



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, October 18, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The District's General Manager, Mr. Joe D. Basulto proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting was, Director David Angelo, Director Victor Caballero, Director David Gonzales, President Pete Ramirez and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District. Vice President Raymond Rodriguez was absent.

President Pete Ramirez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Victor Caballero gave the invocation.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. No public comments at the time.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director Victor Caballero made the motion to adopt and Director David Gonzales seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Director David Angelo made the motion to adopt and President Pete Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4–0.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. The General Manager discussed item 7A. Consider Board Approval of District Holiday Schedule for the months of November and December 2023. There are two holidays that are in conflict with the Districts work schedule, Veterans day and Day after Thanksgiving Floating Holiday, he stated his proposal for the week of Christmas, The office will be open 2 days the week of the 25th, Closed to Observe Christmas day Monday December 25th and open with half-staff on December 26 & 27 to observe Veterans Day and closed on December 28 to observe Day after Thanksgiving Floating Holiday. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4–0. The General Manager moved on to the next discussion item, 7B. Consider Board Approval of Employee Appreciation Event on December 21, 2023. Director David Angelo made the motion to adopt and Director David Gonzales seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4–0. The next action/ discussion, 7C.

Discussion on State Water Resources Control Board Water Use Efficiency proposed regulatory framework on “Making Conservation a California Way of Life.” The General Manager discussed the new water conservation regulations that are trying to be implemented for water agencies by the legislators. This will call for water agencies to raise their water rates higher, which will go back to the rate payers. The regulations are still being adopted for how they will be implemented. This new regulation will impact the district and force to cut back water usage for conservation. It will also limit water irrigation and restricts water suppliers. There was a discussion held about the conversation of water for Pico Water District customers with the General Manager, Legal Counsel and Board Members.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager’s Report. The General Manager reported that the office staff is currently starting the billing period and the field staff has starting meter reading for the month of November 2023. The General Manager also introduced the new Office Manager, Tomas Rivera, for the Pico Water District. The General Manager also reviewed the financial outlook with Eide Bailey, he will be moving the infrastructure account to a money market account to get some high interest rate. The infrastructure account is what is used to pay back the iBank loan. Thirty-three to thirty-five thousand dollars a month would be deposited in that money market account with Five Star Bank. The General Manager has had a meeting regarding the yearly audit and the water rate study. On Monday, October 16, 2023, the General Manager and Director of Operations were able to attend an annual meeting at CWSA. The meeting addressed issues such PFAS, affordable water with the upcoming restrictions, etc.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa reported that the deadline for Governor Newson to act on legislation ended on October 14, 2023. Legal Counsel is in the process of going through the actions that Governor Newson took on varies bills, some were vetoed and some were passed. There is a bill that will have to be discussed as it may impact the water rates.

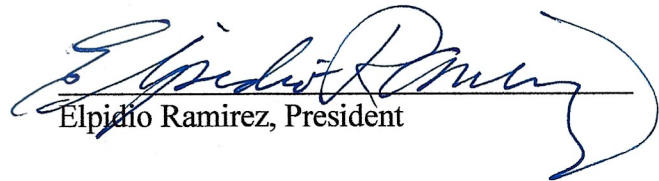
President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager reported on the PFAS Project, the contractor RC Foster, finished the above ground piping for well #5. Painters are being scheduled to come paint the pipes and do touch-ups and RC Foster should be done by Mid-to late November. The General Manager is currently waiting on the permit to be approved and amended for operations and did receive comments back regarding the operational plan for Well #11. Regarding the water levels, levels are doing well and nothing bad to report. The Director of Operations, Matt Tryon, gave report on the Activity of the Field and the Monthly Production of the Districts Groundwater Wells. Mr. Matt Tryon also gave a brief report on the Dig Alert service alerts for the month.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Future Agenda Items. There were none at this time.

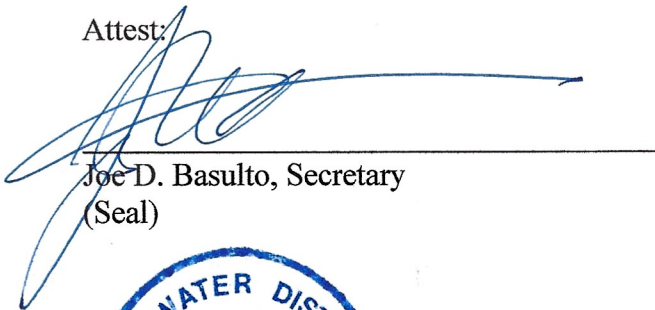
President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. There were no comments.

President Pete Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. Closed session began at 6:29 p.m. and ended at 6:57 p.m. Closed session was held under item 12. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation, Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1): Pico Water District v. City of Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22NWCV00967. The Board was briefed on the facts and circumstances in current status of that matter and no report or action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Next Meeting to be held on November 1, 2023 at 5:30pm.


Elpidio Ramirez, President

Attest:


Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

