



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MESA WATER DISTRICT  
Wednesday, February 14, 2024  
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627  
4:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Dewane.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice President DePasquale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Directors Present**

Shawn Dewane, President  
Marice H. DePasquale, Vice President  
Jim Atkinson, Director  
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director  
James R. Fidler, Director

**Directors Absent**

None

**Staff Present**

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager  
Denise Garcia, Chief Administrative Officer/  
District Secretary  
Marwan Khalifa, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer/  
District Treasurer  
Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E., District Engineer  
Tyler Jernigan, Water Operations Manager  
Kurt Lind, Business Administrator  
Kaitlyn Norris, Public Affairs Specialist  
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

**Others Present**

Edward Ring, Executive Director, California Policy Center

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

President Dewane asked for public comments on items not on the agenda.

There were no comments and President Dewane proceeded with the meeting.

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED, REMOVED, OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA**

General Manager Shoenberger reported there were no items to be added, removed, or reordered on the agenda. There were no objections.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of January 10, 2024.

2. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of January 24, 2024.
3. Approve minutes of special Board meeting of January 30, 2024.
4. Approve attendance considerations (additions, changes, deletions).
5. Board Schedule:
  - Conferences, Seminars, and Meetings
  - Board Calendar
  - Upcoming Community Outreach Events

President Dewane asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

## MOTION

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Atkinson, to approve Items 1 – 5 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0.

## PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

### 6. CALIFORNIANS FOR ENERGY AND WATER ABUNDANCE:

GM Shoenberger introduced California Policy Center Executive Director Edward Ring who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- California’s Misguided Water Policy: Embracing Scarcity Instead of Abundance
- SB 1157 – Downside to Mesa Water, Downside to Mesa Water’s Customers
- Californians for Energy & Water Abundance
- Projects/Reach
- Strategic Message: Water Conservation Has Reached its Limit
- Strategic Message: Water Abundance is Feasible & Sustainable
- Solution: Flexibility in SB 1157 Rulemaking
- Solution: Fish-Friendly Delta Diversions
- Goals

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

Mr. Ring responded to questions from the Board and they thanked him for the presentation.

### 7. MESA WATER EDUCATION CENTER EVENT:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

Staff was directed to make final modifications to the Prospective Invitation List.

### 8. BOARD MEETING PROCEDURES:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Director Fisler recommended either 1) filming the Mesa Water Board meetings and then posting the recorded meetings on the website for future viewing by water customers or 2) providing Zoom meetings to meet the Board's Strategic Plan Goals of increasing the favorable opinion of Mesa Water, exercising transparency, and providing excellent customer service. He offered that many industry meetings he attends offer video conferencing, and it has proven convenient when he cannot attend in person. Video conferencing or viewing of meetings is becoming a common practice in the industry.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

#### MOTION

Motion by President Dewane, second by Director Bockmiller, to table the topic of current meeting procedures for audio recordings. Motion passed 4 – 1, with Director Fisler voting no.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

##### 9. PREFERENCE TO BUY AMERICAN-MADE MANUFACTURED GOODS:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

President Dewane asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

#### MOTION

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by President Dewane, to adopt Resolution No. 1589 Providing Guidelines for the Procurement of Goods and Services and Cash Disbursements, Superseding Resolution No. 1581. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	DIRECTORS	Atkinson, Bockmiller, Fisler, DePasquale, Dewane
NOES:	DIRECTORS	None
ABSTAIN:	DIRECTORS	None
ABSENT:	DIRECTORS	None

##### 10. PLAN CHECK CONSULTING SERVICES:

District Engineer Wisner provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

President Dewane asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

**MOTION**

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by President Dewane, to approve a sole source contract to John Robinson Consulting, Inc. to provide Plan Check Consulting Services for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2024 and through Fiscal Year 2025 for an amount not to exceed \$250,000 and authorize execution of the contract. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**REPORTS:**

- 11. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:
- 12. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

- 13. DIRECTORS' REPORTS (AB 1234) PER CA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 53232.3 (D)

**Recess**

President Dewane declared a recess at 6:19 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 6:20 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

President Dewane announced the Board was going into Closed Session at 6:21 p.m.

- 14. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION:  
Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b)

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:29 p.m.

Attorney Anslow announced that the Board conducted one Closed Session with the General Manager, District Secretary, District Engineer and General Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b). The Board received information and gave direction to Legal Counsel and staff.

President Dewane adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m. to a Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

*Shawn Dewane*

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Shawn Dewane, President

DocuSigned by:

*Denise Garcia*

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Denise Garcia, District Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sharon D. Brimer