



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, August 7, 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, Vice President Victor Caballero, and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District. President Raymond Rodriguez attended the board meeting via Zoom.

Director David Gonzales led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and Director David Angelo gave the invocation.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. Lee Squire, a resident of the City of Downey, commented on the Central Basin Municipal Water District's investigation of CBMWD General Manager Alex Rojas for fraud. He briefed the board on the facts of this pending investigation and the conclusions he has reached.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director David Gonzales made the motion to adopt the Agenda as presented and Director Pete Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 5 – 0.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Director Pete Ramirez requested to have Item 6B - Consider approval of Board Directors Attendance: Pico Rivera Chamber Event; State of the Nation, featuring Congresswomen Linda Sanchez, pulled from the consent calendar. For Item 6A, Consider approval of July 17, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, Director David Angelo made the motion to approve the July 147, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Director Pete Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that motion passed by roll-call vote, 5–0. There was a brief discussion of Item 6B and Director David Gonzales made the motion to approve directors' attendance at the specified event and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced the roll-call vote, 1-4, not in favor of approval, with Director David Gonzales in favor and President Raymond Rodriguez, Vice President Victor Caballero, Director David Angelo and Director Pete Ramirez opposed.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/ Discussion Items. There were none at this time.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The General Manager reported on the most recent staff meeting for the month and the encouragement management tries to provide to the staff. The General Manager read a quote given by the Office Manager and gave a brief discussion on it. He also reported on having only 2 commercial turn offs for the commercial accounts. One account is still turned off pending receipt of payment and the second account was paid and service was restored. Residential turn offs are scheduled to occur on Monday, August 12, 2024. The General Manager reported there were a few minor water leaks, but no major leaks in the system. For Well #11, the last round of comments was submitted to DDW and the District is now awaiting a response from DDW to move forward with operating the well. Another upcoming project is for El Rancho High School, which is in the process of remodeling the school with a new soccer, football field, etc. The District's contractor was at the school this week installing waterlines for that project, consisting of a fire line, a domestic line, and an irrigation line. The project on Stephens Street by KB Homes is proceeding and a quote was sent for the District's fees and charges related to that project. The quote was for about \$300,000, not including the water installation and piping. A deposit for this project will be given tomorrow so the developer can begin to move forward with the project. The Starbucks project will soon pay the deposit for that project and the District's contractor will be Doty Brothers to install the water lines. On Monday, August 19, two new employees will start for field positions.


Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa, had nothing to report at this time.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director's Request for Future Items, there were none at this time.


Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. Director Pete Ramirez thanked Mr. Lee Squire for informing the Board on the Central Basin Municipal Water District fraud investigation. He also thanked the General Manager and staff for being so kind and helpful at the District's Annual picnic. Vice President Victor Caballero commented on the Board contributing to the Employee Appreciation event in November in appreciation for the employees funding the annual picnic for the District. Director David Gonzales also commented on the board meetings at CBMWD and how unorganized and divided those meetings can be.

Vice President Victor Caballero proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. Closed session began at 6:09 p.m. Closed session ended at 6:35 p.m. Legal Counsel, Jim Ciampa reported on the closed session report. The closed session was held under 11 A. 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. Item 11 B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: City of Pico Rivera v. Pico Water District, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 24NWCPC00165. The Board was updated on the facts and circumstances of those two cases and no reportable action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Next Meeting to be held on August 21, 2024 at 5:30 pm.


Raymond Rodriguez, President

Attest:


Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

