

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
March 20, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Running Springs Water District was held on Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the District office located at 31242 Hilltop Boulevard, Running Springs, California, and through teleconference.

The following Directors were present at the District:

Tony Grabow, President
Bill Conrad, Vice-President
Mark Acciani, Director

The following Directors were present through teleconference:

Laura Dyberg, Director

The following Directors were absent:

Mike Terry, Director

No visitors were present at the District.

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The Running Springs Water District Board Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Grabow. Director Acciani and he led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION ITEM

Upon motion by Vice-President Conrad, second by Director Acciani and carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote, the Board of Directors authorized this meeting to be conducted as a hybrid meeting (in-person and via Zoom) pursuant to AB 361 and as a result of the state declared emergency, meeting in person may present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

2. Recognize and Hear from Visitors/Public Comment

No visitors present.

3. Approval of Consent Items

A. Approve Meeting Minutes

B. Ratify Expenditures

- C. Consider Adopting Resolution No. 01-24, Fixing and Levying Fire Suppression Availability Charges for Fiscal Year Ending 2025
- D. Consider Adopting Resolution No. 02-24, Fixing Water and Sewer Availability Charges for Fiscal Year Ending 2025
- E. Consider Adopting Resolution No. 03-24, Declaring APN 0328-091-71 Surplus Land

Vice-President Conrad inquired about the gate repair expenses on page 10 of the Board packet. Operations Manager, Trevor Miller, explained that the gate at the Treatment Plant was blown over and broke during a windstorm. The gate has been repaired and modified to prevent this from happening again.

Manager Gross informed the Board that as of January 1, 2024, the law pertaining to surplus property has changed. The law now states that if property is less than a half-acre, it is exempt from the surplus process.

Upon motion by Vice-President Conrad, second by Director Acciani and carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote, the Consent Items were approved.

- 4. Action Items – The following action items will be considered individually, and each require a motion by the Board of Directors for action.

- A. Consider Approving Cost of Living Adjustment and Proposed Water and Sewer Rate Adjustments

Manager Gross, Vice-President Conrad, and Director Acciani reviewed the following items that were discussed at the March 8, 2024 Finance Committee meeting: Cost of Living Adjustment for wages and the 5-year rate adjustment for water and sewer services. The committee would like to propose a 4% Cost of Living Adjustment for wages and proceed with the Proposition 218 process for a 3% water and wastewater rate increase per year for the next 5-years.

Manager Gross reviewed the results of the 2019 Raftelis Rate Study, which stated that in order for the District to increase revenue to fund the deferred Capital Improvement Projects, the District would need to have 3% rate increases for the next 5-years. The proposal is to also eliminate the sewer usage fee and include that in the monthly fixed rate. Manager Gross clarified that this proposal does not include Green Valley Lake (GVL). The GVL sewer rate will not change until it is revaluated in 2028.

Manager Gross also informed the Board of Directors that the Firefighters Local 5308 Union President contacted him and will be providing proposed new Salary Schedule, for the Fire Department, to review in the near future.

Director Dyberg inquired about verbiage on page 34 of the Board packet. Manager Gross provided clarification.

Upon motion by Vice-President Conrad, second by Director Acciani and carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote, a Cost-of-Living Adjustment for wages of 4% was approved and staff was directed to proceed with the Proposition 218 process for Proposed Water and Sewer Rate Adjustments of 3% per year for the next five years.

B. Consider Approving Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Preventative Maintenance Service

Operations Manager, Trevor Miller, reviewed the details of why the preventative maintenance service for the MBR 2 is necessary.

Upon motion by Director Acciani, second by Vice-President Conrad and carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote, Authorizing Expenditure for Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Preventative Maintenance Service in the amount of \$7,360, was approved.

C. Consider Approving Repair of Fire Station No. 50 Bathroom

Battalion Chief Ellsberry detailed the need for repairs to the bathroom at Fire Station No. 50. At this time, only one quote has been received, and the other contractors that were contacted have been unresponsive. The quote provided was reviewed by the Board of Directors in detail.

Upon motion by Vice-President Conrad, second by Director Acciani and carried by a 4 to 0 roll call vote, the Repair of Fire Station No. 50 Bathroom not to exceed \$16,000, was approved.

5. General Manager's Report

Manager Gross reviewed that the ROWCO pump station is out for bid and April 10th, 2024 is the opening of the bids. The Green Valley Lake flow monitoring study is ending. It will not be beneficial to use the optional 4th month. The results of the study will be provided at a future Board Meeting.

There is a meeting this afternoon with Senator Laphonza Butler's staff regarding a new fire station proposal that was submitted for a Congressionally Directed Spending bill. Chief Grzywa and Battalion Chief Ellsberry shared that San Manuel Band of Mission Indians also expressed an interest in assisting the Fire Department with additional grant funding opportunities.

Operations Manager Miller updated the Board on the Sewer Lift Stations 1 and 5 pumps. Manager Gross and Operations Miller also provided an update on staffing.

6. Board Member Comments/Meetings

Director Dyberg will be scheduling a meeting with Ryan and District staff to begin the field survey for the Critical Infrastructure Protection grant.

Vice-President Conrad commended the District on an employee assisting the Rimwood Ranch neighborhood with meter repairs.

The Board of Directors and Manager Gross reviewed the storm drain construction project taking place downtown and potential issues with woodchips at the Farmers Market. Director Dyberg offered suggestions to remedy the issue.


7. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



President, Board of Directors
Running Springs Water District



Secretary of the Board of Directors
Running Springs Water District