

MINUTES OF STRATEGIC PLAN SPECIAL MEETING WORKSHOP OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, AUGUST 29, 2022:

A Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, August 29, 2022, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District office. President, Gloria Dizmang, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of President Dizmang, Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Gloria Dizmang, President
Vincent Dino, Vice President
Don Wilson, Treasurer
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Secretary
Scott Kellerman, Director

Others Present:

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager
Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager
G. Ross Trindle, General Counsel
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Finance Manager
Angelica Barragan-Garcia, Human Resources Dir.
Chris Bligh, Facilities Manager
Scott Rogers, Engineering Manager
Peter Thompson II, Resource & Analytics Dir.
Mynor Masaya, Operations Manager
Tara Rosati, Customer Care Supervisor
Dr. Bill Mathis, The Mathis Consulting Group
Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant
0 members of the public

3) Adoption of Agenda.

President Dizmang stated that an item arose after the posting of today's agenda and requires action prior to the time of the next Board meeting after which it was moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Director Dino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to add "Agenda Item No. 4.2 - Consideration and possible action on authorizing staff to enter into a contract with ICS for removal of sediment from the Littlerock Reservoir. (\$2.8 million – Budgeted – Engineering Manager Rogers)" to today's agenda as pursuant to

Government Code Section 54954.2(b), this item came to the attention of the District after the agenda was posted, and there is a need to take immediate action on this item:

President Dizmang – aye
Director Dino – aye
Director Wilson – aye
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Director Kellerman – aye

It was then moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Director Kellerman, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as amended, adding Agenda Item No. 4.2:

President Dizmang – aye
Director Dino – aye
Director Wilson – aye
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Director Kellerman – aye

4) Action Items – Action Calendar: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Board of Directors Prior to Action Being Taken.)

4.1) Workshop, Consideration, and Possible Action on Palmdale Water District's 2022 Strategic Plan. (General Manager LaMoreaux/Dr. Bill Mathis, The Mathis Group)

Dr. Bill Mathis, The Mathis Group, reviewed the effect of COVID-19 on agencies, the contract for General Manager LaMoreaux being extended to 2024, the need to complete the evaluation for General Manager LaMoreaux at a special meeting in September to establish specific goals, coordination of projects, if possible, with United Water Conservation District, and staffing levels followed by discussion of internal leadership development, ongoing communication with the Board and more participation from department managers, better defining job descriptions, conducting a job analysis, completing the 2022 salary survey, and a future Workshop to review the District's participation with various JPA's.

At 10:25 a.m., President Dizmang called for a 15-minute recess. She reconvened the Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop at 10:40 a.m.

General Manager LaMoreaux then stated that top projects for the District include repair and maintenance of the 6MG clearwell involving the new booster station, addressing needed repairs for all storage tanks as recommended by a recent assessment, water supply strategies including the removal of sediment from Littlerock Reservoir, development of more options for storing water during wet years for use in dry years and maximizing the use of water from the State Water Project, and the development of the Pure Water AV project for the use of recycled water. Additional projects include reopening the Littlerock Dam area for recreation possibly in 2024 in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the Dam, creating maintenance/replacement programs for the District's infrastructure, the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant and related facilities, and meters similar to the water main replacement program, and offsetting power costs with renewable energy.

Draft updates to the Strategic Plan Initiatives were then discussed for future Board action as follows:

Strategic Initiation No. 1 – Water Resource Reliability:

- Support and participate with local agencies in the development of projects and policies that improve water resources, storage, and reliability
- Continue the Pure Water AV project to maximize state and federal funding opportunities
- Support projects and initiatives that increase the resilience of the State Water Project
- Develop water storage projects for the storage of State Water Project supplies and improve groundwater capture access
- Strengthen stakeholder relationships and implement Littlerock Dam and Reservoir sediment removal

Strategic Initiative No. 2 – Organizational Excellence:

- Offer competitive compensation and benefits package for employee retention
- Focus Succession Planning Program on ensuring an overlap of training for key positions
- Continue providing transparency to our ratepayers through training for the continued achievement of the Districts of Distinction certification

- Encourage cohesiveness, transparency, and integrity within the staff through Codes of Conduct and increased accountability
- Ensure employees are trained on the Strategic Plan and Core Values of Diversity, Integrity, Teamwork, and Passion
- Improve safety for Directors, employees, and customers
- Develop career paths at the District for interns and pursue state and federal funding for intern programs
- Cultivate a positive culture and increase employee engagement

Strategic Initiative No. 3 – Systems Efficiency:

- Explore energy independence and evaluate the feasibility of energy options, including wind and solar
- Incorporate more energy efficient technologies into the District's infrastructure
- Research state-of-the-art treatment techniques to enhance systems efficiency
- Re-evaluate Lake Palmdale by-pass pipeline and pursue funding options
- Improve Palmdale Ditch to reduce water loss

It was then stated that Strategic Initiative No.'s 4, 5, and 6 will be reviewed and refined at the next Strategic Plan Special Meeting Workshop.

4.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorizing Staff to Enter Into a Contract with ICS for Removal of Sediment From the Littlerock Reservoir. (\$2.8 Million – Budgeted – Engineering Manager Rogers)

Engineering Manager Rogers provided an overview of this work and the proposals received after which it was moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Director Dino, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to authorize staff to enter into a Professional Services Contract with ICS for removal of sediment from the Littlerock Reservoir:

President Dizmang – aye
Director Dino – aye
Director Wilson – aye
Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Director Kellerman – aye

5) **Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:56 a.m.


Secretary