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Water Needs

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MESA WATER DISTRICT
Thursday, July 8, 2021
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President DePasquale.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Director Atkinson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present Marice H. DePasquale President
Shawn Dewane, 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
Phil Lauri, P. E., Assistant General Manager
Denise Garcia, Administrative Services Manager/
District Secretary
Marwan Khalifa, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer/
District Treasurer
Sydnie Ly, Human Resources Manager
Celeste Carrillo, Public Affairs Coordinator
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Others Present Brenda Deeley, CEO, Brenda Deeley PR, LLC
Gregory J. Newmark, Principal, Meyers Nave *(teleconference)*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONSULTING SERVICES

General Manager Shoenberger introduced Brenda Deeley PR Chief Executive Officer Brenda Deeley who proceeded with a brief summary of her background and her firm.

The Board thanked her for the information.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

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

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

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

GM Shoenberger reported there were no items to be added, removed, or reordered on the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

Approve all matters under the Consent Calendar by one motion unless a Board member, staff, or a member of the public requests a separate action.

Director Bockmiller pulled Item 6 for discussion. There were no objections.

1. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of June 10, 2021.
2. Approve attendance considerations (additions, changes, deletions).
3. Board Schedule:
 - Conferences, Seminars, and Meetings
 - Board Calendar
4. Approve a contract to Venture Executive, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$161,250 to provide Periodic Close Process Training services.
5. Approve a one-year contract, with options for renewal, to Westbound Communications for \$105,000 to provide digital and social media strategy and content development services.
6. Approve a two-year contract renewal with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore to perform Employment and Labor Law Legal Counsel Services.
7. Approve a contract renewal with Lewis Consulting Group from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for an amount not to exceed \$60,000 to provide Orange County Advocacy Consulting Services.

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

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Atkinson, to approve Items 1 – 5 and 7 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0.

ITEM 6 – Approve a two-year contract renewal with Liebert Cassidy Whitmore to perform Employment and Labor Law Legal Counsel Services.

GM Shoenberger provided a brief overview of the topic.

Staff responded to questions from the Board.

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

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Atkinson, to approve Item 6 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

8. PROCEDURES FOR MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

GM Shoenberger provided a brief overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

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

MOTION

Motion by Vice President Dewane, second by President DePasquale, to direct staff to:

- a. Draft the Procedures for Meetings of the Board of Directors Resolution to modify the Regular Board meetings to be held on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.; and
- b. Agendize the draft Resolution for the July 27, 2021 Board of Directors Committee meeting.

Motion passed 3-1-1, with Director Atkinson voting no and Director Bockmiller abstaining.

ACTION ITEMS:

9. CITY OF SANTA ANA MAINTENANCE AND INSPECTION AGREEMENT:

Assistant General Manager Lauri provided an overview of the topic and responded to questions from the Board.

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

MOTION

Motion by Director Atkinson, second by Director Bockmiller, to approve the Maintenance and Inspection Agreement Between the City of Santa Ana and Mesa Water District for the Croddy Well No. 14 Well Blowdown Water Conveyance Pipeline, and authorize execution of the agreement. Motion passed 5 – 0.

REPORTS:

10. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:

- June Key Indicators Report
- Other (no enclosure)

11. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

INFORMATION ITEMS:

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

13. OTHER (NO ENCLOSURE)

RECESS

President DePasquale declared a recess at 7:03 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 7:08 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

President DePasquale announced that the Board was going into Closed Session at 7:08 p.m.

14. CONFERENCE WITH SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

Case: *Irvine Ranch Water District v. Orange County Water District and related cross-actions*

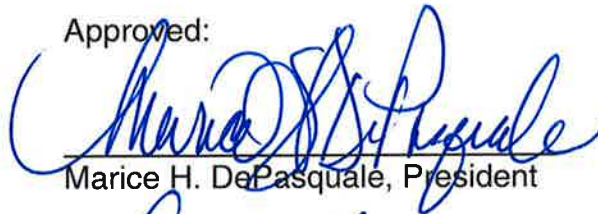
Los Angeles County Superior Court Case Nos. BS168278 and BS175192

The Board returned to open session at 7:37 p.m.

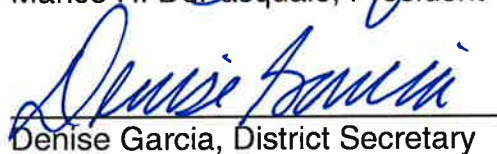
District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted one Closed Session with the General Manager, District Secretary, Assistant General Manager, and Special Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1) The Board gave direction to staff and Special Legal Counsel and there was no further announcement.

President DePasquale adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

Approved:



Marice H. DePasquale, President



Denise Garcia, District Secretary

Sharon D. Brimer, Recording Secretary