TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 13, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Tuolumne Utilities District convened at 9:00 a.m. at the District Office, 18885 Nugget Blvd., Sonora, California.

This meeting was held in accordance with Executive Order N-29-20, issued by California Governor Gavin Newsom on March 17, 2020, the Ralph M. Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54950, et seq.), and the Federal Americans with Disabilities Act. No physical public meeting location was provided for this meeting. Instead, the Board held this meeting telephonically using Zoom. Members of the public were able to speak and provide oral comments during the meeting.

A verbal roll call was conducted by Melissa McMullen, Board Clerk.

Melissa McMullen, Board Clerk, conducted all voting by verbal roll call.

The following Directors and staff were present:

Director Balen, President
Director Ringen, Vice President
Director Boatright
Director Kerns
Director Murphy

Erik Johnson, District Engineer
Don Perkins, Operations Director
Steve Sheffield, Finance Director
Abby Parcon, Administrative Services Director
Melissa McMullen, Executive Secretary/Board Clerk
Lisa Westbrook, Community Affairs Specialist
Antonio Ramirez, Engineering Services Technician

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

I. Public Forum

Trinity Ablia, CEO for Habitat for Humanity of Tuolumne County, addressed the Board regarding new potable water hook-ups.

Kent Schillerstrom addressed the Board regarding the Phoenix Lake Restoration and Preservation Project.

II. Consent Calendar

Director Ringen Pulled Item #2 of the Consent Calendar for further discussion.

1. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 23, 2021 and Special Board Meetings of March 26, 2021 and April 1, 2021

2. Approval of Reimbursement Claims for Directors Statement of Meetings Attended and/or Travel Expenses, Claim Summary, and General Manager Requisition Approval Report for March 2021

   Director Kerns moved to approve Item #1 of the Consent Calendar. Director Ringen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

   Director Ringen moved to approve Item #2 of the Consent Calendar. Director Boatright seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

III. Regular Business

3. Consider Request to Submit a Cal Fire California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Grant Program

Lisa Westbrook presented a summarization of the request to submit a Cal Fire California Climate Investments Fire Prevention Program and responded to questions.

The Community Watershed/IRWM Committee at the March 30, 2021 meeting recommended presenting this item to the Board of Directors for consideration.

No public comment was received.

Director Murphy moved to direct staff to apply for a Cal Fire - Fire Prevention Grant to reduce wildfire hazards and increase fire resiliency at and around critical District facilities. Director Boatright seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

4. Discussion Regarding Policies and Procedures for Board Issuance of Variances from Water Rules and Regulations Sections 6.02 and 8.01 and Wastewater Ordinance Section 3.01 Regarding Water and Sewer Service to Non-Adjacent Parcels

Erik Johnson and Antonio Ramirez presented a summarization of the Policies and Procedures for Board issuance of variances from Water Rules and Regulations Sections 6.02 and 8.01 and Wastewater Ordinance Section 301 regarding Water and Sewer Service to non-adjacent parcels and responded to questions.

No public comment was received.

Director Kerns recused himself from consideration of Item #5 of Regular Business because his business has provided services to the parties listed.

5. Consider Request for Variance for Water and Sewer Service to Non-Adjacent Parcel – Haydnmyer and Gardella

Erik Johnson and Antonio Ramirez presented a summarization regarding the request for a variance for Water and Sewer Service to non-adjacent parcel - Haydnmyer and Gardella. Mr. Johnson responded to questions.

No public comment was received.

Director Boatright moved to adopt Resolution No. 4-21 approving the request for variance from Water Rules and Regulations Sections 6.02 and 8.01 and Wastewater Section 3.01 Regarding Service to a Non-Adjacent Parcel-Haydnmyer and Gardella. Director Ringen, Vice President seconded the motion and it was approved 3-0.
Yes: Director Balen, President, Director Ringen, Vice President and Director Boatright
Recusals: Director Kerns
Abstentions: Director Murphy

6. Discussion of Treated Water System Optimization Plan and the Sierra Pines Regional Water Treatment Facility Project

Don Perkins, Erik Johnson, Abby Parcon and Steve Sheffield responded to questions submitted to staff prior to the Board meeting by Director Ringen and additional questions submitted during the meeting by the Directors regarding the Treated Water System Optimization Plan (TWSOP) and the Sierra Pines Regional Water Treatment Facility Project.

The Water Committee, on March 8, 2021, recommended this item be placed on the Board agenda for further discussion by the TUD Board of Directors.

No public comment was received.

7. Consider Adoption of CEQA Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program for the Sierra Pines Regional Water Treatment Facility Project

Erik Johnson presented a summarization of the request to consider the adoption of the CEQA Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program for the Sierra Pines Regional Water Treatment Facility Project and responded to questions.

No public comment was received.

Director Kerns moved to adopt the CEQA Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program (MMRP) for the Sierra Pines Regional Water Treatment Facility Project. Director Murphy seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

8. Consider Executing a Memorandum of Understanding with County of Tuolumne for GIS Services

Erik Johnson presented a summarization for the request to consider a Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Tuolumne for GIS Services and responded to questions.

No public comment was received.

Director Boatright moved to approve Executing a Memorandum of Understanding with County of Tuolumne for GIS Services. Director Murphy seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

IV. Staff Reports

Don Perkins, Erik Johnson, Abby Parcon and Steve Sheffield gave updates on the current activities of the District.

V. Directors Communication and Reports

Director Kerns reported on the following items:
-April 7, 20201: Meeting with Raftelis, Director Balen, Jesse Barton and Steve Sheffield regarding financial planning for the District

Director Ringen reported on the following items:
-March 24, 2021: Participated in the City of Sonora EAP meeting
-March 30, 2021: Participated in the Community Watershed/IRWM Committee meeting
-April 2, 2021: Toured the Sonora Water Treatment Plant with Don Perkins
-Suggested future discussion items for the Water Committee: Lakewood Dam Repair Project and the Slum Dam on Curtis Creek/Algerine ditch

Director Balen reported on the following items:
-Participated in the Adventist Health Blue Zones Presentation via Zoom

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Date: April 27, 2021

ATTEST:

Barbara Balen, President
Board of Directors

Melissa McMullen,
Executive Secretary/Board Clerk