

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, November 16, 2021. The meeting was held at the District Office located at 18021 Lincoln Street, Villa Park, California.

CALL TO ORDER: President Mills called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS PRESENT:

Greg Mills	President
Brad Reese	Vice President – Participating remotely per agenda posting.
Jerry Haight	Board Member
C.L. “Larry” Pharris, Jr.	Board Member – Participating remotely per agenda posting.
Frank Bryant	Board Member

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Vilander	General Manager
Laura Heflin	Administrative Assistant
Vittorio Roggero	Business Manager
Jeremy Jungreis	Legal Counsel – Participating remotely.

GUESTS PRESENT:

None.

Director Pharris requested that agenda items 13 and 14 pertaining to the General Manager evaluation and compensation be tabled to the December meeting so that all directors may be present in person. Additionally, he requested that agenda item 12 relating to staff annual reviews be moved up on the agenda due to potential connectivity issues that may occur. Following discussion, it was moved (Director Pharris), seconded (Director Bryant) and unanimously carried with Director Pharris, Bryant, Haight, Reese and Mills voting yes to table agenda items 13 and 14 to the December Board meeting and to move agenda item 12 out of sequence.

REPORT BY PERSONNEL COMMITTEE FOR ANNUAL SALARY REVIEWS

Following discussion led by General Manager Vilander, it was moved (Director Pharris), seconded (Director Reese), and unanimously carried with Directors Reese, Mills, Pharris, Haight and Bryant voting yes to authorize the General Manager to implement salary adjustments at his discretion within the range recommended by the Personnel Committee. Director Haight discussed COLA fluctuations and possible impact to staff’s salaries. Salaries would not be affected in the unlikely event of deflation. President Mills and Director Haight requested that historically data pertaining to COLA be presented on an annual basis in November. Director Haight thanked General Manager Vilander for putting the data together and being mindful of the District as well as being fair to the staff.

Attorney Jungreis requested that an emergency agenda item be added to the agenda entitled Potential State Lobbyist – Infrastructure Bill Funds for board discretion in reference to staff and legal counsel being authorized to explore and potentially retain a lobbyist to assist with the Infrastructure Bill. Following discussion, it was moved (Director Bryant), seconded (Director Haight) and unanimously carried with

Director Pharris, Bryant, Haight, Reese and Mills voting yes to add the Lobbyist emergency item to the agenda.

LOBBYIST FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT ACT

Following discussion led by General Manager Vilander and Attorney Jungreis, it was moved (Director Bryant), seconded (Director Haight), and unanimously carried with Director Pharris, Reese, Bryant, Mills and Haight voting yes to authorize General Manager Vilander and Attorney Jungreis to retain a lobbyist to assist with potential funding via the Infrastructure Investment Act in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

BOARD MINUTES

Consideration of Serrano Water District Board Meeting minutes of October 19, 2021. Director Pharris moved that the minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting be approved as submitted, Director Bryant seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously carried with Directors Bryant, Mills, Reese, Haight and Pharris voting yes.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

General Manager Vilander summarized the status of Board Committee and management matters as agendized for the month of October. Highlights included a review of various meetings attended and current issues. Discussion ensued as well as a question-and-answer period. General Manager Vilander reported that he will be meeting with the Transparency Committee to update the District website. Director Haight queried the other directors about the format and presentation of the current website and all concurred that it should remain basically the same with updated information due to its simplicity. Director Haight stressed the importance of transparency. General Manager Vilander reported that the District is due to review divisions under the District Map Act to ensure that the population is correctly balanced and a myriad of other items. Attorney Jungreis and General Manager Vilander will work with Cal State Fullerton and the Registrar of Voters to secure the needed information for review and to ensure that the District's division maps are correct. Attorney Jungreis remarked that a consultant's support may be needed for data harvesting. General Manager Vilander stated that Evoqua was onsite last month to provide training on the PFAS filtration system to staff members. A number of upcoming events were reviewed, and it was agreed that Laura will send an email with potential dates for a dinner meeting in January. The employee raffle will proceed as last year -- status quo. Funding through the City of Villa Park is still under debate. General Manager Vilander reported that he will be meeting with the Construction Committee to review the report provided by Brown & Caldwell relating to the Smith Reservoir. A myriad of options has been offered, and the Committee will review and come back to the Board with solid recommendations. A special workshop may be scheduled to further review and discuss.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Business Manager Roggero presented the financials for the month October. It was moved (Director Haight), seconded (Director Bryant), and unanimously carried with Directors Bryant, Pharris, Reese, Haight and Mills voting yes to approve the disbursements in the amount of \$279,454.06.

WATER REPORT

General Manager presented the water report for the month of October. General Manager Vilander remarked that IRWD has been putting water into the lake and it is at 740.2 right now. A correction has been made on the retail consumption/production report resulting from a number that has been transposed. The report was received and filed.

PFAS PROGRESS REPORT

General Manager Vilander reported that there have been a few delays related to electrical issues which may push the PFAS go live date back to mid-December.

IRVINE LAKE AGREEMENTS

Attorney Jungreis reported that the agreements are essentially complete with a few minor things being worked out between The Irvine Company and the County of Orange. The plan is to present and review with the SWD/IRWD Ad-Hoc Committee and present to the entire Board at the December meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence was reviewed as agendized.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Directors and staff thanked Director Mills for a great dinner party.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

Attorney Jungreis reported a new initiative through OSHA to mandate the vaccine for companies with 100 or more employees through the Biden administration. The State will be discussing this further on the 18th.

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – GENERAL MANAGER

This item was tabled and will be discussed at the December Board meeting.

ADJUSTMENT OF GENERAL MANAGER SALARY

This item was tabled and will be discussed at the December Board meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-11-01 SUPPORTING THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING ACT OF 2022

Following discussion led by General Manager Vilander, it was moved (Director Bryant), seconded (Director Haight), and unanimously carried with Directors Reese, Mills, Pharris, Haight and Bryant voting yes to approve Resolution No. 2021-11-01 as presented.

It was announced that it was not necessary to enter into closed session.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

Conference with real property negotiators

(Government Code Section 54956.8)

Property: Santiago Reservoir (Irvine Lake), adjacent to 4621 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676.

Agency Negotiator: Jerry Vilander

Negotiating Parties: County of Orange

Under Negotiation: Price and terms

Conference with real property negotiators

(Government Code Section 54956.8)

Property: Storage Rights, Santiago Reservoir (Irvine Lake), adjacent to 4621 Santiago Canyon Road, Silverado Canyon, CA 92676.

Agency Negotiator: Jerry Vilander

Negotiating Parties: Irvine Ranch Water District

Under Negotiation: Price and terms

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was formally adjourned at 10:15 a.m. to the next regular Board meeting scheduled for December 21, 2021 @ 8:30 a.m. at the District offices.

Laura Heflin
Administrative Assistant