

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

# MINUTES REGULAR MEETING

5:00 PM

February 14, 2012

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by President Renger.

# 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

A Call to order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by President Renger in the District offices. Assistant Deputy Secretary Conklin called the roll. Those answering present were Directors Bowman, Caspary, Peterson, Renger and Steinhardt.

# 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A Approval of agenda

On a motion by Director Charles Caspary, seconded by Director Barry Steinhardt, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to Approve the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2012, as presented.

AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Peterson , Renger , Steinhardt

# 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

One speaker card was received from the public (1) Martin Jansen provided his comments on AMR/AMI, reading every 20 seconds is an invasion of privacy, read once per day at 3:00 a.m., opt-out program for all; his 02/02/12 article in The Acorn; spoke to General Manager Mundy in regards to the agency being frugal, but yet another bureaucrat was hired; does the Board have hiring authority; and The Acorn editorial on 02/09/12 regarding consideration of public input before making decisions.

Board comments included AMR/AMI is a useful tool in detecting leaks and saves money; staff was previously directed to create an opt-out program for all customers, which would include a

"no leak adjustment" provision for those opting out; and the Board does approve staffing during the budgeting process.

## 4. ILLUSTRATIVE AND/OR VERBAL PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEMS

A Recognition Proclamation: Woody Smeck - Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

President Renger presented Woody Smeck with a proclamation of appreciation related to his service with Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

B 25-Year Service Award: Glen Peterson

President Renger presented Director Peterson with a certificate in recognition of his 25 years of service.

#### **C** 1-Year Service Award: Barry Steinhardt

President Renger presented Director Steinhardt with a certificate in recognition of his one year of service.

**D** 15-Year Service Award: John Mundy

President Renger presented General Manager Mundy with a certificate in recognition of his 15 years of service.

**E** Legislative and Regulatory Updates

Public Affairs and Communications Manager Reinhardt provided an update of legislative activities including the water bond; ACWA and MWD Legislative Committees are working on the water bond, which has no direct effect on Delta issues; potential use of water bond money for recycled water storage; and requested direction as to Las Virgenes' involvement in the water bond process (Director Peterson recommended contacting ACWA Executive Director, Tim Quinn as to how to proceed). Board comments included, the public needs to be educated on the water bond issue and to provide a projection of staff time required for participation in the process.

# 5. <u>CONSENT CALENDAR</u>

On a motion by Director Joseph Bowman, seconded by Director Glen Peterson, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to Approve Consent Calendar 5A-5C as presented in the recommendations. AYES: Director(s) Bowman, Caspary, Peterson, Renger, Steinhardt

AYES: Director(s) Bowman , Caspary , Peterson , Renger , Steinnard

- A Minutes: Regular Meeting of January 10, 2012. <u>Approve</u>
- B List of Demands: February 14, 2012. <u>Approve</u>
- C Directors' Per Diem: January 2012. Ratify

### 6. <u>TREASURER</u>

Treasurer Steinhardt stated he reviewed the payables and all were in order.

# 7. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A LAFCO BALLOT: Special District Representative

The Board of Directors to vote for one candidate to serve as Special District LAFCO

Representative (Donald L. Dear, Dr. James Lawson or Lynne Plambeck); and authorize the General Manager to execute the official voting ballot on behalf of Las Virgenes MWD no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2012.

On a motion by Director Charles Caspary, seconded by Director Lee Renger, the Board of Directors voted 5-0 to Approve casting of the District's vote for Donald Dear and authorizing General Manager Mundy to execute said ballot. AYES: Director(s) Bowman, Caspary, Peterson, Renger, Steinhardt

#### 8. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

**A** Review of Investment Policy

Reaffirm the Investment Policy for 2012.

Director of Finance and Administration Hicks stated she is not recommending any changes to the existing investment policy.

Board and staff discussed pursuing additional investment options such as Blue Chip stocks, which are allowed by state law, but carry greater risks than current approved investment options. Board comments included add Blue Chip stocks to the policy given certain criteria; is there insurance on the stocks; do not change the policy until there is more information on the risks and if approved, place a cap on the dollar amount purchased.

### 9. RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

#### A Public Outreach Consultant

Discuss the request and provide direction to staff.

General Manager Mundy stated this item was brought forward at the request of Director Bowman. Director Bowman recommended input from a professional public outreach consultant; consultant to work directly for the Board; staff to initiate a scope of work to be reviewed and approved by the Board; consultant to interview Board and key staff separately for input; Request for Proposal to 3-5 qualified consultants; and heard very positive comments from other agencies at the recent Urban Water Institute Conference he attended in regards to the success of outreach consultants; and also requested a review of staff time spent on responding to public inquiries. Three major issues the District must prepare to respond to include (1) construction of the 5-mil tank; (2) rates and (3) water bond.

Additional Board comments - they would like to see a list of the agencies who used a public outreach consultant and what changes were made; and a customer survey would be valuable to gauge overall customer satisfaction.

An official vote of the Board was not taken; President Renger directed staff to develop a customer satisfaction survey.

#### 10. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A Organization Reports(1) MWDa. Representative Report/Agenda(s); (2)Other

(1) MWD Representative Peterson reported on general business of the Metropolitan Water District including budget workshop discussing a variety of rate increase options; good numbers in aqueduct; decrease in State Water Project water; guidelines for Diamond Valley Lake development; percolation ponds at Jensen Treatment Plant; and feeder shutdown. (2) None.

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

Directors Bowman and Steinhardt reported on their attendance at the Urban Water Institute's Spring Conference discussions included rates and how to strive for stability; teach conservation; educate customers on where water comes from, how it gets here, the costs of regulations; outreach to cities and homeowners associations; increase meter charges; cover costs in an equitable manner; explain the need for large capital projects; and the unrealistic cost of pensions for retirees.

#### **C** General Manager Reports

General Manager Mundy provided an update on general business of the District including the upcoming Action Plan/GM Review Workshop on February 21st; the treatment plant is on-line due to the Metropolitan shutdown, which began on February 13th; AMR/AMI petitions (16 total received 10 customers and 6 non-customers); and reported on a meeting held by City of Westlake Village's Environmental Committee on February 13th, which he and Director Bowman attended, and agreed to provide the city with quarterly updates in regards to projects of mutual interest. Councilperson Rutherford would like an access route for the 5-mil tank through Upper Terrace and for Las Virgenes to provide the homeowners association with a meter to irrigate slopes in the development.

Director Bowman requested a cursory review of this option and President Renger would like to see the costs for the alternate access analysis.

**D** Director's Comments

Director Steinhardt thanked Messieurs Lippman and Miller for taking him and Hugo's Restaurant owner/docent Tom Kaplan on a tour to assist with resolving sewer manhole odors around the area of Tapia Park. Director Caspary stated he would be attending the upcoming City of Hidden Hills meeting during which the Long Valley Road pipeline replacement project would be discussed.

#### 11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

#### 12. CLOSED SESSION

The meeting adjourned into Break at 6:58 p.m. and reconvened into Closed Session at 7:05 p.m.

# A Conference with District Counsel - Existing Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(a)):

- 1. Weber v. Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- B Conference with District Counsel Property Lease (Government Code Section 54956.8):
  - 1. Millgee Investment Company, Inc.

#### 13. OPEN SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

At 7:15 p.m. the Closed Session meeting adjourned into Open Session; and the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

LEE RENGER, President Board of Directors Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

ATTEST:

CHARLES CASPARY, Secretary Board of Directors Las Virgenes Municipal Water District

(SEAL)