



**LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT**  
4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas CA 91302

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

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5:00 PM

March 13, 2018

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Charles Caspary.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at **5:00 p.m.** by Vice President Caspary in the Board Room at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District headquarters at 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Charles Caspary, Jay Lewitt, Len Polan, and Lee Renger.

Absent: Director Glen Peterson

Staff Present: David Pedersen, General Manager  
David Lippman, Director of Facilities and Operations  
Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration  
Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach  
Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board  
Keith Lemieux, District Counsel

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

General Manager David Pedersen noted that an amendment to the agenda was issued to add Item 5C and Closed Session Item 15A, and he asked that Item 7A be removed from the agenda.

Director Renger moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Peterson  
ABSTAIN: None

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A List of Demands: March 13, 2018: Ratify**
- B Minutes: Regular Meeting of February 13, 2018: Approve**
- C Directors' Per Diem – February 2018: Ratify**
- D Monthly Cash and Investment Report – January 2018**

**Receive and file the Monthly Cash and Investment Report for January 2018.**

Director Lewitt moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Peterson  
ABSTAIN: None

**5. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS**

**A Legislative and Regulatory Updates**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, noted that staff was in the process of reviewing over 260 new bills and identifying the bills that might impact the District's operations. He reported that the State Water Resources Control Board adopted regulations for augmenting reservoirs with treated recycled water. He stated that staff did not foresee any issues with complying with these regulations. He also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board heard comments on February 20th regarding regulations on wasteful water use, including prohibition of irrigation of turf on street medians and parkways using recycled water. He noted that the District sent letters requesting that the prohibition on the use of recycled water be removed for these types of uses. He also noted that the State Water Resources Control Board deferred action and reopened the public comment period. He stated that staff would be sending letters to U.S. Representatives and Senators to request that 2018 Title XVI funds be funded at least to last year's level. He noted that the District received \$150,000 in Title XVI funds last year to assist in preparing the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo

Feasibility Study. He also noted that staff is monitoring SB 606 (Skinner) and AB 1668 (Friedman) related to *Making Conservation a California Way of Life*.

**B Water Supply Conditions Update**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach, presented the report. He noted that 0.94 inches of rain was registered at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility during the previous week.

**C Proclamation in Recognition of Upcoming Retirement of Dave Currall**

Vice President Caspary presented a proclamation to Dave Currall, Water Worker III, in recognition of his retirement from the District.

**6. TREASURER**

Director Renger stated that the Treasurer's report was in order.

**7. GENERAL MANAGER**

**A Reclassification of Administrative Services Coordinator Position – This item was removed from the agenda.**

**8. FACILITIES AND OPERATIONS**

**A Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility Rain Gutter Replacement: Authorization of Purchase Order**

**Waive the formal bidding process, and authorize the General Manager to issue a purchase order, in the amount of \$128,290, to Elite Sheet Metal and Rain Gutter Company for the replacement of deteriorated rain gutters and downspouts at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility.**

David Lippman, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report. He responded to questions regarding the replacement of the gutters and downspouts using bonderized smooth and corrugated aluminum downspouts.

A discussion ensued regarding having staff review maintenance procedures and cleaning the gutters on a regular basis.

Director Renger moved to approve Item 8A. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSENT: Peterson

ABSTAIN: None

**B Annual Bioassessment Monitoring Report: Approval of Purchase Order**

**Authorize the General Manager to approve a purchase order to Aquatic Bioassay Consulting Laboratories, Inc., in the amount of \$44,652, for the annual bioassessment monitoring report.**

David Lippman, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report. He responded to a question regarding the District's requirement for bioassessment monitoring for sampling sites along Malibu Creek and the results being compared to non-brackish streams by stating that it would be best to continue to work with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board as they develop different standards related to bioassessment monitoring. He further responded to a question regarding the removal of invasive species by stating that the report indicated the presence of New Zealand Mud Snails at the majority of the receiving water stations; however, they were not in abundance as in previous years and the presence of this species would be included in the report.

Director Lewitt moved to approve Item 8B. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSENT: Peterson

ABSTAIN: None

**C Twin Lakes Pump Station Pipeline Project: Acquisition of Easements**

**Accept the proposal from Hamner Jewell and Associates; and authorize the General Manager to execute a professional services agreement, in the amount of \$94,750, for the acquisition of easements for the Twin Lakes Pump Station Pipeline Project.**

David Lippman, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report. He responded to a question regarding the services that would be provided by Hamner Jewell and Associates and restoring the properties back to their original condition following completion of the project.

