

**LAS VIRGENES – TRIUNFO  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING**

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5:00 PM

June 1, 2020

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was led by Ana Schwab.

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

The meeting was called to order at **5:00 p.m.** by Chair Lewitt via teleconference in the Board Room at Las Virgenes Municipal Water District headquarters at 4232 Las Virgenes Road, Calabasas, CA 91302. The meeting was conducted via teleconference pursuant to the provisions of the Governor's Executive Order, N-29-20, which suspended certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act to support social distancing guidelines associated with response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Josie Guzman, Clerk of the Board, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Caspary, Lewitt, Lo-Hill, Nye, Orkney, Polan, Renger, Shapiro, Tjulander, and Wall.

Absent: None.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen requested that Item 10A be moved to follow the Consent Calendar in order to receive the federal legislative update from Ana Schwab, representing Best Best & Krieger, LLP.

Director Caspary moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion seconded by Director Polan. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A Minutes: Regular Meeting of May 4, 2020: Approve**

Director Renger moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Director Lo-Hill. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**10. INFORMATION ITEMS - (This item was moved out of sequence)**

**A State and Federal Legislative Update**

Ana Schwab, representing Best Best & Krieger, LLP (BBK), presented the federal legislative update. She noted that BBK was monitoring the development of the next COVID-19 mitigation funding package. She reported that the House of Representatives passed the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act, which was not expected to be passed by the Senate. She stated that she expected that the mitigation funding package would continue to develop, and BBK would continue to advocate for provisions that would be beneficial to the JPA. She also reported that BBK was monitoring the development of an infrastructure package, and noted that several appropriation bills would be passed by September 30th. She responded to a question regarding the status of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's litigation against the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Water Resources, challenging the Final Environmental Impact Report and the California Endangered Species Act Incidental Take Permit for the Long-Term Operation of the State Water Project by stating that she would provide a written summary.

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

**A Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo: Update**

Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and External Affairs, provided an update regarding the mural installation at the Pure Water Demonstration Project. He noted that staff installed marine-grade plywood for the backing of the 70-piece mural canvas, which would allow the mural to be moved to another location in the future. He stated that staff was hoping to schedule an evening tour of the mural and the Pure Water Demonstration Project. He also reported that the Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Owner's Advisor/Program Manager was out for bid. He noted that the cost estimate for the professional services would be \$4 to \$6 million, and responses to the RFP were due by June 25th. He responded to a question regarding protecting the mural from vandalism by stating that the mural would receive a clear coat that would allow it to be washed off without causing damage.

John Zhao, Director of Facilities and Operations, provided an update regarding commissioning the Pure Water Demonstration Project. He noted that the manufacturers' representatives were testing the valves, pumps, and instruments. He also noted that the manufacturer and engineering consultants would train staff and video-record the training sessions for staff who are unable to attend the live training due to COVID-19 social distancing. He stated that the target date to commission the system and begin tasting water samples could begin at the end of

June. He also stated that soft openings would occur in July, followed by the grand opening on September 11th. He reported that noise levels from the equipment were lower than expected, which would benefit the tour experience for the Pure Water Demonstration Project. Darrell Johnson, Water Systems Manager, added that noise levels were low when the ultra-filtration skid and compressor were tested.

**6. ACTION ITEMS**

**A Financial Review: Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2019-20**

**Receive and file the financial review for the third quarter of Fiscal Year 2019-20.**

Angela Saccareccia, Finance Manager, presented the report and PowerPoint presentation.

Director Caspary moved to approve Item 6A. Motion seconded by Director Wall. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**B Proposed Two-Year JPA Budget Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-22**

**Approve the proposed Two-Year JPA Budget Plan for Fiscal Years 2020-22 and adopt the proposed Fiscal Year 2020-21 JPA Budget.**

Angela Saccareccia, Finance Manager, presented the report and PowerPoint presentation.

Director Polan moved to approve Item 6B. Motion seconded by Director Shapiro.

Ms. Saccareccia responded to a question regarding reimbursement of repairs for damages caused by the Woolsey Fire by stating that reimbursement was expected from the JPA's insurance company and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Don Patterson, Director of Finance and Administration, noted that staff was continuing to negotiate insurance reimbursements, and staff would meet with insurance company representatives and Pacific Hydrotech to finalize the scope of work. He stated that approximately \$3 million was already received from the JPA's insurance company.

