

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE PICO WATER DISTRICT

A Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pico Water District was held in the District's Boardroom located at 4843 South Church Street, Pico Rivera, California, on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 6:01 p.m.

President Gonzales welcomed Pico Water District's newest Director, Raymond Rodriguez. The General Manager added that Director Rodriguez was sworn in on February 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

The District's Secretary/General Manager, Mr. Mark J. Grajeda proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting were President David R. Gonzales, while Director Pete Ramirez, Director Robert Martinez, and Vice President Victor Caballero participated telephonically, in adherence to social distancing. Director Raymond Rodriguez and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District participated electronically.

President Gonzales presided over the meeting and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Ramirez gave the invocation.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. There were none.

President Gonzales proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director Martinez made the motion to adopt the Agenda and President Gonzales seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Gonzales proceeded to the approval of the Consent Calendar. Director Martinez made the motion to approve Item 6A and Director Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4-0-1, with Director Rodriguez abstaining. Director Martinez then made a motion to approve Consent items B, C, and D and Director Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, discuss sending a letter to Senator Bob Archuleta. Director Martinez stated he is aware that two letters were sent to Senator Archuleta previously and he would like to continue to pursue additional funding. He would like for the Board members to look at the master plan to decide on possibly a pipeline or valve project and request approximately \$2 or \$3 million from the legislator, prepare a letter to that effect, move forward and cross our fingers. President Gonzales stated that the District needs approximately \$700 thousand to finish the installation of AMR meters, this could be Plan "A" and Plan "B". The General Manager informed the Board that he received a call from Mr. Don Wilcox, Chief of Staff for Senator Archuleta in Sacramento. He relayed that this year's budget is looking better than last year's and believes there may be some funds there for us to apply for. He asked that we be reasonable with our requests meaning that we focus more specifically on what project we would

like to fund. They also discussed types of funding available. He also would like to, with the Board's permission, continue the communication with Mr. Wilcox to work together to craft the District's request for funding to fit the requirements needed to access the funding. Mr. Kyle Miller, a member of Senator Archuleta's staff, was also on the call and stated that he was aware that the General Manager had been in contact with Mr. Wilcox.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's report. J. DeSigio has completed all installation work of the mainline in Beverly Boulevard, Acacia, and Rosemead. Lines have been pressure tested, chlorinated, Bac-T samples have come back negative and the lines have been energized. All services should be converted to the new line by the end of the month. By the first week of March they should be completely done in Beverly and Rosemead Boulevards; J DeSigio has moved on to the Layman project, it is about 60 to 70% done and should be pressurized and chlorinated next week, and fully loaded and ready to go by the end of the month or first part of March; after the completion of those projects we will be looking at Stephens Street and then slowing down a bit to review our financial situation in terms of CIP projects, look at the work to pull Well 4 and install treatment for Wells 5, 8 and 11 and where we stand with WRD. With regard to Stephens Street, we have given plan specs to Riverside Construction but have not received a proposal back yet. The General Manager addressed questions regarding "potholing" and the Green Book at the Board Meeting on February 3, 2021 and reviewed how it is covered in contract documents for the District.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel report. Legal Counsel commented further on the questions also raised at the February 3, 2021 Board Meeting regarding competitive bidding. He stated he looked at the Public Contracts Code and the chapter in question is the Local Agency Public Construction Act which requires competitive bidding, and calls out a list of entities that are required to follow it this competitive bidding process, however County Water Districts are not required to follow this bidding process and Pico Water District is a County Water District and that is why over the years we have taken the position that it does not apply to the District; the Covid-19 vaccine, water and wastewater workers are in the next tier to be eligible to vaccinate; the Legislature has passed SB 91 which determines how the Federal Covid-19 relief monies to the states for rent and utilities payment and is more focused on landlords and the rent relief side works and has very little detail on how utility payments will be handled; the Legislature deadline for new bills is February 19, 2021.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director's request for future agenda items. There were none.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director report on meetings attended. There were none.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director comments. Director Ramirez welcomed Director Rodriguez to the Board. Director Rodriguez thanked everyone for putting their confidence in him and expressed his respect for the members, their opinions, experience, and tenure and looks forward to working together. Directors Martinez, Caballero and President Gonzales all reiterated the same sentiments in welcoming Director Rodriguez.

The Board retreated to closed session at 6:47 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Legal Counsel announced that the Board was briefed regarding anticipation of litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(4), on one case. Legal Counsel reported the Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances of those cases and no reportable action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

  
David R. Gonzales, President

Attest:

  
Mark J. Grajeda, Secretary

(Seal)

