

Minutes

Sacramento Suburban Water District Special Board Meeting Monday, June 4, 2018

Call to Order

President Locke called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Locke led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Dave Jones, Craig Locke, Kevin Thomas and Robert Wichert.

Directors Absent: None.

Staff Present: General Manager Dan York and Heather Hernandez-Fort.

Public Present: William Eubanks, Jay Boatwright, Marti Ikehara, Madeline Henry, Paul Olmstead, Kathleen McPherson and Todd Sax.

Board Vacancy

1. Consider Appointing New Director for Division 2

General Manager Dan York (GM York) presented the staff report.

President Locke thanked the candidates for their interest in the vacant position and requested for each Director to announce their top three candidates, in no particular order, so that they could be tallied.

Director Jones expressed his top three candidates were Kathleen McPherson, Todd Sax and Ashkan Bashiri.

Director Thomas expressed his top three candidates were Marti Ikehara, Paul Olmstead and Kathleen McPherson.

Director Wichert expressed his top three candidates were Kathleen McPherson, Laura Livingston and Jay Boatwright.

President Locke expressed his top three candidates were Jay Boatwright, Kathleen McPherson and Paul Olmstead.

President Locked noted each Director selected Kathleen McPherson as a top three candidate.

President Locke moved to appoint Kathleen McPherson; Director Wichert seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote. Kathleen McPherson was appointed as Director for Division 2.

AYES:	Jones, Thomas, Locke and Wichert	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Swearing in Newly Elected Director

Secretary Dan York administered the Oath of Office to Kathleen McPherson.

Director McPherson joined the Board at the dais.

Items for Discussion and/or Action

2. Review of Securing Water Supplies, Reliability and Efficiencies with San Juan Water District

GM York presented the staff report.

President Locke expressed the item was to reinitiate discussions with SJWD which he believed was an ongoing process.

GM York reminded the Board there was not a budget for the item and that the Board might want to consider adding something for the 2019 budget if discussions continue.

William Eubanks (Mr. Eubanks) requested clarification on the item objective.

Director Jones expressed the Board was discussing their options regarding SJWD and reviewing the development of a Phase 2B.

President Locke expressed they planned for any future meetings to be open to the public and that he would like for them to rotate between SJWD and the District office.

Director Wichert expressed he was concerned that a 2x2 meeting would disenfranchise both Boards and that he was not in favor of that. He further expressed he believed that a resolution was needed to establish a 2x2 meeting.

GM York expressed he didn't recall a resolution being needed to establish a 2x2 committee, as the Board President has the authority to appoint committees, but that he would double check with legal counsel. He further noted if a resolution was required, that staff would bring one to the next regular Board meeting.

President Locke noted in the past, it was challenging to schedule a meeting with all members of both Boards, further noting there was some groundwork and other conversations that could take place in an Ad-Hoc meeting setting before both Boards held a full meeting.

President Locke clarified a Director could attend an Ad-Hoc meeting, however they could not participate in the meeting.

Director Wichert further expressed his opinion that he believed both full Boards should be included in any future meetings.

Director Thomas noted it was a sub-committee and he did not have any issues with it.

President Locke and Director Jones agreed with Director Thomas.

Director McPherson asked clarifying questions regarding the 2x2 committee.

GM York and President Locke clarified the purpose of the 2x2 committee and provided some additional background details including some anticipated benefits of a merger.

Mr. Eubanks offered his suggested solution of SJWD requesting a change of place of use from the Bureau of Reclamation, which could open more opportunities for the District.

Director Wichert noted some of the anticipated benefits of a merger from the previous research, including more economical use of SJWD's treatment facility leading to potentially higher rates for the District.

Director Wichert further expressed he believed that there was an overarching goal with the merger which he believed was to minimize the number of water purveyors to accumulate water districts under a common political entity as a way of reducing government. He further noted his opinion was the goal of a merger should be based on economic terms and not a political objective.

President Locke expressed he believed there were economic benefits to a consolidation, and further stated he was most interested in securing the water rights for the region.

Director Thomas expressed he was in favor of looking at it again to get answers.

Mr. Eubanks provided his opinion.

President Locke noted the State Water Resources Control Board was looking to consolidate water districts.

Director Thomas moved to approve the staff recommendation; President Locke seconded. The motion passed by a 4/1 vote.

AYES:	Jones, Locke, McPherson and Thomas.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:	Wichert.	RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Adjournment

President Locke adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Dan York
General Manager/Secretary
Sacramento Suburban Water District