

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

A Special 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, April 8, 2021 at 6:00 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 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. Due to technical issues with the Zoom Meeting, Director Martinez was initially listed as absent, however later in the meeting he stated that for the record he had responded during the call and was muted. Two members of the public were also present.

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

Director Ramirez gave the invocation.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. Ms. Leticia Vasquez Wilson spoke regarding an item that was removed from the Revised Agenda. Mr. Rodolfo Cortes stated he doesn't understand how an item can be removed from an agenda in an effort to comply with the Brown Act.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item, Adoption of Agenda. Director Rodriguez made the motion to adopt and Vice President Caballero seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll call vote, 5 – 0.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Approval of Consent Calendar. Director Ramirez made the motion 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 next item on the Agenda, consider bid proposals for the Stephens Street Water Main Replacement Project. The General Manager reviewed the project with the Board, stating that he had requested a proposal from Riverside Construction as they were currently working in the area on the Durfee Grade Separation, but their proposal was well over the Engineer's Estimate. Staff sent bids to Brkich Construction, Doty Bros. Construction, J DeSigio, Inc., and Dominguez General Engineering, Inc. All bidders were instructed to submit bids for both Ductile Iron Pipe (DIP) and C-900 with the District using the DIP as the base bid. Dominguez was the lowest base bidder at \$196,560.00 and a C-900 bid of \$196,424.00. In an effort to keep costs down, the District will be installing C-900 and will purchase the materials directly. Staff recommendation is to approve Dominguez's bid to install C-900 pipe for a total cost of \$196,424.00, approve Western Water Works' bid to provide all piping materials materials at a cost of \$81,770.07 and direct the General Manager to execute all required agreements. Funding will

be from the remaining balance of the \$5.2 M IBank loan and the balance from reserves. After a short question and answer Director Robert Martinez made the motion to approve 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, consider bid proposals for the Burma Road Water Main Replacement Project. The General Manager reviewed the project with the Board stating that Staff sent bids to Brkich Construction, Doty Bros. Construction, J DeSigio, Inc., and Dominguez General Engineering, Inc. All bidders were instructed to submit bids for both Ductile Iron Pipe (DIP) and C-900 with the District using the DIP as the base bid. Dominguez was the lowest base bidder at \$108,180.00 and a C-900 bid of \$107,432.00. In an effort to keep costs down, the District will be installing C-900 and will purchase the materials directly. Staff recommendation is to approve Dominguez's bid to install C-900 pipe for a total cost of \$107,432, approve S & J Supply's bid to provide all piping materials at a cost of \$59,871.64 and direct the General Manager to execute all required agreements. Funding will be from reserves and the General Manager asked that before signing an agreement with Dominguez for this project that he be allowed a couple of weeks to determine what the total amount from IBank will be so that there will be an accurate accounting as to what is needed from reserves. After a short question and answer Vice President Caballero made the motion to approve and Director Martinez 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, consider bid proposal for the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and America's Water Infrastructure Act – Risk and Resilience Assessment Report and Emergency Response Plan. The General Manager reviewed with the Board the requirements for the UWMP and explained in 2018 the America's Water Infrastructure Act requires that a Risk and Resilience Assessment and Emergency Response Plan be submitted as well. Requests for proposals were sent to CivilTec Engineering, Risk Management Professionals and Stetson Engineering. Stetson Engineering had the only response to our request, with a not-to-exceed cost of \$63,300. Staff budgeted \$50,000 for these reports and will need to access reserves for additional costs if required. Director Martinez made the motion to approve the not-to-exceed \$63,300 proposal from Stetson Engineering, Inc. 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 next item on the Agenda, discuss potential funding options from Senator Bob Archuleta's Office. The General Manager gave an update on the subject matter stating that he is waiting to hear back from Senator Archuleta's Chief of Staff, Don Wilcox, and will give an additional update to the Board once he speaks with him. He also mentioned that there is talk that Assemblywoman Christina Garcia did a budget-ask for funds to assist water districts throughout the state with funding requests.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager comments. The General Manager reported that based on the action of the Board at the March 25, 2021 Special Meeting the agreements for the purchase of PFAS/PFOA treatment vessels have been signed and the order has been placed with an expected delivery date in September 2021. There is work at the wells that needs to be done to ensure that production can be maintained once the treatment vessels are installed as they will place additional back-pressure on the wells. The General Manager responded to the statement made by Ms. Leticia Vasquez in Public Comments, clarifying that