Director Renger moved to approve Item 8C. Motion seconded by Director Lewitt. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger

NOES: None

ABSENT: Peterson

ABSTAIN: None

**D California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN)**

**Authorize the General Manager to execute an agreement for the District to become a party to the CalWARN 2007 Omnibus Mutual Assistance Agreement.**

David Lippman, Director of Facilities and Operations, presented the report. He responded to questions regarding emergency response assistance among agencies and compensation and reimbursement for materials provided or received following an emergency. He also noted that a presentation would be provided at the March 20th Strategic Planning Workshop regarding the roles of Board Members and staff during and following an emergency.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 8D. Motion seconded by Director Lewitt. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Peterson  
ABSTAIN: None

**9. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

**A Claim by Thuy Tran Wu**

**Deny the claim from Thuy Tran Wu.**

General Manager David Pedersen presented the report.

A discussion ensued regarding current communications to customers during planned shutdowns via website postings, e-notification and door hangers, and potentially enhancing communications via the use of street signs, robocalls, and text messaging.

Director Polan moved to deny the claim from Thuy Tran Wu. Motion seconded by Director Renger. Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Peterson  
ABSTAIN: None

Vice President Caspary asked staff to keep the Board informed regarding alternative methods of communications for planned water shutdowns.

**10. RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH**

**A AB 2050 (Caballero), Small System Water Authority Act of 2016: Support**

**Support AB 2050 (Caballero), the Small System Water Authority Act of 2018.**

Joe McDermott, Director of Resource Conservation and Public Outreach presented the report and noted that supplemental information was provided to the Board.

Vice President Caspary moved to approve Item 10A. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

General Manager Pedersen responded to a question regarding whether staff had discussed the District's positions on SB 623 (Monning) and SB 2050 (Caballero) with Senator Henry Stern by stating that staff was working with Lobbyist Syrus Devers to schedule a meetings with both Senator Stern and Assemblymember Richard Bloom. He noted that sending a letter of support would demonstrate that the District supports AB 2050 as an alternative to SB 623. He further responded to a question regarding whether the District would issue a press release by stating that a press release announcing the Board's support of SB 2050 would be issued.

Motion carried by the following vote:

AYES: Caspary, Lewitt, Polan, Renger  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Peterson  
ABSTAIN: None

**11. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**A Claim by Michael and Roxanne Burk**

**12. NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**A Organization Reports**

(1) MWD Representative Report/Agenda(s)

There was no report provided.

(2) Other

**B Director's Reports on Outside Meetings**

Director Polan reported that he attended the California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) Washington D.C. Policy Forum from February 25 through 27, 2018. He noted that a presentation was provided regarding the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's efforts on issues related to sanitation in California and the use of chlorides. He also noted that he posed a question regarding the lack of science on brackish streams in Southern California and concerns with the District was being held to freshwater stream standards. He reported that he met with Congresswoman Julia Brownley, Congressman Brad

Sherman, and Congressman Lieu's staff, who all expressed support for the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo.

Director Lewitt reported that he attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Washington D.C. Conference from February 26 through 28, 2018. He noted that he met with Congressional staff to discuss water infrastructure financing.

## **C General Manager Reports**

### **(1) General Business**

General Manager David Pedersen reported that he provided a tour of District facilities to Ana Schwab from Best Best and Krieger, the District's federal lobbyist. He noted that Ms. Schwab would provide assistance with the upcoming lobbying visit to Washington D.C. He reminded the Board regarding the March 20th Strategic Planning Workshop, which would include discussions of strategic planning, tactical actions and activities, financial planning, two-year budget, Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) and paying down the District's unfunded liability, financial and investment policies, and emergency planning and response. He noted that another matter for the Board's consideration would be how the District would fund its share of the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo and scheduling a JPA workshop to discuss institutional issues and project funding.

### **(2) Follow-Up Items**

## **D Directors' Comments**

Director Polan noted that the State Water Resources Control Board issued a media release regarding adoption of regulations for augmenting reservoirs with treated recycled water. He noted that the media release included comments by State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus. He also noted that an article was included in *Time Magazine* regarding a Hong Kong activist who is holding a marathon around the world to discuss the lack of water in the future.

Vice President Caspary noted that UCLA released a study entitled *LA Sustainable Water Project: Los Angeles City-Wide Overview*, which addressed the water future for Los Angeles and the potential elimination of the need for imported water by 2050. He asked staff to forward a copy of this article to the Board.

## **13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

## **14. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**15. CLOSED SESSION**

**A Conference with Labor Negotiator (Government Code Section 54957.6)**

Agency Designated Representatives: David W. Pedersen, General Manager; Donald Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration; Sherri Paniagua, Human Resources Manager; and Kristi Reccia, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore.

Employee Organization(s): Las Virgenes Manager, Supervisor, Professional and Confidential Employees Association

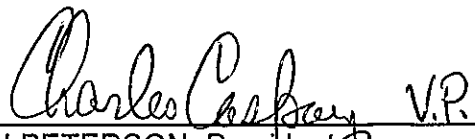
The Board recessed to Closed Session at **6:01 p.m.** and reconvened to Open Session at **6:25 p.m.**

District Counsel Keith Lemieux reported there was no reportable action.

**16. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **6:26 p.m.**



  
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GLEN PETERSON, President  
Board of Directors  
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

  
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JAY LEWITT, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(SEAL)