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Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MESA WATER DISTRICT
Wednesday, March 26, 2025
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 DePasquale.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Bockmiller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present

Marice H. DePasquale, President
Shawn Dewane, Vice President
Jim Atkinson, Director *(teleconference)*
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director
James R. Fisler, Director

Directors Absent

None

Staff Present

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager
Denise Khalifa, Chief Administrative Officer/
District Secretary
Tyler Jernigan, Water Operations Manager/
Acting District Treasurer
Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E., District Engineer
Lynda Halligan, MFA, Public Affairs Manager
Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager
Kurt Lind, Business Administrator
Kirk Harper, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Kaitlyn Norris, Public Affairs Specialist
Camille Shehadeh, Senior Human Resources Analyst
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Others Present

Mark Warner, Partner, Plante Moran
Michael Davidson, Senior Manager, Plante Moran
Ryan Cislo, Senior Manager, Plante Moran

District Secretary Khalifa stated one Mesa Water Director was attending the meeting via teleconference.

For each action, a roll call vote was taken in accordance with California Government Code Section 54953(b)(2) which states, "all votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by roll call."

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LEWIS CONSULTING GROUP RECOGNITION

Water Policy Manager Taylor recognized and thanked Former California State Senator John Lewis and his firm for providing invaluable support to the District since 2016. Mr. Lewis shared his thoughts on the group's strong relationship with Mesa Water District and expressed his gratitude for their collaboration over the years.

Photographs were taken.

WELCOME PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER LYNDA HALLIGAN

General Manager Shoenberger introduced Mesa Water's new Public Affairs Manager, Lynda Halligan, who provided an overview of her professional background and her ideas for an *Experience Mesa Water* campaign.

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:

Director Atkinson pulled Item 2 for discussion. There were no objections.

1. Receive and file the Developer Project Status Report.
2. Receive and file the Mesa Water and Other Agency Projects Status Report.
3. Receive and file the Water Quality Call Report.
4. Receive and file the Accounts Paid Listing.
5. Receive and file the Monthly Financial Reports.
6. Receive and file the Outreach Update.

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Vice President Dewane, to approve Items 1 and 3 – 6 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

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

ITEM 2 – Receive and file the Mesa Water and Other Agency Projects Status Report.

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Director Atkinson asked for clarification on the Interagency Water Transfer and Plan Check Management System to which District Engineer Wiesner responded by elaborating on the project.

The Board thanked him for the information.

MOTION

Motion by Director Atkinson, second by Director Bockmiller, to approve Item 2 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

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

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

7. BOARD MEETING PROCEDURES:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

No action was taken on this item.

ACTION ITEMS:

8. FINANCIAL AUDITING SERVICES:

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Vice President Dewane, to approve a contract extension with Lance, Soll & Lunghard LLP to perform annual Financial Auditing Services for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025 and June 30, 2026. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

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

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9. SOCIAL MEDIA CONSULTING SERVICES:

MOTION

Motion by Vice President Dewane, second by Director Fisler, to approve a three-month contract extension with Westbound Communications for \$30,000 to provide Social Media Consulting Services. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

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

REPORTS:

10. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:

- February Key Indicators Report

11. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

INFORMATION ITEMS:

12. FEDERAL ADVOCACY UPDATE

13. STATE ADVOCACY UPDATE

14. ORANGE COUNTY UPDATE

RECESS

President DePasquale declared a recess at 5:26 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

President DePasquale announced the Board was going into Closed Session at 5:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSIONS:

15. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

District Negotiator: General Manager

Employee Organization: Represented and Non-Represented Employees

16. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6

Title: General Manager

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:18 p.m.

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District Secretary Khalifa announced the Board conducted Closed Session Item 15 with the General Manager, Chief Administrative Officer and Senior Human Resources Analyst pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6(a). The Board received information and there was no further announcement.

General Manager Shoenberger announced the Board conducted Closed Session Item 16 with the General Manager, Business Administrator and Plante Moran consultants pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6. The Board received information and provided direction to staff.

In honor of former Irvine Ranch Water District Director Mary Aileen Matheis who recently passed away at the age of 98, President DePasquale adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m. to an Adjourned Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

Marice H. DePasquale

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Marice H. DePasquale, President

Signed by:

Denise Khalifa

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Denise Khalifa, District Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sharon D. Brimer