

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2019**

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The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Running Springs Water District was held on Wednesday, September 18, 2019 at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the District office located at 31242 Hilltop Boulevard, Running Springs, California.

The following Directors were present:

Tony Grabow, President  
Errol Mackzum, Vice-President  
Mike Terry, Director  
Mark Acciani, Director

Director Bill Conrad was absent

Also present were the following:

Ryan Gross, General Manager  
Joan C. Eaton, Board Secretary/Treasurer/Administration Supervisor  
George Corley, Fire Chief  
Mike Vasquez, Fire Battalion Chief  
Trevor Miller, Wastewater Division Supervisor  
Dixi Willemse, Fire Department Administrative Assistant  
Ward Simmons, Legal Counsel, Best, Best & Krieger  
Mike Scotti, Fire Department Firefighter/Paramedic

Visitors Present:

Ron Pearne, CSA-79 Representative  
Kirsten Scotti, Spouse of Mike Scotti  
Linda Coyne, Running Springs Resident  
Ed Maloney, Running Springs Resident  
Joe and David Rademaker, Running Springs Residents  
Kyle and Betty Marzec, Running Springs Residents  
Linda Socia, Running Springs Resident

**MEETING MINUTES**

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Running Springs Water District Regular Board Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Grabow and Chief Corley led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

**2. Recognize and Hear from Visitors/Public Comment**

Visitors' Ron Pearne, Kristen Scotti and Linda Coyne introduced themselves for the record.

Chief Corley opened the Badge Pinning Ceremony and acknowledged Firefighter/Paramedic Mike Scotti for his promotion to Engineer/Paramedic. Zachary Granzow, who was absent from the meeting, was also acknowledged for his promotion to Engineer/Paramedic.

**3. Public Hearing and Consideration to Allow or Overrule any or all Objections or Protests to the Proposed Removal of Weeds and/or Wastes that have been Declared as a Public Nuisance.**

**A. Open Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was opened at 9:03 A.M. by President Grabow.

**B. Fire Chief's Report:** Chief Corley reported on the Running Springs Fire Department Hazard Abatement Program that benefits the community through fire safety compliance.

**C. Written Objections or Protests:** None Received

**D. Oral Objections or Protests:** Visitors' Linda Coyne, Joe and David Rademaker, Kyle and Betty Marzec, Ed Maloney and Linda Socia reported individually on their properties and discussion continued regarding the Hazard Abatement Program. The Fire Department will re-inspect the addressed properties and follow up with the property owners regarding compliance requirements. Administrative Assistant Willemse said fees will be waived on a one-time basis upon compliance regarding the addressed properties.

**E. Board Discussion:** None

**F. Close Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was closed at 9:18 A.M. by President Grabow and the visitors were excused from the meeting.

Ms. Willemse stated there were eighteen hundred forty-five (1,845) initial non-compliant properties with three hundred seventy-six (376) fourteen (14) day fine notices mailed. Ms. Willemse reported the program generated \$22,427 in revenue last year and \$7,352 has been collected this year to date with an increase in the fee from \$95 to \$225. Discussion continued regarding the Hazard Abatement Program and Manager Gross said the recommendation to the Board is to move forward with warrants and removing the public nuisance of non-compliant properties.

**G. Consider allowing or overruling any or all objections or protests to the proposed removal of weeds and/or wastes that have been declared a public nuisance, whereupon the Board of Directors shall acquire jurisdiction to proceed and perform the work of removing the public nuisance using Reliable Raul**

Manager Gross confirmed there are no objections or protests to the proposed removal of weeds and/or wastes that have been declared a public nuisance and the Fire Department will work with the property owners who visited the meeting. Manager Gross said Reliable Raul was the lowest bid contractor for the Hazard Abatement Program. Fire Department Administrative Assistant Willemse was excused at 9:27 A.M.

Upon **motion** by Director Mackzum, **second** by Director Terry and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, Whereupon the Board of Directors Shall Acquire Jurisdiction to Proceed and Perform the Work of Removing the Public Nuisance Using Reliable Raul, was approved.

**4. Approval of Consent Items**

**A. Approve Meeting Minutes**

**B. Ratify Expenditures and Cash Summary**

Upon **motion** by Director Terry, **second** by Director Mackzum and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, the Consent Items were approved.

**5. Action Items**

**A. Consider Adopting Resolution No. 14-19, A Resolution of Application by the Board of Directors of Running Springs Water District, Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission to Initiate Proceedings for Reorganization and Finding that the Requested Reorganization is not a Project and Therefore is Exempt from Review Under the California Environmental Quality Act**

Manager Gross reported on Resolution No. 14-19 regarding the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to initiate proceedings regarding the proposed annexation of territory to the Running Springs Water District and reorganization of CSA-79. Discussion continued regarding the standard and proposed terms and conditions of the annexation and Manager Gross clarified the process of placing the wastewater rates on the San Bernardino County tax roll. The Board and staff suggested revisions to the resolution that include adding verbiage regarding the California Environmental Quality Act, LAFCO reorganization fees, CSA-79 reserves and flexibility with placing rates on the San Bernardino County Property Tax Roll.

