



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, July 6, 2022 at 5:28 p.m.

The District's General Manager, Mr. Joe Basulto proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting was Director David Gonzales, Director Victor Caballero, Vice President Raymond Rodriguez and President Pete Ramirez. Director Robert Martinez participated telephonically in adherence with social distancing and joined the meeting at approximately 5:31 p.m. Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District was also present

Director Gonzales led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Caballero gave the invocation. The Board held a moment of silence for those who were killed on the 4th of July in Highland Park, Illinois.

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

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

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Vice President Rodriguez made the motion to approve and Director Caballero seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll call vote, 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consider Board Approval of Resolution 232-R proclaiming a State of Emergency persists, re-ratifying the proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Gavin Newsom, and authorizing continued remote teleconference meetings. Director Gonzalez made the motion to approve and 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 Board Approval of Employment Contract ("Contract") with Joe Basulto as General Manager of Pico Water District.

President Ramirez inquired of Legal Counsel whether the Board could make changes to the Contract. Legal Counsel informed the Board that the General Manager had approved the draft Contract with no noted changes and would need to agree to any changes made going forward. President Ramirez stated that the Board would like to have quarterly evaluations of the General Manager in the first year so they can assist him in anything that he made as he is new to the position. After discussion the Board proposed the following:

1. Quarterly Performance Reviews for the first year scheduled for October 2022, January 2023, and April 2023 to discuss job performance, what assistance the Board can give, what criticisms if any to help him, the intention is not to punish but to make the job a little easier with a job evaluation to be completed in July 2023.
2. For the time being the General Manager will continue to use a District vehicle, foregoing the \$500 per month car allowance, until such time that various staffing changes are implemented at the District.
3. The General Manager job description identified as Exhibit A may be revised without amending the Contract.
4. Evaluations shall be done by the entire Board.
5. General Manager shall maintain his current cell phone and the District shall continue to pay for the service.

Director Gonzales made a motion to approve the General Manager's Contract with the amendments discussed and agreed upon and seconded by Vice President Rodriguez. The General Manager announced the motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consider appointment of New Board Secretary. Director Martinez made the motion to appoint the General Manager as the Board Secretary effective retroactively to July 1, 2022 and Director Gonzales seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by a vote of 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager Report. The General Manager updated the Board on Well #8 Discharge Line – Dominguez Engineering just received the material and should be able to start within the next couple of weeks; Well #11 PFAS Treatment facility – RC Foster is still obtaining material and finishing other jobs and should start sometime in August; Well #8 Variable Speed Drive – is 12 years old and will need to be replaced, staff is currently getting proposals and will be brought to the Board at the next meeting; Well #11 Fencing – wrought iron is currently being fabricated and should be installed at the end of this month; held both individual and a group meeting with all staff to discuss the District's Mission Statement what is expected of them, what they can expect from the General Manager, working together as a team to keep moving the District forward. All meetings went very well and staff is looking forward to moving forward as a District. The importance of training was stressed and currently office staff will be attending training in August to better understand and accelerate the many options the District has with Neptune 360, the meter reading platform that billing is based on; Field Superintendent position – plans are set to fly the job opening information in the next week; Attendance at Additional Meetings – please contact the Treasurer with the information regarding meetings attended so she can get them in the queue for payment. President Ramirez inquired as to the amount of money paid out to the General Manager for sick leave and vacation.

President Ramirez inquired if the General Manager had considered part-time help to assist the front office.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel reported SB 222 – Low Income Rate Assistance – sat dormant since last fall, amendments have been made to it and it has been reinvigorated currently sitting in the Assembly. They still have not identified a funding source. Legal Counsel will keep the Board apprised of its status.

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. President Ramirez commented on the upcoming Water Education for Latino Leaders Workshop scheduled for July 23, 2022 and also stated he attended Central Basin Municipal Water District Board Meeting.

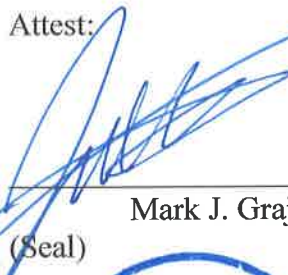
The Board retreated to Closed Session at 6:28 p.m. regarding two matters.

The Board reconvened at 6:42 p.m. Legal Counsel reported that closed session was held regarding two matters of anticipated litigation under Government Code section 54956.9 paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) the Board was briefed on the status of the cases and no reportable action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.


Elpidio Ramirez, President

Attest:



Mark J. Grajeda, Secretary

(Seal)