neither he nor Legal Counsel chose to place a matter on the District's Agenda regarding a member of the Central Basin Municipal Water District's (CBMWD) Board of Directors. He further stated that he did inform CBMWD that the District also had seen a video presented by Ms. Vasquez regarding the Pico Water District. In response to this information the President of the CBMWD Board, Arturo Chacon, responded by letter which was read into the record and attached hereto as part of the minutes.

President Gonzales proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel comments. Legal Counsel thanked the General Manager for his statement and further stated that he has spent a long time in his career building a positive reputation and he does not appreciate comments that are not truthful, attacking him for something he had nothing to do with. He attended an AQMD Seminar regarding the use of emergency generators during power shutoffs. They are moving forward with rulemaking regarding generator usage because of a public power safety shutoff; AB 1195 – Assemblywoman Garcia's bill creating a new water agency as a supervisorial entity over water purveyors has been amended and is problematic as presented.

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, Board Member Comments. Director Ramirez stated he attended the PFAS meeting at the Water Replenishment District and found it very informative. President Gonzales stated that he too attended the WRD meeting and stated that Edward Estrada from Christina Garcia's office also spoke regarding the \$100M for the state water entities. Director Rodriguez attended the WRD meeting as well, he stated that he is glad that the District is taking preventative measures to combat the PFAS issue and found it very informative as to the number of items we come in contact with in our daily lives that contain these chemicals.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David R. Gonzales, President

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark J. Grajeda, Secretary

(Seal)





**Central Basin**  
Municipal Water District

6252 Telegraph Road  
Commerce, CA 90040-2512  
Telephone: (323) 201-5500  
www.centralbasin.org

April 7, 2021

**Board of Directors**

**Division I**

Martha Camacho-Rodríguez

**Division II**

Robert Apodaca

**Division III**

Arturo Chacon

**Division IV**

Leticia Vasquez-Wilson

**Division V**

Phillip D. Hawkins

**Director at Large**

Noe Negrete

**Director at Large**

Monica Heredia

**Director at Large**

Michael Gualtieri

**General Manager**

Dr. Alejandro Rojas

Mark Grajeda  
General Manager  
Pico Water District  
4843 S. Church Street  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660-0758

Re: Unauthorized Video

Dear Mr. Grajeda:

As Chair of the Board of the Central Basin Municipal Water District I and my colleagues are deeply concerned over a recent discovery of a disingenuous video posted by board member Leticia Vasquez-Wilson regarding the quality of water in the Pico Water District. It is unfortunate that Ms. Vasquez arbitrarily posted this video independently without review or approval by the board or staff of the District.

We have asked our general counsel to review the video and want to state unequivocally that we do not condone, approve or support Ms. Vasquez-Wilson's decision to publish the video.

For the record, the Central Basin Municipal Water District values the Pico Water District as a customer, and we believe they are in full compliance with the established state drinking water quality standards.

The Central Basin Municipal Water District was established to protect groundwater resources by providing imported water as a source of replenishment and as a supplemental water resource for our service area.

We are committed to work with our customers on local resource development, expansion of recycled water, improving imported water access across our service area and providing secondary support for groundwater treatment if/when necessary.

Sincerely,

Art Chacon  
Board President

**Serving the Cities of**

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Artesia          | La Mirada        |
| Bell             | Lynwood          |
| Bellflower       | Maywood          |
| Bell Gardens     | Montebello       |
| Carson           | Monterey Park    |
| Cerritos         | Norwalk          |
| Commerce         | Paramount        |
| Compton          | Pico Rivera      |
| Cudahy           | Santa Fe Springs |
| Downey           | Signal Hill      |
| Hawaiian Gardens | South Gate       |
| Huntington Park  | Whittier         |
| La Habra Heights | Vernon           |
| Lakewood         |                  |

**and Unincorporated Areas  
of Los Angeles County**