



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MESA WATER DISTRICT  
Wednesday, May 24, 2023  
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**

Director Atkinson 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  
Wendy Duncan, Records Management Specialist/  
Acting District Secretary  
Marwan Khalifa, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer/  
District Treasurer  
Tracy Manning, Chief Operating Officer  
Stacie Sheek, Customer Services Manager  
Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E., District Engineer  
Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager  
Kurt Lind, Business Administrator  
Kaitlyn Norris, Public Affairs Specialist  
Eva Pierce, Senior Buyer  
Celeste Carrillo, Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

**Others Present**

Marcelina Sanchez, Early College High School Student  
Graydon Sage, Costa Mesa High School Student

**MESA WATER 2023 VIDEO CONTEST AWARD WINNERS**

President Dewane welcomed the top student finalists of Mesa Water’s 2023 Video Contest, as well as their family members.

Senior Public Affairs Specialist Carrillo provided a brief overview of the topic noting that the contest was open to local high school and college students to bring awareness to Mesa Water and its local water system to the younger residents in the District’s service area.

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Awards were presented for:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Dani Lopez and Jason Strotman from Costa Mesa High School
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place to Marcelina Sanchez from Early College High School
- 1<sup>st</sup> place to India Howerton, Graydon Sage and Joseph Hufford from Costa Mesa High School

Photographs were taken and the Board thanked the winners for their participation in the contest.

**RECESS**

President Dewane declared a recess at 4:43 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 4:45 p.m.

**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.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of April 12, 2023.
2. Approve minutes of adjourned regular Board meeting of April 18, 2023.
3. Approve minutes of regular Board meeting of April 26, 2023.
4. Approve attendance considerations (additions, changes, deletions).
5. Board Schedule:
  - Conferences, Seminars, and Meetings
  - Board Calendar
  - Upcoming Community Outreach Events
6. Receive and file the Developer Project Status Report.
7. Receive and file the Mesa Water and Other Agency Projects Status Report.
8. Receive and file the Water Quality Call Report.
9. Receive and file the Accounts Paid Listing.
10. Receive and file the Monthly Financial Reports.
11. Receive and file the Outreach Update.
12. Receive and file the Fiscal Year 2023 Third Quarter Financial Update.
13. Receive the Quarterly Training Report for January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023.
14. Authorize President Shawn Dewane to be the voting delegate for the Association of California Water Agencies' election of Board President and Vice President for the 2024 - 2025 term.

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

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Atkinson, second by Vice President DePasquale, to approve Items 1 – 14 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

15. SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE:

Public Affairs Specialist Norris proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Purely Local Paid Campaign
- Omnipresent Campaign
- FY 2023 Key Insights

Ms. Norris responded to questions from the Board and they thanked her for the presentation.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

16. BUDGETARY OPTIONS:

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

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Vice President DePasquale, to direct staff to implement Budgetary Option 1 – hire a rate consultant to conduct a rate study in 2023, conduct a rate hearing in December 2023 and implement any rate adjustments in January 2024.

Motion passed 5 – 0.

17. PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET:

Chief Financial Officer Khalifa proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Budget Assumptions
- Budget Assumptions – Increased Water Costs
- FY 2024 Proposed Budget
- Operating Revenue
- Designated Funds
- Debt Service Coverage Ratio
- Debt Service Payments
- Cash on Hand/Days Cash Ratio
- Water Production Acre Foot (AF)
- Fiscal Year 2024 Budget – Water Supply Needs (Historical and Projected)
- Operating Expenses by Department as a Percentage
- Capital
- Capital Replacement & Refurbishment (R&R)
- District Memberships

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- District Conferences & Seminars
- Community Outreach
- FY 2024 Budget Summary

GM Shoenberger and CFO Khalifa responded to questions from the Board and they thanked them for the presentation.

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

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by President Dewane, to approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**18. CUSTOMER INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT SERVICES:**

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

**MOTION**

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Bockmiller, to approve a contract to Plante Moran for \$507,400 to provide an independent professional consultant to evaluate, select and implement a Customer Information System, and authorize execution of the contract. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**19. CLAIM OF LOUIS DIGONZINI:**

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

**MOTION**

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Bockmiller, to deny the claim of Mr. Louis Digonzini. Motion passed 5 – 0.

**REPORTS:**

**20. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:**

- April Key Indicators Report

**21. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**22. LABORATORY SERVICES**

**23. FEDERAL ADVOCACY UPDATE**

**24. STATE ADVOCACY UPDATE**

**25. ORANGE COUNTY UPDATE**

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

President Dewane adjourned the meeting, in memory of former OC LAFCO Commissioner and former Tustin Mayor Dr. Allan "Doc" Bernstein, at 6:07 p.m. to a Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, June 14, 2023 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