Borrego Water District Board of Directors MINUTES

Regular Meeting February 25, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m. 806 Palm Canyon Drive Borrego Springs, CA 92004

I. OPENING PROCEDURES

A. <u>Call to Order:</u> President Dice called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Roll Call: <u>Directors:</u> <u>Present:</u> President Dice, Secretary/Treasurer

Duncan, Delahay, Johnson

Absent: Vice President Brecht

Staff: Geoff Poole, General Manager

Kim Pitman, Administration Manager Greg Holloway, Operations Manager Wendy Quinn, Recording Secretary

Public: Julian Peabody Meet Panchal

Rick Alexander Barbara Coates

D. Approval of Agenda: MSC: Delahay/Duncan approving the Agenda as written.

E. Approval of Minutes:

1. January 07, 2020 Special Board Meeting

- 2. January 14, 2020 Special Board Meeting
- 3. January 28, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

MSC: Duncan/Johnson approving the Minutes of the Special Meetings of January 7 and 14, 2020 and the Regular Meeting of January 28, 2020 as written.

- F. <u>Comments from the Public and Requests for Future Agenda Items:</u> Barbara Coates explained that she pays three water bills. She purchased property in 2008 and it has declined in value. She is trying to sell it and uses no water. Ms. Coates asked the Board to consider waiving her bill in the meantime. Greg Holloway pointed out that the District still has to pay for maintenance of its infrastructure and check meters every month.
 - **G.** Comments from Directors: None
 - **H.** Correspondence Received from the Public: None

II. ITEMS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- **A.** Award of Contract to Rove Engineering for De Anza Pipeline Projects: Geoff Poole noted that this item had been continued from the last meeting to enable staff to investigate the discrepancy between the two bids. Legal counsel determined that the low bid by Rove Engineering was responsive, and Mr. Poole recommended acceptance and authorization to sign the contract. The Board concurred.
- B. Contract for Consulting Engineering Services with DDE: Mr. Poole explained that David Dale had previously served as District Engineer, and Mr. Holloway added that he had worked with Mr. Dale for ten years and they had a good relationship. Kim Pitman noted that he had once managed the Community Services District. Mr. Dale had been serving as City Manager of Calexico for the past two years and is now interested in returning to BWD. A proposed contract was included in the Board package. Initially his scope of work would include CIP review (whether to replace Twin Tanks and Indian Head Tank, engineering analyses for revised grant applications, if needed, master plan system model update); construction management for the De Anza pipelines; modeling, design review and construction management for new Well #2; and bidding, construction management, design and bond proceeds review for sewer projects. MSC: Duncan/Delahay approving the contract with David Dale and authorizing signature.

- Evaluation and Related Services: Mr. Poole pointed out that the District's biggest expense after labor is power. The conversion of all wells to solar would be a big savings, and he had asked Rick Alexander to look for potential grants. Todd Holman, who installed the solar system in the District office, can do a feasibility study for installation of solar on the wells. He would also evaluate the existing solar facilities (office, warehouse and treatment plant) to ensure they are operating at maximum efficiency. The total cost would be approximately \$9,000 for two months. *MSC: Duncan/Delahay approving the contract with Todd Holman and authorizing signature.*
- D. Membership in American Planning Association: Director Johnson explained that there a lot of resources available through the American Planning Association, some of value to the District directly and some to the community in land use planning. Mr. Poole reported that he had checked with Steve Anderson, who said some of his partners were members and the Association was highly regarded. MSC: Johnson/Delahay authorizing the District to join the American Planning Association at the base rate (\$121) with one additional individual (\$68). E. Update on Status of Settlement Agreement/Stipulated Judgment: Mr. Poole reported the election of Mike Seley, Nick Bosik, Shannon Smith and Rich Pinel to the Watermaster Board. A decision from the County is still pending. President Dice announced the first meeting has been tentatively set for March 31.

III. STANDING AND AD-HOC BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. STANDING:

1. Operations and Infrastructure. .Mr. Poole reported that the Committee would be meeting with Mr. Dale early next week.

B. AD-HOC:

- 1. Stipulated Judgment Implementation. No report.
- 2. Risk Management. No report.
- 3. Grant Funding. President Dice reported she would be meeting with Mr. Alexander, and thereafter discuss potential air quality monitoring grants.
 - 4. Association of California Water Agencies/Joint Powers Authority. No report.
 - 5. Organizational Staffing. No report.
 - 6. Prop 218 and BWD Developers' Policy. No report.
- 7. Town Hall 2020 Agenda. President Dice invited the Board's attention to the proposed Agenda in the Board package. The time has been changed to 5:30.

IV. STAFF REPORT

A. <u>Financial Reports:</u>

January 2020

Ms. Pitman reported \$144,000 in operating income for January. The audit cost almost twice as much as last year because the auditors had to redo a lot of last year's report. The answering service has almost doubled because of the many power outages. *MSC: Johnson/Delahay accepting the Financial Reports*.

- **B.** Water and Wastewater Operations Report:
- **C.** Water Production/Use Records:
 - Mr. Poole said that these reports would be available at the next meeting.
- **D.** General Manager Report: Status Update and Verbal Discussion of:
- 1. Projected Bond Financed Project Expenditures Jan 2020 thru Jul 2022. Mr. Poole invited the Board's attention to an updated report in the Board package.
- 2. Finance Officer Interviews. Mr. Poole reported that he, Ms. Pitman and Diana Del Bono had interviewed the candidates for Finance Officer and selected Jessica Claybaugh from Warner Springs. She has experience with the County, speaks Spanish and has excellent references.

3. Preparation of Well Abandonment Letter to County of SD. Mr. Poole reported he was working with Meet Panchal on a draft letter to the County and would present it at the next meeting.

V. CLOSED SESSION

- **A.** Conference with Legal Counsel Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code paragraph (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9 (Two (2) potential cases):
- **B.** Replacement Well Number Two Site Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Gov. Code §54956.8); Property APN: APN 198-021-08. 77.95 acres. BWD negotiator: Geoff Poole. Negotiating Parties: Geoff Poole General Manager, and Owner: Borrego Nazareth. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment:

The Board adjourned to closed session at 10:10 a.m., and the open session reconvened at 12:20 p.m. There was no reportable action.

VI. CLOSING PROCEDURE

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2020 at Borrego Water District, 806 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 12:20 p.m.