



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**



**February 7, 2026
Time – 11:00 A.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

President Miller-Boyer called the meeting to order at 11:02 am.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Director Close-Dees.

ROLL CALL

Directors present: Rodney Miller-Boyer
William Aldridge – Absent w/prior notice
Megan Close-Dees
JoMarie McKenzie
Jose Martinez

Staff present: Marina West
Susan Allen, Tim Worley and Yasmeen Nubani – Ortega Strategies Group

Public Present: Following Roll Call, 0 member(s) of the public indicated they were participating via teleconference. 1 member(s) of the public were present in the meeting room

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Director Martinez made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Director Close-Dees seconded. 4-0 Approved.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Appointment of General Counsel

GM West reported that General Counsel Kennedy of Brunick, McElhaney & Kennedy PLC, had made a written request to the Agency to have the Board consider appointing new counsel. GM West then contacted the Agency's Special Counselor Mr. Jim Ciampa of Lagerlof, LLP to determine interest in serving as General Counsel. Mr. Ciampa has graciously jumped in to assist the Board through this transition and has committed

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at least three (3) months of service so that he can assess whether or not his firm can accommodate the Agency's needs long-term. It was noted that Mr. Ciampa was ranked second in the search for new counsel four years ago and his predecessor firm, Burris, Lagerlof, Swift & Senecal was engaged with the Agency for many years between 1980 and 2006.

Mr. Ciampa introduced himself to the Board and answered questions of the Directors.

Motion No. 26-011 - Motion to appoint Mr. Jim Ciampa, Lagerlof LLP as General Counsel for the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency.

Rodney Miller-Boyer	Y
William Aldridge	Absent
Megan Close-Dees	Y
JoMarie McKenzie	Y
Jose Martinez	Y

MSC¹ (Martinez/McKenzie) approved.

2. Closed Session

a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Significant Exposure to Potential Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(3))

One (1) Case

b. Public Employment
[Government Code Section 54957]
Title: General Manager

c. Public Employee Appointment
[Government Code Section 54957]
Title: General Manager

Public Comment: None.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 11:09 am.

The Board returned from Closed Session at 1:12 pm.

3. Closed Session Report

Item a. The Board held conference with Legal Counsel concerning significant exposure to potential litigation under Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(3)), Mr. Ciampa laid out the facts and circumstances of that subject. No further action was taken.

Item b. The Board held conference with Legal Counsel concerning public employment under Government Code Section 54957 for the position of General Manager and an interview was conducted with one potential candidate and no further action was taken.

Item c. The Board held conference with Legal Counsel regarding Public Employee Appointment, under Government Code Section 54957, for the position of General Manager, the Board directed staff to proceed with soliciting additional information with respect to one potential candidate for the General Manager position.

4. Public Comment Period

None.

5. Items for Next or Future Agenda

Director McKenzie requested a “mid-year” budget review be agendized.

6. Verbal Reports – Including Reports on Courses/Conferences/Meetings

- a. General Manager Report – February 10, 2026 Rate Study Public Hearing and March 10, 2026 Mid-year budget review and Fiscal Year 2026/27 Budget preview.
- b. Director Reports – None

7. Adjournment

President Miller-Boyer adjourned the meeting at 1:19 pm.

Approved by:


Megan Close-Dees, Secretary of the Board

MSC¹ – Motion made, seconded and carried



Official Seal