

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, DECEMBER 11, 2023:**

*A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District was held Monday, December 11, 2023, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District Office. President, Don Wilson, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**1) Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.**

At the request of President Wilson, Director Dino led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

President Wilson then announced that Director Dizmang is not able to attend the meeting this evening due to her health.

**2) Roll Call.**

**Attendance:**

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

Gloria Dizmang, Assistant Secretary  
--Absent

**Others Present:**

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager  
Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager  
Pam Lee, General Counsel  
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Finance Manager  
Scott Rogers, Engineering Manager  
Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director  
Danielle Henry, Executive Assistant  
4 members of the public

**3) Adoption of Agenda.**

It was 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 written:

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

**4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments.

**5) Presentations:**

**5.1) Dedication of the Palmdale Water District Main Board Room to Dr. Bill Mathis. (Director Dino)**

Director Dino welcomed the attending family members of the late Dr. Bill Mathis and then announced the dedication of the Palmdale Water District Main Board Room to Dr. Bill Mathis and unveiled the Mathis Board Room plaque in honor of his lasting impact through years of consulting services for the District followed by discussion of his invaluable guidance to the Board and the fond memories they shared with him.

At 6:07 p.m., President Wilson called for a short recess. He reconvened the Regular Meeting at 6:23 p.m.

**5.2) State Legislative Summary. (Mr. Robert Reeb, Reeb Government Relations)**

Mr. Robert Reeb, Reeb Government Relations, provided a detailed legislative update including changes in the California State Assembly, Senate and Committees, the State Water Contractors' 2024 priorities and project updates, the Climate Resiliency Bond and importance for the State to increase infrastructure investments, the State Budget, the State Water Resources Control Board and voluntary agreements, Making Conservation a Way of Life regulations, and upcoming elections after which the Board thanked him for his time and the detailed presentation.

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

**6.1) Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held November 27, 2023.**

**6.2) Payment of Bills for November 27, 2023.**

**6.3) Payment of Bills for December 11, 2023.**

**6.4) Approval to Convert Engineering Technician Position to an Engineer Position. (\$56,000.00 – Budgeted – Human Resources Director Garcia/Personnel Committee)**

**6.5) Approval to Convert Part-Time IT Technician Position to a Full-Time IT Help Desk Assistant Position. (\$79,952.25 – Non-Budgeted – Human Resources Director Garcia/Personnel Committee)**

**6.6) Approval to Cancel the Second Regular Board Meeting in December, December 25, 2023, Due to the District’s Scheduled Office Closure. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

President Wilson announced the items included in the Consent Calendar after which it was 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 approve those items included in the Consent Calendar:

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

**7) 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.)**

**7.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Approving Change Order No. 1 with Metro Builders & Engineers Group, Ltd. to Replace 130 Feet of 16-Inch Pipeline at the Intersection of Avenue S and Sierra Highway. (\$657,604.48 – Not-to-Exceed – Budgeted – Work Order No. 22-603 – Engineering Manager Rogers)**

Engineering Manager Rogers provided an overview of the work included in the proposed change order with Metro Builders and Engineers Group, Ltd. after which it was 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 approve Change Order No. 1 with Metro Builders & Engineers Group, Ltd. to Replace 130 Feet of 16-Inch Pipeline at the Intersection of Avenue S and Sierra Highway in the not-to-exceed amount of \$657,604.48:

President Wilson – aye  
Director Kellerman – aye

Director Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Director Dino – aye

**7.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Resolution No. 23-21 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Sign an Amendment to Extend the Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board on Behalf of the District. (No Budget Impact – Assistant General Manager Ly)**

Assistant General Manager Ly provided an overview of the proposed three year extension to help secure water delivery to Alpine Springs Mobile Home Park after which it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve Resolution No. 23-21 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Sign an Amendment to Extend the Hauled Water Grant Funding Agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board on Behalf of the District:

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

Resolution No. 23-21 is hereby made a portion of the minutes of this meeting.

**7.3) Consideration and Possible Action on Establishing Guidelines for Changing Electrical Service Providers for District Electrical Service Accounts When Options are Available. (General Manager LaMoreaux)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided an overview of the three electrical service providers in the Antelope Valley, staff's analysis on electrical cost-savings, and staff's recommendation to establish a 5% savings threshold to initiate change of service providers, and after a brief discussion of the District's committed power purchase agreements and clarification of the District's accounts that would stay with Energy for Palmdale's Independent Choice (EPIC), it was moved by Director Kellerman, seconded by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve guidelines of

a 5% savings threshold and Board approval prior to initiating change of service providers:

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

**7.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Sponsorship of the Antelope Valley Rural Museum at “Gold” Level in Honor of the District’s Agricultural History. (\$15,000.00 – Budgeted – General Manager LaMoreaux)**

General Manager LaMoreaux provided a brief overview of the District’s past sponsorship to the discontinued Rural Olympics at the Antelope Valley Fair and staff’s recommendation of a final \$15,000.00 sponsorship to the Antelope Valley Rural Museum in honor of the District’s agricultural history followed by discussion of sponsor recognition.

