

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SERRANO WATER DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Serrano Water District met in a regularly scheduled Board meeting on Tuesday, February 25, 2025. The meeting was held at the District Office located at 18021 Lincoln Street, Villa Park, California.

CALL TO ORDER: President Reese called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Reese	President
Frank Bryant	Vice-President
Jerry Haight	Board Member
Robbie Pitts	Board Member

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ABSENT:

Greg Mills	Board Member
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STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Vilander	General Manager
Jennifer Westrum	Administrative Assistant
Jeremy Jungreis	Legal Counsel

GUESTS PRESENT:

Paul Mesmer	1 st Vice President Independent Special Districts of Orange County
Bibi Mesmer	Member of the Public
John Lewis	Lewis Consulting Group
Greg Mills	<i>(via zoom platform)</i>

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Mesmer, President of Surfside Colony and 1st Vice President of Independent Special Districts of Orange County, invited the Serrano Water District Directors and staff to attend the monthly ISDOC Executive Committee meetings and the Quarterly luncheon meetings featuring keynote speakers. ISDOC spotlights each of their Special Districts and encourages Serrano Water to attend their meetings. Membership in ISDOC brings access to a large knowledge bank as well as legislative awareness.

BOARD MINUTES

Consideration of Serrano Water District Board Meeting minutes for January 28, 2025 and February 18, 2025. Director Haight commented that in the meeting on January 28, there was emphasis and discussion relating to the need for a very thorough rate evaluation, which constituted the request of the February 18th Special Board Meeting. The subject was also discussed in that Strategic Planning Workshop. Director Pitts moved that the minutes of January 28, 2025 and February 18, 2025 meetings be approved by adding the revisions mentioned by Director Haight. Director Bryant seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously carried with Directors Reese, Haight, Bryant, and Pitts voting yes.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Vilander summarized the status of Board Committee and management matters as agendaized for the month of January. General Manager Vilander mentioned that IT Problem Solver is transitioning Serrano Water District another firm for now. Over the next 3 months the district will be gathering other bids on IT services. President Reese mentioned that he wants to get those appointments set up as soon as possible. General Manager Vilander also stated that we will need to move our investment funds out of the OC Treasurer Fund. He wants to review other fund options at the next Finance committee meeting. Another topic that will be discussed at the next Finance committee meeting is the lease on our cell phone tower located at Lockett.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Scott Nelson presented the financials for the month of January, noting that overall, our revenue is right on target. The budget had assumed a lot of things that have changed now regarding the Serrano Water District operations. In addition, with the recent staffing changes, the budget for salaries will be lower than expected for the rest of the year. It was moved by Director Haight, seconded by Director Pitts, and unanimously carried with Directors Reese, Bryant, Haight, and Pitts all voting yes to approve the disbursements in the amount of \$ 956,279.40.

WATER REPORT

General Manager Vilander presented the water report for the month of January. We took some water out of the lake in the month of February. The amount we took out was approximately 162 acre-feet. There is still approximately 2400 acre-feet left in the lake for Serrano to use. The report was received and filed.

FORM 700 REVIEW

General Counsel Jeremy Jungreis presented a slide presentation to review Form 700 with the Board members. The directors will be handling the completion of their forms prior to the April 1, 2025 due date.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

DIRECTORS' COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Director Haight mentioned that we need to research Irvine Ranch Water District's rates to see what their new Prop 218 rate increases are going to be prior to conducting new Serrano Water District rate studies. President Reese commented that there is no obligation on time to get this completed. All directors agreed that work needs to be done on a thorough rate analysis before any rate changes are implemented. Director Haight reviewed the new website and noted some updates that need to be made including Director terms and photos. Director Pitts asked if the online payments can be processed now on the new website. General Manger Vilander explained that there was an issue with the link to the online check payments, but it has now been resolved.

The Board of Directors announced that they would be entering closed session at 11:00 a.m.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9(d)): One case.

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL TO DISCUSS SECURITY ISSUES AND POSSIBLE INITIATION OF LITIGATION (Government Code §§ Government Code 54956.9(d); 54957 (a)(1)).

The meeting was reconvened in open session at 12:04 p.m., and it was announced that there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was formally adjourned at 12:05 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will be held on March 25, 2025 @ 8:30 a.m.

Jennifer Westrum
Administrative Assistant