Mr. Patterson responded to a question regarding expenses in the treatment/composting budget by stating that although composting was not operational there were still costs at the Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility for staffing, off-site sludge hauling, and maintenance of the facility. He noted that the JPA's insurance company would reimburse the costs related to off-site sludge hauling.

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen responded to a question regarding the estimated actual budget, in the amount of \$872,526, for labor expenses for the treatment/composting budget by stating that staff was conducting preventative maintenance work at the facility, including overhauling the centrifuges and performing other improvements.

Ms. Saccareccia responded to a question regarding the increase in the source of JPA funds by stating that this was due to an increase in capital projects. She noted that the revenue source included each agency's contribution, as well as revenue from recycled water sales. She shared a list of significant capital projects, which included the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo, Summer Season TMDL Compliance, Tapia Programmable Logic Controller Upgrades, and Rancho Woolsey Fire Repair.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**C Tapia Water Reclamation Facility SCADA System Upgrade Project: Award**

**Accept the proposal and authorize the Administering Agent/General Manager to execute a professional services agreement with the RoviSys Company, in the amount of \$2,417,333, for the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility SCADA System Upgrade Project.**

Jim Korkosz, Facilities Manager, provided background information regarding the current SCADA system.

Ivo Nkwenji, Information Systems Manager, presented the report.

Director Tjulander moved to approve Item 6C. Motion seconded by Director Renger.

Mr. Nkwenji responded to questions regarding monitoring costs for the procurement of instrumentation on a time and material basis, the proposal for desktop monitors with no touchscreens, and the proposed length of fiber conduits.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**D Tapia Water Reclamation Facility Outfall Rehabilitation Project: Award of Design**

**Authorize the Administering Agent/General Manager to execute a professional services agreement with MKN & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$80,937, to complete the design of the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility Outfall Rehabilitation Project.**

Brett Dingman, Water Reclamation Manager, presented the report.

Director Orkney moved to approve Item 6D. Motion seconded by Director Caspary.

Mr. Dingman responded to questions regarding the JPA's experience with the contractor, the angled access points to the pipeline, and rehabilitation of the pipe after inspection.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

7. **BOARD COMMENTS**

Director Polan referred to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility SCADA System Upgrade Project and stated that he hoped the human machine interface (HMI) would be monitored so that it would not need to be updated at a significant cost in the future. He also referred to the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility SCADA System Upgrade Project and stated that cured in-place concrete would likely be used.

8. **ADMINISTERING AGENT/GENERAL MANAGER REPORT**

Administering Agent/General Manager David Pedersen noted that Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility had returned to composting operations on May 29th, and he shared a photograph of the first compost being dropped from the conveyer into the compost reactor bay. He recognized staff for their efforts in returning the facility back to operation. He referred to Item 10B, Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility Repairs, Approval of Change Order, which was for Woolsey Fire repairs at the facility. He noted that the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Board approved this item, acting as the Administering Agent of the JPA, and he acknowledged that this item should have been brought to the JPA Board for approval. He stated that this item was expedited because the contractor was mobilized at the facility while working on the amendment conveyance system. He also noted that this work was reimbursable due to the Woolsey Fire. He referred to the JPA Board's recent Strategic Planning Workshop regarding the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo institutional issues, and stated that staff would bring back an item for the Board's consideration to approve a narrative in concept at the July 6th Board meeting. He also suggested that the JPA schedule a special meeting for a subsequent workshop on July 13th at 5:00 p.m., to continue the discussion of the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo institutional issues and project implementation issues. The Board agreed.

9. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Director Lo-Hill requested an update regarding the community-wide survey that was scheduled to be done in collaboration with Pepperdine University and an update regarding the brine study. Joe McDermott, Director of Engineering and

External Affairs, responded that updates would be provided as part of the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes-Triunfo update at the July 6th JPA Board meeting.

**10. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A State and Federal Legislative Update**
- B Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility Repairs: Approval of Change Order**
- C Energy Storage and Resiliency Capability Feasibility Assessment: Award**

**11. PUBLIC COMMENTS**


None.

**12. CLOSED SESSION**

None.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Seeing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was duly adjourned at **6:13 p.m.**



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Jay Lewitt, Chair

ATTEST:



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James Wall, Vice Chair

