



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 17, 2024 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 David Gonzales, Director Pete Ramirez, President Raymond Rodriguez and Legal Counsel, Matthew Pero was in attendance. Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District was in attendance via Zoom. Vice President Victor Caballero was absent.

President Raymond Rodriguez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and Director David Gonzales gave the invocation.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. There was one another person in attendance, Office Manager Tomas Rivera. There were no public comments.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director Pete Ramirez made the motion to adopt the Agenda as presented and Director David Angelo 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 following items: 6(A): April 03, 2024 Board meeting minutes; 6(B): accounts now due and payable and file bills approved by General Manager – January 2024; 6(C): January 2024 financial statement; 6(D): accounts now due and payable and file bills approved by General Manager – February 2024; and 6(E): February 2024 financial statement. Director David Angelo requested that Item 6(B) be pulled for discussion. Director Pete Ramirez then made the motion to adopt and Director David Gonzales seconded the motion for approval of Consent Calendar Items 6(A), 6(C), 6(D) and 6(E). The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4–0. Director Angelo inquired regarding the amount of the bills listed under Item 6(B) and the General Manager responded those are usual bills. Director David Gonzales made a motion to approve Consent Calendar Item 6(B), 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. Action Item 7A. Consider Board Approval of 2023 Water Rate Study

Supplement Report. The General Manager gave background on this item and explained the Rate Study needed to be supplemented to take into consideration the lower rate increase the Board approved at the public hearing held on February 15, 2024. That action resulted in a 25% initial rate increase being approved instead of the recommended 35% initial increase that was specified in the original Rate Study. The supplement presented at the meeting includes revised financial figures that result from the 25% initial increase. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt the Rate Study Supplement Report and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. Action Item B. Consider Board Nomination; Special District LAFCO Representative. The Board discussed the candidates included in the Board meeting materials. Director David Gonzales made the motion for the District to submit its vote for Vera Robles DeWitt for the Special District LAFCO Representative and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0. The ballot was also submitted the following day by General Manager.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The General Manager reported on the field staff currently working on billing re-reads for the billing month of May 2024. Billing will be complete at the end of next week. Office staff is currently working on implementing the new rate schedule. Inventory inspections have started last month, March, to inspect meter, service lines and customer lines checking for lead. Also being utilized for these inspections is the Geo Viewer module to pinpoint and record results that way. Materials have been ordered for Well # 5. At the next Board meeting there should be status on the material and the status of getting Well #5 back online. The General Manager had a meeting with the engineers regarding Well #11 and permit is currently under review. He also reminded the directors that he would like to receive the funds for the Scholarship by the next board meeting, May 1, 2024. The District's surplus vehicle will be sold at auction on Thursday April 18. As approved at the last Board meeting, the funds from the Cambridge Investments account were withdrawn and an issued check is on its way. The General Manger briefly spoke about an employee who left the District to pursue a different career and congratulated the Office Manger, Tom Rivera, for completing his 6-month probationary period.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa, reported the State Water Board approved the new MCL for Chromium-6. As an update on the PFAS litigation, the court has approved the 3M settlement, that was done at the end of March. The Metropolitan Water District has filed an appeal which as basically stayed all of the claim processing. The environmental counsel still wants the District and the other plaintiffs to proceed in preparing their claims. From a timing standpoint because the settlement is no longer final because of the appeal, basically everything is on hold for the time being until the appeal gets taken care of. There are some preliminary legal issues regarding Metropolitan's ability to file an appeal because it may lack standing to pursue an appeal.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager did not have anything to report on and the directors did not have questions regarding informational items.

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 David Gonzales commented on attending the event at the L.A. County Sanitation District with Director Pete Ramirez. Sean M. McCarthy will be the next keynote speaker at Central Basin Water Association meeting that will be held Thursday, May 2, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. He wanted to encourage the board members to attend the meeting if they are available. Director David Gonzales also wanted to arrange a meeting with the General Manager and Office Manager regarding the DDW operating permit process for the District. Director Pete Ramirez briefly shared an event he attended and kid musicians that played during the event. Director David Angelo commented that he attended a Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, April 15, 2024. It was regarding a gentleman who proposed building 95 townhouses, next to Well #11. Director David Angelo wanted to know how the District was going to handle facilitating this development project. The General Manager stated that he is keeping in contact with the construction development, which is in its beginning stages and have issued the developer the District's new construction procedures and the charges. There were no more comments.

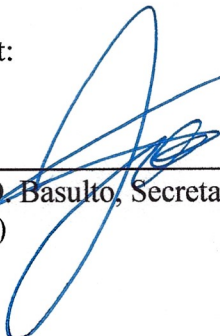
President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. Closed session began at 6:12 p.m. Closed session ended at 6:54. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa reported on the closed session report. The closed session was held under 12A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: Pico Water District v. City of Pico Rivera, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22NWCV00967. 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 6:55 p.m. Next Meeting to be held on May 1, 2024 at 5:30 pm.



Raymond Rodriguez, President

Attest:



Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

