



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."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

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

September 4, 2025
Time – 4:00 P.M.

MEETING ROOM IS OPEN FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

PUBLIC WISHING TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85237065962?pwd=p9Dadab8rNXmEebTwWMNTY01aaJl2.1>

OR

TELECONFERENCE LINE THRU ZOOM

1-669-900-6833

Webinar ID: 852 3706 5962

Passcode: 628272

CALL TO ORDER

President McKenzie called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Director McKenzie.

ROLL CALL

Directors present: JoMarie McKenzie
Megan Close-Dees – Observer only
William Aldridge
Rodney Miller-Boyer

Directors Absent: John Burkhart – Absent with prior notice

Staff present: Marina West

Consultants present: Sara Mares, COO, NBS Government Finance – Rate Study
Scott Nelson, CGFM, Starting Line Advisory – Agency Representative

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

 Director Aldridge made motion to approve the agenda as presented. Director Miller-Boyer seconded. Approved.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Public Workshop No. 2 – 2025 Rate Study (5-year period commencing 2026)

GM West reintroduced Sara Mares, NBS Government Finance, who is the project manager for the rate study. Ms. Mares gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the results of their analysis which led to the development of the analysis presented.

Ms. Mares summarized the biggest reason rates are increasing is the loss of the tier rates and reduced consumption on both residential and agricultural classes. She then reviewed the water revenue requirements and debt issuance that have been identified for capital projects. She is projecting an annual rate revenue increase of 3.5% per year. However, she noted the amount of the rate increase is different than the revenue increase.

Ms. Mares reviewed reserve fund levels at the end of the rate period. GM West and Mr. Nelson, Starting Line Advisory, made comments on the reserve policy as it relates to the analysis.

 Ms. Mares presented the proposed rate structure for meter sizes and consumption by class. This is just above 13% increase in year one. She reminded the Board that the rate revenue increasing 3.5% but the rate increase is based on lower consumption and loss of tiers (agricultural users).

Members of the Board asked questions which were answered.

Ms. Mares showed analysis that indicated the dollar impact of various billing scenarios (winter, annual and summer averages) which shows approximately \$13 to \$17 bi-monthly.

Ms. Mares discussed the Prop. 218 process and the schedule of processes needed to proceed. She further discussed newer processes concerning protests.

Directors discussed various scenarios that could be modeled so they could get a better feel for choices. Mr. Nelson recommended holding at 65% basic charge and 35% commodity and going 10% each direction (55%/45% and 75%/25%) to understand effect it will have on the bill.

No Action – Information and Discussion Purposes Only

2. Public Comment Period

None.

Items for Next or Future Agenda

None.

12:30 – 2:00 PM
(or upon completion of discussion)

3. Closed Session

a. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

[Government Code Section 54957(b)]

Title: General Manager

b. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR

(Government Code Section 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representative: Steven M. Kennedy, General Counsel

Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 12:33 pm.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 2:28 pm.

4. Closed Session Report

President McKenzie stated there was no reportable action from closed session.

5. Adjournment

President McKenzie adjourned the meeting at 2:29 pm.

Approved by:


John R. Burkhart, Secretary of the Board

MSC¹ – Motion made, seconded and carried

