TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 27, 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
Jesse Barton, District Counsel
Gaddiel DeMattei, Associate Engineer

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance

I. Public Forum

Sally Rhodes addressed the Board regarding the Phoenix Lake Restoration and Preservation Project.

II. Consent Calendar

1. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of April 8, 2021 and Regular Board Meeting of April 13, 2021

   Director Ringen, Vice President moved to approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of April 8, 2021 and Regular Board Meeting of April 13, 2021. Director Kerns seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

III. Regular Business

2. Investment Report as of March 31, 2021

   Steve Sheffield, TUD and Carlos Oblites from Chandler Asset Management, presented the first quarterly report as of March 31, 2021.

   No public comment was heard.

   Director Kerns moved to accept and file the report. Director Murphy seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

3. Budget Report and Balance Sheet for Third Quarter Ending March 31, 2021

Steve Sheffield presented the Budget Report and Balance Sheet for Third Quarter ending March 31, 2021 and responded to questions.

No public comment was heard.

Director Kerns moved to accept and file the report. Director Murphy seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

4. Public Hearing for the Board to Consider and Possibly Approve a CEQA Notice of Determination and Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan for Addendum #1 to the July 2018 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tuolumne Utilities District/Tuolumne City Water Main Replacement Project

President Balen opened the Public Hearing at 9:46 a.m.

Erik Johnson, TUD and Amy Augustine from Augustine Planning, presented a summarization of the request to approve a CEQA Notice of Determination and Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan for Addendum #1 to the July 2018 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tuolumne Utilities District/Tuolumne City Water Main Replacement Project and responded to questions.

No public comment was heard.

President Balen closed the Public Hearing at 10:11 a.m.

Director Boatright moved to adopt Resolution No. 6-21 approving a CEQA Notice of Determination and Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Plan for Addendum #1 to the July 2018 Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Tuolumne Utilities District/Tuolumne City Water Main Replacement Project. Director Ringen, Vice President seconded the motion.

5. Board to Consider and Possibly Authorize the Board President to Execute a Construction Agreement with Moyle Excavation, Inc. for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project – Phase II

Erik Johnson and Gaddiel DeMattei presented a summarization on the request to authorize the Board President to execute a Construction Agreement with Moyle Excavation, Inc. for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project - Phase II and responded to questions.

No public comment was heard.

Director Murphy moved to authorize the Board President to execute a construction agreement with Moyle Excavation, Inc. for the Techite Pipeline Replacement Project – Phase II in the amount of $715,191.00 and authorize the District Engineer to approve change orders up to, but not to exceed, approximately 5% ($35,000) of the total value. Director Boatright seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

6. Consideration and Review of the Paradise Nature-Based Fire Resilience Project

Abby Parcon and Lisa Westbrook presented a summarization of the Paradise Nature-Based Fire Resilience Project Study and responded to questions.

At the March 30, 2021 Community Watershed/IRWM Committee meeting, the Committee recommended presenting the Paradise Nature-Based Fire Resilience Project Study to the Board of Directors.

No public comment was heard.

Director Murphy moved to direct to engage Tuolumne County and other agencies in a discussion regarding whether to collaboratively conduct a similar study that was completed as part of the Paradise Nature-Based Fire Resilience Project for Tuolumne County. Director Ringen, Vice President seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

7. Discussion Regarding Resuming In-Person Board Meetings in TUD Board Room

Abby Parcon and Erik Johnson presented information regarding resuming in-person Board meetings in the TUD Board Room and responded to questions.

At the February 4, 2021, the Human Resources/External Relations Committee discussed purchasing a replacement Board room dais to a COVID-19 compliant crescent or semicircle shape and limiting to only the five Board member seats. The Committee recommended that this item be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration.

Public comment was heard.

The Consensus of the Board was to continue to hold the TUD Board meetings telephonically using Zoom and leaving the existing dais unchanged.

8. Discussion and Consideration of Regarding Reopening TUD Lobby to the Public

Abby Parcon and Steve Sheffield presented information regarding reopening the TUD Lobby to the public and responded to questions.

No public comment was heard.

The Consensus of the Board was to postpone reopening the TUD lobby to the public and for staff to continue scheduling appointments with customers, vendors, contractors, district partners and other members of the public to accomplish goals.

9. Operational Update on the Water and Wastewater Departments for March 2021

Don Perkins presented the Operational Update on the Water and Wastewater Departments for March 2021 and responded to questions.

Abby Parcon read a written summarization of a phone call received from a customer expressing appreciation for a TUD employee.

No public comment was heard.

IV. Staff Reports

Erik Johnson and Steve Sheffield reported on the following items:
-Regional Wastewater Facility Project update

V. Directors Communication and Reports

Director Ringen reported on the following items:
-April 14, 2021: Participated in the Tuolumne County Natural Resources Committee meeting
-April 20, 2021: Participated in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus IRWM new Outreach Committee meeting
-April 21, 2021: Participated in the Tuolumne-Stanislaus IRWM Water Advisory Committee meeting

Director Balen reported on the following items:
-Calaveras County Water District (CCWD) has extended an invitation for April 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. to CCWD's meeting where they will be finalizing their Strategic Plan
-April 29, 2021: Meeting with Supervisor Ryan Campbell

President Balen recessed the meeting to Closed Session at 12:21 p.m.

VI. Closed Session

a. Public Employee Appointment Title: Interim General Manager

VII. Reconvene to Open Session

a. Closed Session Disclosure

President Balen reconvened the meeting to Open Session at 2:40 p.m. with no reportable action taken during Closed Session.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Date: May 11, 2021

ATTEST:

Barbara Balen, President
Board of Directors

Melissa McMullen,
Executive Secretary/Board Clerk