



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, April 6, 2022 at 5:32 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 was President Pete Ramirez. Director Robert Martinez, Director David Gonzales, Director Victor Caballero and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez participated telephonically, in adherence with social distancing. Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District participated electronically via Zoom.

Vice President Rodriguez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Caballero gave the invocation.

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

President Ramirez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Vice President Rodriguez made the motion to approve the agenda and Director Martinez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by a roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Director Gonzales made the motion to approve items A and C and Director Martinez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0. Then Director Gonzales made a motion to approve item B and Director Caballero seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll-call vote 4 – 0 – 1, with Director Martinez abstaining as he was not present at the March 16, 2022 Board meeting.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consider Surplus Water Rights Lease Agreement Between Pico Water District and the Virginia Country Club for Water Year 2021/2022. The General Manager reviewed his staff report with the Board. Director Martinez made the motion to approve the Water Lease Agreement and allow the General Manager to sign all pertinent documents required. Vice President Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consider Candidates Running to Fill Open Seats on the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO): One Voting Member Seat and One Alternate Member Seat. The General Manager reviewed the staff report with the Board regarding LAFCO's formation, their role and the candidates vying for the positions. After a brief discussion, Director Gonzales made the motion to recommend E.G. "Jerry" Gladbach for the Voting Member Seat and Director Martinez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll call vote, 5 – 0. Vice President Rodriguez made the motion to recommend Melvin L. Matthews for the Alternate Member seat and Director Martinez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, discuss Recent Action by Governor Newsom on Drought Conditions. The General Manager discussed Executive Order #N-7-22 (Order) directing the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to take specific action by May 25, 2022 which will directly impact the District. Legal Counsel reviewed the matter with the Board stating currently there is nothing in the Order that will impact the District directly but should the SWRCB adopt the actions requested, it would place the state in a Level 2 in our Water Shortage Contingency Plan that equates to a 20% reduction in usage. There is a call for districts to go to a 30% reduction in usage but this is strictly voluntary at this time.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, discuss Board Procedure to Review New General Manager Candidates. The General Manager informed the Board that the advertisement for the General Manager position closes on April 7, 2022. Currently there are 8 applicants who have responded. The General Manager has planned to copy all applications and submit them to the Board for review no later than Tuesday, April 12, 2022. Legal Counsel suggested that he and the General Manager work together to format a ranking system based on the job description and then the Board review the candidates and rank according to that system.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager Report. There was no report. Director Caballero inquired about a proposed project at Durfee Avenue and Stephens Street. The General Manager stated that he has provided information regarding the lines and the capacity charge that is required. The Board held a brief discussion regarding the project.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel stated regarding SB 1124 the bill sponsored by Central Basin Municipal Water District (CBMWD) allowing reservation of funds from the safer fund from the State Board and have them dedicated to southeast LA County. This bill has been gutted and amended and now relates to manganese requiring the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to adopt a public health goal and the SWRCB to adopt an MCL as well; SB 1157 would potentially change water use standards to 47 gal/person/day effective January 1, 2025 and 42 gal/person/day effective January 1, 2030, ACWA is making proposed amendments to leave the 2025 standard in place but to conduct an exhaustive economic study to be conducted between 2025 and 2030 to come up with a standard to help understand the impact of reducing the standard.


President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director's Request of Future Agenda Items. There were none.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. There were none.

The Board retreated to Closed Session at 6:32 p.m. regarding conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.

The Board reconvened at 6:25 p.m. Legal Counsel reported that closed session was held regarding anticipated litigation under Government Code section 54956.9 paragraph (4) subdivision (d) the Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances of that case and no reportable action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.


Elpidio Ramirez, President

Attest:


Mark J. Grajeda, Secretary

(Seal)