Upon **motion** by Director Acciani, **second** by Director Terry and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, Resolution No. 14-19, A Resolution of Application by the Board of Directors of Running Springs Water District, Requesting the Local Agency Formation Commission to Initiate Proceedings for Reorganization and Finding that the Requested Reorganization is not a Project and Therefore is Exempt from Review Under the California Environmental Quality Act, was adopted as revised. (Resolution No. 14-19 on file in the District Office)

**B. Consider Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Purchase of Equipment and Services for Wastewater Division**

Manager Gross and Supervisor Miller reported on the request to purchase Sewer Lift Station (SLS) No. 7, 8 and 9 pumps and the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Blower Room Piping Insulation that were not included in the approved Fiscal Year 2019/20 Wastewater Budget. Staff recommended replacing three (3) non-serviceable worn pumps and add insulation to the existing process air piping in the blower room at the WWTP to allow for more efficient operation. The District received pricing for the replacement pumps from three (3) vendors with the lowest bid of \$10,072 from Southern Water Service. The District pump purchase will come from the Wastewater Capital Improvement Project Reserve with a current balance of \$402,240. The District also received two (2) quotes for the WWTP Blower Room Piping Insulation Project with the lowest bid of \$9,250 from Ted's Construction & Insulation. Manager Gross said the Upstream Users will share the cost of the Blower Room Piping Insulation Project and funding will also come from the Wastewater Capital Improvement Project Reserve.

Upon **motion** by Director Acciani, **second** by Director Mackzum and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, Authorizing Staff to Proceed with the Purchase of Equipment and Services that were not included in the approved Fiscal Year 2019/20 Wastewater Budget, was approved.

**C. Consider Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement for Mutual Aid Fire Protection with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**

Battalion Chief Vasquez reported on the Mutual Aid Agreement with CalFire that includes an Assistance by Hire provision that allows the Running Springs Fire Department to be compensated by CalFire in the event Running Springs Fire Department resources are needed and available. Running Springs Fire Department would be compensated at the rates established by the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA).

Upon **motion** by Director Terry, **second** by Director Mackzum and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement for Mutual Aid Fire Protection with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, was approved.

**D. Consider Approving Cooperative Agreement for Joint Use by and Between Running Springs Fire Department and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection**

Battalion Chief Vasquez recommended consideration of the Cooperative Agreement for Joint Use by and between Running Springs Fire Department and CalFire to continue with the existing agreement to co-locate at Running Springs Fire Department Station 51. The additional staffing has proven to be advantageous for the Running Springs Fire Department and community with minimal impact to operations. Benefits include additional staff, equipment and expanded training opportunities at no additional cost to the District. The only change was adding Battalion Chief Vasquez to the agreement.

Upon **motion** by Director Mackzum, **second** by Director Terry and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, The Cooperative Agreement for Joint Use by and Between Running Springs Fire Department and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, was approved.

**E. Consider Adopting Resolution No. 15-19, Approving the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agreement #7FG19106**

Chief Corley reported on Resolution No. 15-19 that is required by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for funding the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 Volunteer Fire Assistance Program Agreement #7FG19106. The Running Springs Fire Department has been awarded \$3,139.93 toward the purchase of wildland firefighting gear with 50/50 matching fund basis for the grant. Chief Corley said the Fire Department will purchase radios and funding has been set aside in the budget to use for the matching required funds.

Upon **motion** by Director Mackzum, **second** by Director Acciani and **carried by a 4 to 0 vote**, Resolution No. 15-19, Approving the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agreement #7FG19106, was adopted. (Resolution No. 15-19 on file in the District Office)

**6. Closed Session – The Board will go into Closed Session to discuss:**

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (One case)**

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 10:07 A.M.

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:21 A.M. with no reportable action.

**7. General Manager's Report**

Manager Gross stated the new Fire Chief and Battalion Chief begin their assignments on October 1, 2019 and the Water Operator in Training begins employment on September 27, 2019. The District has received sixteen (16) Administration Supervisor applications and recently recruited five (5) new Paid Call Firefighters.

**8. Report from Legal Counsel**

Attorney Simmons reported the State Water Project allocation was 75%.

**9. Board Member Comments/Meetings**

Director Mackzum requested that staff begin research to repave the Library parking lot.

**10. Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



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President, Board of Directors  
Running Springs Water District



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Secretary of the Board of Directors  
Running Springs Water District