

**Regular Meeting
October 15, 2019
6:00 p.m.**

**Meiners Oaks Water District
202 West El Roblar Drive
Ojai, CA 93023-2211
Phone 646-2114**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by the Board President Mike Etchart at 6:01 pm at the District Office.

Present were: Board President Mike Etchart, Board Directors, James Kentosh, Mike Krumpschmidt, and Diana Engle. Staff Present: General Manager, Mike Hollebrands, Board Secretary, Summer Ward, and Attorney, Lindsay Nielson.

Absent: Director Larry Harrold

2. Approval of the minutes

Approval of September 17, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes:

Ms. Engle made the motion to approve the September 17, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes. Mr. Krumpschmidt seconded the motion.

No public comments.

Mr. Kentosh requested verification of which Director introduced item 5c.

Ms. Engle requested a change in wording on page 2 “shared” to “inquired whether;” and page 5, strike “does not support reaching out to other parties” and “respectful of stakeholders.” Ms. Ward to complete requested revisions before posting approved minutes to the website.

**Engle/Krumpschmidt
All Ayes
1 Absent (Harrold)
M/S/C**

3. Public Comments

Beth Von Gunten – was present at the meeting.

4. Financial Matters

- Approval of Payroll and Payables from September 16 to October 15, 2019 in the amount of:

Payables -	\$ 90,322.35
Payroll -	<u>\$ 35,516.33</u>
Total -	\$ 125,838.68

Mr. Kentosh made the motion to approve the Payroll and Payables from September 16 to October 15, 2019. Ms. Engle seconded the motion.

Public Comment – None.

Ms. Engle asked for clarification on the wording “Total Assets” at the bottom of the Expense Report. Mr. Hollebrands explained it represents the capital improvement expenses and will update the title on the report.

Kentosh/Engle

All Ayes

1 Absent (Harrold)

M/S/C

5. Board Discussion/Actions

- a) Information Only – Letter from Fanning and Karrh, letting the Board know that there will be open communication between the auditor and the District.

Mr. Hollebrands reviewed the letter provided in the Board packet, all standard language, and clarified that no action is required.

- b) Discussion and approval of electrical and generator quotes from CAT, Multi-quip, Oilfield Electric, and Dieners Electric

Mr. Hollebrands reviewed that he was asked to prepare two sets of quotes to address the purchase of generators for the District. To minimize the risk of power loss to our system due to the recent implementation of Southern California Edison’s Public Safety Power Shut-Offs, the District continues to evaluate back-up power options. The first set of quotes address preparing our existing panels so that they are ever-ready, turn-key hookup in the event a generator needs to be used. Oilfield Electric and Dieners Electric both provided line item quotes for all District sites; the total expenses were \$31,492.45 and \$17,253.00, respectively. Mr. Hollebrands noted that this is the second high quote the District has received from Oilfield Electric recently, Dieners Electric has performed very well for the District in the past and is recommended by the GM for this Generator Panel work.

The Board held lengthy discussions regarding critical generator selection criteria. Mr. Hollebrands explained that CAT is a certified Multi-quip

distributor and offers both brands. Mr. Hollebrands noted that a brand new trailer-mounted 14.7kw generator is available for half price, \$17,293.17, the original customer could not take delivery of the unit. This unit would provide adequate power for the District Office and has flexibility to cover other sites within the District. Fuel type, amount, and storage were also discussed at length, including availability during a disaster, cost-effectiveness, and environmental impacts. Based on a variety of factors discussed, the Board agreed that diesel-powered generators were the appropriate selection for the District.

Public Comment:

Ms. Von Gunten provided the following statements and recommendations:

- Identify the District's goal – turn to the law for requirements;
- Historical discussions about generators for MOWD were solely for moving water;
- After identifying goals, move toward the goals incrementally;
- PSPS may change over time;
- Safer in the long run to bury the utilities; and
- SCE will provide free energy audits and assess the efficiency of power usage.

Ms. Engle made the motion to authorize the GM to contract Dieners Electric for the panel work and the purchase of the CAT 200 kW 2020 Generator and the 14.7kw Generator. Mr. Krumpschmidt seconded the motion.

Mr. Hollebrands to schedule an Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting, to coincide with the next Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Kentosh is not in favor of purchasing the 14.7kw Generator. Mr. Krumpschmidt stated he is in favor of the small portable generator, as it provides the District added flexibility.

Engle/Krumpschmidt

Ayes – 3

Noes – 1

Absent – 1

M/S/C

- c) Approval of a budget amendment in an amount to be determined by the Board, if the item (5b) is approved
Mr. Hollebrands stated the current Capital Improvement - Generator budget holds \$75,000. Discussions were held under Item 5b.

Ms. Engle made the motion to amend the budget, to move \$75,000 from Reserves to Capital Improvement – Generator. Mr. Kentosh amended the motion to move \$80,000; Ms. Engle accepted the amended motion.

Public Comments: None

Mr. Kentosh stated that although he voted against Item 5b, he supports the Board decision.

