Board complimented Mr. Trauscht on the very interesting and thorough report.

## BOARD ACTION - None, informational only

C-5 Consider and Possibly Approve an Amendment to the General Manager's 2021 Employment Agreement to Extend its Term and to Adjust Compensation and Benefits provided to the General Manager (to be considered after closed session) Continued from October 17, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

Following closed session, Stephanie Hake was brought back into the meeting for open session. President Smith said that through the annual performance review process, Mr. Busby's (General Manager) contract was renegotiated and was being amended with the following provisions:

- Employment as a full-time employee will extend until February 28, 2026;
- After February 28, 2026 Mr. Busby will be available as a part-time compensated consultant until September 30, 2026 to assist staff transition through a couple of important projects and management retirements that are expected in that timeframe;
- Compensation includes a pay raise for performance that is to be directed to a special fund to pay for health benefits to carry through the post-employment period.

President Smith thanked Mr. Busby for his great contribution to the District during his tenure. He also expressed his appreciation to Attorney Horowitz for his help in amending and extending Mr. Busby's contract.

President Smith then called for a motion.

BOARD ACTION – To amend the General Manager's employment agreement to extend the full-time employment effective October 1, 2024 through February 28, 2026.

MOVED BY:

**Director Cage** 

SECONDED BY:

Director Thompson

AYES:

Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD DURING THE MONTH**

Ad-Hoc Recycled Water Committee - November 12, 2024

Tom Smith

Elizabeth Hylton

Technical Services Committee - November 20, 2024

**Dennis Domaille** 

Gary Thompson

Finance Committee - November 20, 2024

Tom Cage

Elizabeth Hylton

Ad-Hoc Code/Policy Committee - November 21, 2024

Tom Smith

Dennis Domaille

## Ad-Hoc Recycled Water Committee:

Director Hylton reported that Garrett Higerd provided an in-depth and thorough analysis on the District's recycled water program. Staff will work to update the current user agreements to align with their actual historical use.

#### **Technical Services Committee:**

Director Domaille commented on the great work staff are doing with GIS related projects. Justin Mulbay elaborated that Julie Burkhart (Information Systems) and David Carlson (Engineering) made a presentation at a recent conference to over 350 people on the reasons MCWD chose the particular model for the robust Utility Network upgrade.

#### Finance Committee:

Director Hylton noted that connection fee revenue was significantly over budget due to a couple of big construction projects starting in the community.

## Ad-Hoc Code/Policy Committee:

Director Smith said the committee met and reviewed the recommended updates to the Personnel Policy Manual. The updated version would be presented to the Local 12 Union with the goal of coming back to the Board for adoption at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> Regular Board Meeting.

## **DIRECTOR COMMENTS, REQUESTS, AND REPORTS**

Director Cage noted that it appears the amount of conservation rebates that are being processed and he hopes other creative options for encouraging conservation in the community can be done.

## **ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Horowitz said there was nothing to report.

A brief recess was taken, and the Board went into closed session at 7:02 p.m.

## **CLOSED SESSION**

# D-1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation – General Manager

Pursuant to Government Code sections 54954.5(e) and 54957

### D-2 Conference with Labor Negotiator

Pursuant to Government Code sections 54954.5(f) and 54957.6

District Negotiators: Tom Smith and Tom Cage

Direction concerning proposed terms of General Manager Employment agreement,
Including compensation and benefits

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

## BOARD ACTION - To adjourn the Board Meeting

MOVED BY:

**Director Cage** 

SECONDED BY:

**Director Domaille** 

AYES:

Directors Cage, Domaille, Hylton, Smith, and Thompson

NAYS:

None

ABSENT:

None

President Smith adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.