



BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

Our Mission - "To provide a high quality supply of water and reliable service to all customers at a fair and reasonable rate."

Planning/Legislative/Engineering Grant & Security Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members: Vice President Burkhart & President Corl-Lorono

**BOARD MEETING OFFICE
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92285**

**June 16, 2020
Time – 9:15 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Burkhart called the meeting to order at 9:17 am. The meeting was conducted using Zoom Meeting platform for public participation in compliance with Gov. Newsom's Executive Order No. N-29-20.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by John Burkhart.

ROLL CALL

Directors: Judy Corl-Lorono
John Burkhart

Staff: Marina West

No Public present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice President John Burkhart and President Judy Corl-Lorono approved the agenda as presented.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Conference Call with Mojave Water Agency's Legal/Legislative and Public Information Committee

The Committee participated via conference call to receive an update on the current status of state and federal legislative issues. Directors asked several questions of staff regarding some of the federal bills.

(Note: From about 9:55 am to 10:07 am there was a local power outage that closed out the remote meeting platforms.)

2. Community Water Systems Alliance Update

GM West gave the update noting that President Corl-Lorono and GM West participated in the State Water Resources Control Board Workshop on the recently released white paper on the economic feasibility of chromium 6 treatment. The Alliance had developed talking points relative to the manner in which the state is setting drinking water standards. CWSA members represented about 40% of the public comment received. Staff also signed onto a letter in support of SB 1386 Protecting Fire Hydrant System Funding. Lastly, she reported on an upcoming planning workshop session June 18th to discuss priorities for the upcoming legislative year and recruitment and engagement with new member organizations.

3. Prop. 1 / Round 1 Grant Application Update

GM West updated the Committee on the status of this grant. The grant was awarded to BDVWA for replacement of the Goat Mountain Well No. 2 which failed and has been taken out of service.

Mojave Water Agency will be the “grantee” due to the manner in which these grants are awarded to Integrated Planning Regions. Staff is awaiting contract documents from MWA.

A Categorical Exemption has been filed for this project to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. The Plans and Specifications for the well project are approximately 75% complete.

Staff will be ready to put the project out to bid as soon as the contract documents are executed.

GM West answered questions from the Committee.

4. Prop. 1 Planning Grant Project Update

GM West gave the update. Engineering plans are about 80% complete for the BDV-GM interconnections and the blending pipeline. The biological consultants have completed the paleontological and cultural surveys and they have determined cultural sensitivity exists within the project boundaries. This requires the Agency to obtain identifying “trinomials” for these locations. That process is being held up by the COVID-19 and its impact on work schedules for state employees. The Bureau of Land Management will not release the reports until this process is complete which is anticipated to be July.

Biological surveys for the burrowing owl require four separate field visits. The third survey is scheduled for this week. Rare plant surveys are complete and most sections of the Initial Study – Mitigated Negative Declaration has been drafted.

Three Native American tribes have been contacted for consultation. We are awaiting responses to be provided within prescribed timeframes but again, the Governor has ordered all timelines be extended. We will provide additional outreach to the tribes as necessary to ensure the consultation process is properly executed and documented.

NV5 is finalizing easement requirements for pipeline alignments and the Agency will be pursuing title reports and easements in the near future.

5. Disadvantaged Community Involvement (DACI) Grant Update

GM West gave the staff report and a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the results of the dynamic flow and water quality testing of Well Nos. 3 and 4. She further reported that the grant will be closing out at the end of June and the Agency has met all obligations under the grant and all invoices submitted have been approved to reimburse the Agency the \$50,000 awarded. Total costs to Agency for this project will be \$12,500.

6. Leak Detection Grant Awarded

GM West reported that the Agency was contacted by CA Rural Water Association (CRWA) regarding an opportunity to conduct leak detection studies. She explained that while the entire Agency was surveyed for leaks a few years ago, by CRWA, it never hurts to continue looking for leaks. This will be a more focused survey and David Rewal, Lead Operator, is going to focus on some areas that are very sandy in the Desert View area and also where we might be having water theft in the Goat Mountain service area. This grant will be provided to CRWA and no money or grant administration will go through the Agency. Total cost to the Agency is just staff time to coordinate with the CRWA field crews.

7. Miscellaneous Safety Upgrades to ID Goat Mountain Tanks R1, R2A and R2B

GM West gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the miscellaneous safety upgrades desired for these tanks. Staff indicated that the Goat Mountain reserve funds will be used for this project.

8. ID Goat Mountain Pressure Reducing Station Upgrades

GM West informed the Committee that this project was budgeted in the prior Fiscal Year but the vaults ended up taking nine months to receive and therefore the project rolled into the current fiscal year. She gave a PowerPoint presentation showing the activities related to the project and staff's work in rebuilding the two pressure reducing stations in the Goat Mountain service area. This project will be funded by the Goat Mountain cash reserves at an estimated cost of \$51,000. She reminded the Committee that during the annexation process the County Special Districts had budgeted approximately \$300,000 for this project.

9. Consent Items –

a. PLEGS Committee Meeting Minutes, April 21, 2020

No Public comment.

Vice President Burkhart and President Corl-Lorono approved the minutes as presented.

10. Public Comment Period

No Public comment

11. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings

1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports – none.
2. General Manager's Report – GM West reported that Mr. Lance Eckhart, Director of Basin Management for Mojave Water Agency has accepted a position as General Manager of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Authority. Ms. Anna Garcia has also left the Agency.

12. Adjournment - Chairman Burkhardt adjourned the meeting at 11:37 am.

Approved by:


Vice President Burkhardt, Committee Chair



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