It was then moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Director Dino, and after public comment by Mrs. Deborah Dino, Palmdale resident and Antelope Valley Fair Association Board Director, expressing her appreciation for the Antelope Valley Rural Museum and the dedication of preserving local history, the motion unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve sponsorship of the Antelope Valley Rural Museum at “Gold” Level in honor of the District’s agricultural history in the amount of \$15,000.00:

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

**7.5) Consideration and Possible Action on Committee Member Alternates. (Director Mac Laren-Gomez)**

Director Mac Laren-Gomez stated that this item was requested in an effort to prevent cancellations of future Committee meetings after which it was moved by Director Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by President Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Directors present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve Committee Member Alternates:

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

**7.6) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorization of the Following Conferences, Seminars, and Training Sessions for Board and Staff Attendance Within Budget Amounts Previously Approved in the 2023 Budget:**

**a) WEF/AWWA Utility Management Conference 2024 to be held February 13-16, 2024 in Portland, Oregon.**

It was 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 approve the following conferences, seminars, and training sessions for Board and staff attendance within budget amounts previously approved in the 2023 Budget: WEF/AWWA Utility Management Conference 2024 to be held February 13-16, 2024 in Portland, Oregon:

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

**8) Information Items:**

**8.1) Reports of Directors:**

**a) Standing Committees; Organization Appointments; Agency Liaisons:**

**1) Antelope Valley East Kern Water Agency (AVEK) – November 14.  
(Director Dino, Board Liaison/Director Mac Laren-Gomez, Alt.)**

Director Dino reported that on November 14, he attended an AVEK Board Meeting where they approved a purchase order with R&B Automation for the replacement of four valve actuators at the Mojave Tank Farm and a change order with Sierra Construction for their Leona Valley Repair Project.

**2) Personnel Committee Meeting – November 15. (Director Mac Laren-Gomez, Chair/Director Kellerman)**

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on November 15, she attended the Personnel Committee Meeting where they discussed the IT and Engineering position conversions that were recommended and approved this evening.

**b) General Meetings Reports of Directors.**

Director Kellerman reported that on November 15, he attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on November 28-30, he attended the 2023 Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Fall Conference in Indian Wells; that on December 1, he attended the PWD Holiday Dinner; and that December 7, he attended a Board Briefing.

President Wilson reported that on November 9, he attended a Board Briefing; that on November 27-30, he attended the 2023 ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells and that a written report is being prepared; and that on November 29, he attended an Agenda Review Briefing.

Director Mac Laren-Gomez reported that on November 15, she attended the Personnel Committee Meeting; that on December 1, she attended the PWD Holiday Dinner; that on December 4, she attended the AVEK Special Board Meeting; that on December 4, she also attended a Public Water Suppliers Meeting; that on December 5, she attended a Watermaster Meeting where the Watermaster Administrator Contract was discussed; and that on December 7, she attended a Board Briefing.

Director Dino reported that on November 14, he attended an AVEK Board Meeting; that on November 24, he attended a CSDA Webinar regarding The Great Board Chair; that on November 27-30, he attended the 2023 ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells; that on December 7, he attended a Board Briefing; and that on December 11, he is attending the Palmdale Water District Regular Board Meeting.

**8.2) Report of General Manager.**

General Manager LaMoreaux reported that a written notification has been requested from The Hallmark Group regarding their resignation as the Watermaster Administrator; that the Watermaster administration may temporarily revert back to PWD and AVEK staff to allow time to prepare and distribute a Request for Proposals

for a new administrator; and that the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Delta Conveyance Project was released by the State for the 10-day review period followed by a brief discussion of the Delta Watermaster.

He then distributed Director Dizmang's letter of resignation as Director for Division 3 effective as of December 31, 2023 followed by a brief discussion of the positive impacts Director Dizmang has made in the Antelope Valley.

**8.3) Report of General Counsel.**

General Counsel Lee provided a brief legislative update on the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule regarding lead water line replacements and testing requirements for drinking water agencies.

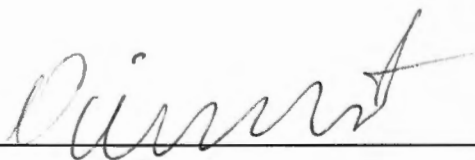
She then wished the Board and staff a happy holiday season and a happy New Year.

**9) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**10) Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

  
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Secretary