Engle/Kentosh

All Ayes

Absent – 1 (Harrold)

M/S/C

d) Presentation, discussion, and direction of the Draft Allocation Program

Ms. Engle presented an overview of the work that has been done on the draft allocation program to date. Specific items up for discussion and policy decisions involved 175 meter/parcel combinations that are not simple cases of 1 res meter on 1 parcel.

Ms. Engle explained that the Residential meters are the most complicated due to the non-variable and variable allocations based on a number of dwellings and the assignment of principal dwellings versus extra dwellings. The board consensus was to eliminate the square-footage criteria and apply 7 units to each extra dwelling regardless of size; additionally, apartments and mobile parks will receive 7 units for each apartment.

The board discussed at length the criteria for Agriculture accounts, discussing historical use, aerial data of irrigated Ag land and enrollment in VCAILG. Some points of discussion were related to the new changes in spacing for Ag; more trees are being planted on smaller areas of land, the previous rule of greater than or equal to 2 acres of Ag may no longer be a good indicator. The board agreed to use enrollment in VCAILG to be a reliable indicator of commercial ag; letters will be drafted to affected current Ag customers, allowing them 90 days to enroll in VCAILG to retain their Ag classification. Current Ag customers that are not and do not enroll in VCAILG will be reclassified to Residential to promote conservation.

Public Comment:

Ms. Von Gunten stated that agriculture is diverse; most are not economical. She posed the question, what are others using as their standard for Ag? Ms. Von Gunten also shared information regarding intensification for planting crops, mushrooms, queen bees and various other types that we have probably not considered. Ms. Von Gunten referenced the application of Ag restrictions.

The board discussed the treatment of contiguous parcels under common ownership and how those allocations will be determined and handled if the owner were to sell one or more parcels that were included in a combined allocation. Owners of contiguous parcels merging the APN's would be the simplest method; however, if that does not occur, then the parcels would revert to the assigned individual allocations to ensure there is no increase to the total District water allocation.

Public Comment:

Ms. Von Gunten stated that some customers do not care about the cost of the water and will continue using what they want.

Situations that have been identified in the District where customers who are essentially wheeling water for another customer need to be addressed and terminated. An example: Of 4 parcels (2 parcels are across the road from the principal 2 parcels) with 2 separate owners (each with 1 principal meter). The owners, unauthorized, ran a line under the road and now have a hose connected from the principal meter under the road providing water to non-metered parcels.

Ms. Engle will update the Draft Allocation Program report with the decisions made and will present an update at the November regular meeting.

6. General Manager's Report

- **Operations & Maintenance Report** – Mr. Hollebrands reported that the District continues to meet demand with our wells, one main leak repaired on Sunday. Mr. Hollebrands reported that since Southern California Edison implemented its PSPS program, rental generators will become more challenging to access, one Sunbelt location was cleared out in a day by a large telecommunication company, just to keep on standby for possible PSPS events.
- **WREA has been assisting MOWD with its plan for the line relocation on Meiners Rd at Maricopa Highway. The County of Ventura waterworks projects are now being required to remove the old lines, no longer allowed to be abandoned in place. MOWD is requesting approval from the County to fill the old lines with slurry to prevent the line from collapsing.**
- **The final 35% engineering report for the Treatment Plant will be provided by WREA soon.**

7. Board Committee Reports

- **Upper Ventura River GSA- No meeting.**
- **Executive Committee – No meeting.**
- **Budget/Rate Committee – No meeting.**
- **Allocation Program Committee – Ms. Engle reported under item 5d.**
- **New Meters and Expansion Committee- No meeting.**
- **Emergency Management Committee – No meeting.**

8. Old Business

- **State Water – No update.**
- **Ojai, Ventura Water Partnership – No update.**
- **Matilija Dam Removal Update – No update.**
- **Grant Projects: Nitrate Removal & Blending and Cold Water Formation – No update, Mr. Kentosh to provide an update at November regular meeting.**

9. Board of Directors' Reports/Comments

Mr. Etchart – stated that they are spraying for Asian Psyllids with insecticides in and around the valley.
Mr. Krumpschmidt – No report.
Mr. Kentosh – No report.
Mr. Kentosh – No report.
Mr. Harrold – Absent.
Ms. Engle – No report.

The Board went into closed session at 9:18 p.m.

10. Closed Session: The Board of Directors held a closed session to discuss personnel matters or litigation, pursuant to the attorney/client privilege, as authorized by Government Code Sections 54957 & 54956.8, 54956.9 and 54957.

- Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)
 - Meiners Oaks Water District vs. Moll, Ostling and Ojai Vista Farms 56-2018-00515474-CU-OR-VTA/
 - State Case: SBCK vs. SWRCB, San Francisco Superior Court, Case # CPF-14-513875

The board adjourned closed session at 10:05pm.

Attorney Nielson stated that in closed session, Mr. Nielson reported updates on the Moll and ChannelKeeper cases. No actions were taken and no decisions were made during the closed session.

11. Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct at this time, Board President Mike Etchart adjourned the meeting at 10:06 pm.

President

Secretary