



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, September 21, 2022 at 5:30 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 Robert Martinez, Director David Gonzales, Director Victor Caballero, Vice President Raymond Rodriguez and President Pete Ramirez. Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District was also present via Zoom.

President Ramirez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Caballero gave the invocation. The Board held a moment of silence for Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of England.

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 Caballero made the motion to approve the agenda and Vice President Rodriguez 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. Director Gonzales 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 CIP Project Replacement of Service Lines at 9502, 9508, 9536 and 9542 Havenwood Street by J. DeSigio Construction, Inc. at a cost of \$16,200. The General Manager reviewed his staff report with the Board. Staff solicited bids from 3 contractors, J. Desigio, Doty Bros. Construction and Dominguez General Engineering and received bids from Desigio and Doty Bros. After a brief discussion Director Gonzales made the motion to approve the proposal from J. DeSigio in the amount of \$16, 200 and the motion was seconded by Vice President Rodriguez. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote 5 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consideration of Possible Disciplinary Action against Director David Gonzales. President Ramirez made the motion that the Board of Directors issue a formal warning and reprimand to Director David Gonzales regarding his conduct of contacting a District employee during an ongoing personnel investigation and Vice President Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0 – 1, with Director Gonzales abstaining.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager Report. The General Manager informed the Board on Monday, September 26, 2022 two new employees will start as Water Maintenance I workers for the District; Five interviews have been scheduled for the Field Superintendent position beginning on September 22 and end on September 29, 2022; President Ramirez has asked that the General Manager gather information for an employee appreciation event and it will be presented at the next meeting. President Ramirez stated that he has suggested to the General Manager that the Board of Directors pay their own tab for this event. Director Martinez inquired regarding the WRD PFAS Remediation Program and the status of the project and reimbursements from WRD. The General Manager reported that the R.C. Foster is mobilizing and no invoices for reimbursement have been submitted as yet.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel reported that Governor Newsom signed AB 2449 into law that amends the Brown Act to allow for additional teleconferencing by Board participants without posting their location under two limitations, just cause – for child care or caregiver requirement for a close relative issues, contagious illness limiting attendance, need related to a mental or physical disability, travel while on official business for the agency or another state or local agency, or an emergency circumstance – a physical or family medical emergency. A director would only be allowed to use a just cause reason twice in a calendar year and vacations are not considered just cause. Legal Counsel is preparing a memorandum on this information for the Public Waters Agency Group that the General Manager can forward to the Board; still going through a lot of bills, Governor Newsom has not vetoed or signed a lot of them so there still is action happening on various bills.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager reported that since we implemented our water reduction plan our water production for June, July and August – typically our biggest months, are the lowest they have ever been. Customers are adhering to the restrictions and staff has been doing a great job notifying customers of leaks and violations. Field staff took care of service and meter leaks, activity is low regarding doing replacements but the General Manager sees that to increase with new staff members coming in.

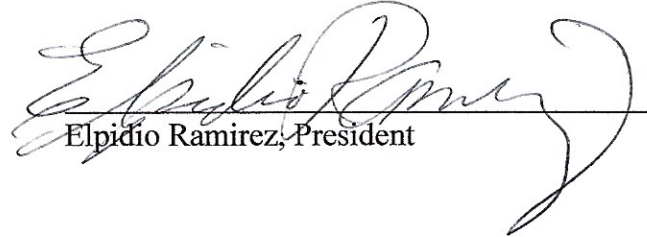
President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director's Request of Future Agenda Items. President Ramirez stated that the Employee Appreciation event will be on the next agenda as an action item.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. Director Gonzales stated that the Pico Rivera Chamber of Commerce is having a networking luncheon at the Salsa Grill on Rosemead Boulevard on Tuesday, September 27, 2022. President Ramirez stated he attended the WRD CIP meeting.


The Board retreated to Closed Session at 6:10 p.m. regarding one matter.

The Board reconvened at 6:12 p.m. Legal Counsel reported that closed session was held regarding one case of anticipated litigation under Government Code section 54956.9 paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) the Board was briefed on the current status of that item and no reportable action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.


Elpidio Ramirez, President

Attest:


Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

