



# BIGHORN-DESERT VIEW WATER AGENCY

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

## Finance/Public Relations/Education and Personnel Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Members: Director McBride & Director McKenzie

**BOARD MEETING OFFICE  
1720 N. CHEROKEE TR.  
LANDERS, CALIFORNIA 92284**

**January 20, 2021  
Time – 4:00 P.M.**

**PUBLIC AND BOARD WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY  
\*\*TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM 669-900-6833\*\*  
OR**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**Please click the link below to join the webinar:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83973223502?pwd=aFIGMDBFOG1oV1hnQWpTY1hrQTBmZz09>

**Passcode: 585211**

**Or Dial:**

**US: +1-669-900-6833**

**Webinar ID: 839 7322 3502**

**Passcode: 585211**

**Please note that all requirements of the Brown Act requiring the physical presence of the board or staff have been waived per Executive Order N-29-20**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman McBride called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Led by David Chapman

### **ROLL CALL**

Directors Present: Chairman McBride  
Director McKenzie

Staff Present: Marina West

Public Present: 0 member(s) of the public indicated they were participating via teleconference.  
2 members of the public were present in the meeting room.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman McBride and Director McKenzie approved the Agenda as presented.

## Discussion and Action Items -

### 1. Discuss Definition of "Customer Classes" Under New Rate and Fee Alternatives Selected by the Board of Directors

GM West provided a PowerPoint presentation outlining the proposed definitions for each customer class to be assigned per the new rate alternative being considered by the Board.

GM West further explained that once the customer classes can be defined then the Ordinance concerning the Rules and Regulations for Water Service would need to be amended.

The Committee provided input on the definitions provided. Discussion ensued regarding short-term rentals with a consensus that they should be classified as residential as tracking them as businesses would be too burdensome. It was noted some are not permitted as well.

The Committee was concerned that customers would want to challenge a classification and how would they go about doing so. Staff explained their proposal is to allow for a variance procedure to challenge an assigned classification but that once assigned the classification would be valid for a minimum time period, suggesting 12-months minimum. There was consensus on this issue.

Directors further inquired on how a classification would be assigned. GM West explained that for new meter purchases and for new account set-ups a "Water Use Questionnaire" will be required. GM West presented the form for the Committee review and comment.

One specific comment to the definition proposed for Agricultural Classification is that "irrigation is the primary use of water as compared to any residential usage and/or ornamental landscape usage measured".

### 2. Overview of Cross Connection Control Program (Backflow Protection)

GM West provided an overview of the Cross Connection Control program designed to protect the water system from unwanted contaminants. She explained that the program has expanded over the last few years.

GM West provided an alternative model to the existing program which could benefit the Agency by shifting resources from a reactive approach to more proactive by taking control of the program and bringing the responsibility "in-house".

One Director believed that the proactive approach might be better as it saves administrative time.

Public Comment: One member of the public stated that a "pro-active" sounds better than the administrative approach.

**3. Consent Items –**

- a. FPREP Special Committee Meeting Minutes November 19, 2020

Recommended Action:

Approve as presented (Items a):

No Public Comment.

Committee members approved the minutes as presented.

**4. Public Comment Period**

One member of the public asked what the residual pressure might be for a new building/sprinkler system at his property near the administrative building.

**5. Verbal Reports - Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings.**

1. Committee Members' Comments/Reports - none
2. General Manager's Report - none

**6. Adjournment – Chairman McBride adjourned the meeting at 4:57 pm.**

Approved by:



Michael McBride, Committee Chair



Official Seal