



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 Thursday, January 17, 2024 at 6:00 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 were Director David Gonzales, Director Pete Ramirez, Vice President Victor Caballero, President Raymond Rodriguez and Mr. Reid Miller, Legal Counsel for the District. Director David Angelo was not in attendance for the meeting.

Director Pete Ramirez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and Vice President Victor Caballero gave the invocation.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. Chris Magdosku, property owner of 4757 Walnut Ave., Pico Rivera, CA 90660, commented on Pico Water District office staff. He stated he was thankful for office staff's assistance with his property when squatters were attempting to put water in their name. Office staff pulled the meter from property and have checked the property's meter box to ensure squatters have not tampered with the line to have water provided to the property. He briefly gave a summary of his family and the property, which was bought back in 1946.

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

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to approval of adoption of Agenda. President Raymond Rodriguez 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 Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar, consisting of the minutes from the January 10 Regular Board Meeting, the accounts now due and payable and bills approved by the General Manager through November 30, 2023, and the District's November 2023 financial statements. Vice President Victor Caballero made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented and President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4–0.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Item A. Discussion Item: Pico Water District water meters presentation by Ferguson Waterworks / Neptune Technology Group. Presentation was made by Adam Milauskas who demonstrated how the Neptune e-coder meters function and the benefits of installing these smart meters as they record a running 3-month monitoring of water usage every 15 minutes, known as a data log. Also, Mr. Milauskas displayed new ultra sonic meters, known as the Mach 10 meters, which have no moving parts and are capable of capture very low to high usage.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The General Manager reported that field staff completed the monthly meter reading and all follow up re-read reports. These reports have been completed and submitted to the billing clerk for processing. Billing is scheduled to be completed the following week. No major leaks, only minor meter leaks have been found. For the PFAS project update, the District is still waiting on pending permits from the Division of Drinking Water of the State Water Board. The General Manger and Director of Operations, Matt Tryon, did a tour of the pumping plants and recycled water system at Central Basin Municipal Water District. The General Manager will follow up with the state engineer about where their process is at with the project. The PFAS resin will take 3-4 weeks to be delivered and installed and originally it was 8 weeks. Tomorrow, January 18, 2024, will be the Public Community Outreach, where the General Manager will be doing a PowerPoint presentation at the Pico Park Community Center, to begin at 5:30pm. It will be a special meeting for the Board of Directors and the same process as regular meetings. The Public Hearing on the proposed rate increase will be on February 15, 2024 at Pico Park Community Center as well.

On Tuesday, January 16, the General Manager at the City of Pico Rivera's request had a meeting with the City Manager Steve Carmona and Assistant City Manager Angelina Garcia, they were concerned about the percentage of the District raising the rates and how it is happening quickly, and how the reserve targets were set. The General Manager advised them on why the District is taking that approach and the reasoning behind the proposed water rate increase. The City Manager advised the General Manager that he will talk to the City Council to discuss the City's course of action.

Also, the Board of Directors and the General Manager briefly discussed the squatter situation at 4757 Walnut Ave., Pico Rivera, CA 90660.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Reid Miller reported on the closed session will be moved to the next Regular Board meeting, February 7, 2024. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa and Matt Pero will give an update at that meeting about the litigation with the City of Pico Rivera and regarding the mandatory settlement conference which is on February 15, 2024.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager reported on information items, Reservoir levels are mid-to-high throughout the state from the last report taken on January 10, 2024. The water levels continue to recharge and are not showing any drastic drawdowns. Well #4 stands at 45 ft, well #5 at 82 ft, well #8 at 69 ft, well #10 at 42ft and well #11 at 89ft for December report for the wells.

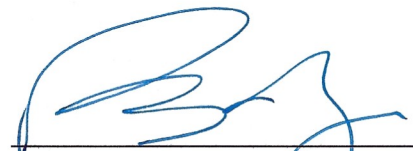
The Monthly Activity report and production was given by General Manager, Joe Basulto. In December, there was one mainline leak, and for the year of 2023 there were 6 mainline leaks in total. There were two service line leaks for the month of December, 2023. There were also 35 leaks for the year of 2023. There were two meter leaks for the month of December and 36 overall for the year of 2023. There were 75 valves exercised, more valves will also be exercised this year. Three hydrants in total were hit in 2023. There were three meter replacements in December, and overall, for the year of 2023, there were 32 meters replaced. Three hundred meters were received in December 2023, and field staff is already working to replace meters. Installation of new service auto were six and there were two replacements for valves for the year. Five hydrants were repaired for the year of 2023. Two new potable services were done for the year and no recycled ones. For the month of December 2023, the field staff responded to 72 dig alerts. For the year of 2023, the field responded to 1,640 dig alerts. The General Manager will be contacting Virginia Country Club regarding leasing of Allowed Pumping Allocation, which is the agreement with them for three years.

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

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. Director Pete Ramirez commented on his recent visit to Central Basin Municipal Water District, its new meeting place, the vague agenda that has been posted and their new attorney.

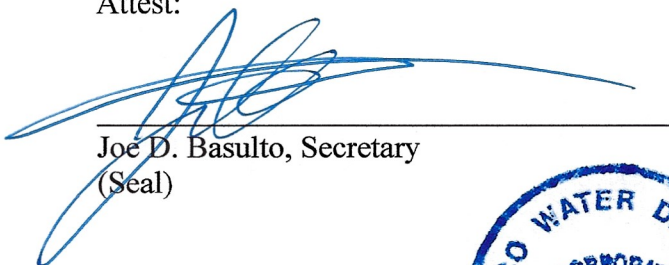
President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. No Closed Session was held.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. Next Regular Board Meeting to be held on February 7, 2024 at 5:30 pm.



Raymond Rodriguez, President

Attest:



Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

