



SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

David Peterson, Vice President
Chris Cefalu, Director

BOARD MEMBERS
Shane Romsos, Director

Kelly Sheehan, President
Nick Exline, Director

John Thiel, General Manager

Paul Hughes, Chief Financial Officer

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
August 5, 2021
MINUTES**

The South Tahoe Public Utility District Board of Directors met in a regular session, 2:02 p.m., at the District Office, located at 1275 Meadow Crest Drive, South Lake Tahoe, California.

ROLL CALL:

Board of Directors: President Sheehan, Directors Cefalu, Romsos, Peterson, Exline

Staff: John Thiel, Paul Hughes, Gary Kvistad, Marla Sharp, Brenlyn Hoyle, Tim Bledsoe, Julie Ryan, Jim Hilton, Trevor Coolidge, Lynn Nolan, Chris Stanley, Jeff Lee, Adrian Combes, Dan Arce

Guests: Arthur Zorio, Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber and Schreck; Lianne Peterson

CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA OR CONSENT CALENDAR:

President Sheehan reported that staff has been working on the Diamond Valley Ranch (DVR) Facilities Emergency Repairs following the Tamarack Fire and severe rain event. This Emergency Item came to the Board's attention after the Agenda was published and the work cannot wait to agendize it for another Board of Director's meeting so it is imperative to add Action Item 6b Diamond Valley Ranch Facilities Emergency Repairs to the Agenda by a 4/5's vote of the Board.

Moved Peterson/Second Cefalu/Sheehan Yes/Cefalu Yes/Romsos Yes/Peterson Yes/Exline Yes to add Agenda Item 6b – Diamond Valley Ranch Facilities Emergency Repairs.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Moved Sheehan/Second Peterson/ Sheehan Yes/Cefalu Yes/Romsos Yes/Peterson Yes/Exline Yes to approve the Consent Calendar as presented.

a. **CALPERS REQUIRED PAY LISTING BY POSITION**

(Debbie Henderson, Accounting Manager)

Adopted Resolution No. 3192-21 incorporating the Pay Listing by Position for the pay listings effective June 24, 2021.

- b. **LIABILITY CLAIM AGAINST THE SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT RECEIVED FROM RUSSELL WIGART**
(Tim Bledsoe, Manager of Customer Service)
Approved to forward claim from Russell Wigart against the District to Joint Powers Insurance Authority for review and resolution in the amount of \$2,500 for alleged losses.
- c. **SECONDARY CLARIFIER NO. 3 REHABILITATION PROJECT**
(Stephen Caswell, Principal Engineer)
Approved Change Order No. 1 to TNT Industrial Contractors, Inc., in the credit amount of <\$3,594.96>.
- d. **REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES:** July 15, 2021
(Melonie Guttry, Executive Services Manager/Clerk of the Board)
Approved July 15, 2021, Minutes.

ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION

- a. Approve Payment of Claims (Debbie Henderson, Accounting Manager)

Moved Sheehan/Second Cefalu/ Sheehan Yes/Cefalu Yes/Romsos Yes/Peterson Yes/Exline Yes
to approve Payment of Claims in the amount of \$3,131,186.63.

- b. Diamond Valley Ranch Facilities Emergency Repairs (John Thiel, General Manager) - **John Thiel** provided details regarding the extensive damage from the Tamarack Fire and the severe rain event that damaged the Diamond Ditch with mud, rocks and debris and resulted in the shutdown of recycled water flows from Harvey's Place until Diamond Ditch can be restored. **Jim Hilton** provided further details and an update on the steps being taken on the progress. **Trevor Coolidge** provided additional details and addressed questions from the Board. **Paul Hughes** provided details regarding the availability of funds for the emergency work and funding from the Office of Emergency Services (OES). **Lynn Nolan** provided details regarding the funding from OES and reimbursement from state disaster funding and addressed questions from the Board. **Director Romsos** thanked **Jim Hilton** for the tour yesterday surveying the extensive damage to the ditch and the Diamond Valley Ranch property. **Director Peterson** extended the Board's appreciation and gratitude for the firefighting efforts provided by District staff. **Jim Hilton** provided further details regarding District staff member, **Buck McClelland**, Pumps Station Operator, and a volunteer with Eastern Alpine Fire and Rescue. **Buck McClelland** was on patrol and witnessed the fire encroaching into the District shop area and radioed for a 20 man strike team, but in the interim fought the fire all by himself saving District facilities. Everything surrounding the facilities was decimated, but the facilities were saved and saved the District millions. **Attorney Kvistad** provided details regarding this emergency Agenda Item which will be updated at each subsequent Board meeting with the Board determining whether to continue or terminate the emergency.

Moved Peterson/Second Exline/ Sheehan Yes/Cefalu Yes/Romsos Yes/Peterson Yes/Exline Yes
to Authorized the District to: 1) Determined an emergency exists as defined in Section 1102 of the Public Contract Code; 2) Determined substantial evidence has been presented to authorize an exception be made pursuant to Section 22050 of the Public Contract Code that this emergency will not permit a delay resulting from a competitive solicitation for bids and compliance with the District's purchasing requirements and that this action is necessary to respond to the emergency; 3) Adopted Resolution No. 3193-21 delegating authority to the General Manager to order any action necessary to respond to this emergency; 4) Determined

this project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Public Resources Code section 210808(b)(2) and (4); 5) Authorized filing a Notice of Exemption; and, 6) Approved expenditures necessary to start emergency repairs of up to \$300,000.

STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES AND LIAISON REPORTS:

Director Exline provided details regarding the meeting of the Solar Ad-Hoc Committee that he attended on Monday, August 2, 2021. **Director Romsos** provided details regarding the progress of the solar project which will be brought to the August 19 Board meeting.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Director Romsos thanked **Jim Hilton** and **Buck McClelland** for their efforts.

Director Peterson introduced his wife **Lianne Peterson** who is in attendance.

EL DORADO WATER AGENCY PURVEYOR REPORT:

Director Peterson provided details regarding the next meeting on August 11 which will be held virtually again.

STAFF/ATTORNEY REPORTS:

Tim Bledsoe provided an update on the Tax Roll Delinquencies and **Paul Hughes** provided further details regarding \$1 billion state funding for delinquent water accounts to water purveyors. The District will be submitting an application in August to the State Water Resources Control Board.

John Thiel provided an update regarding the Paloma Well Rehabilitation Project Rebid and the continued work with the contractor, Zim Industries, which will be presented at the August 19 Board meeting.

Jeff Lee provided details regarding the Waste Treatment Plant/Emergency Retention Basin odor complaints that were received and what actions were taken to correct and prevent future odor problems. **Director Peterson** commented on the camaraderie of District staff at solving situations and complimented **John Thiel** for his implementation of this culture at the District. **John Thiel** complimented managers and teams for being part of this culture of excellence.

Chris Stanley provided an update regarding the Al Tahoe Well and addressed questions from the Board.

Chris Stanley and **Adrian Combes** provided details regarding the progress of the Sierra Flushing Project. **Dan Arce** provided details regarding lab results from water samples. **Chris Stanley** reported that staff would like to continue the work at an additional cost due to additional time and area than first estimated and addressed questions from the Board. **John Thiel** reported that staff will review estimates and budget line items to accomplish the work.

GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

John Thiel reported on several items:

- Provided a staffing update including details regarding a position change from an Operator-in-Training position to an Operator 1 position which will be discussed with the Ad-Hoc

Organizations Structure, Service and Efficiency Committee meeting scheduled today following the Board meeting.

- Provided a COVID-19 update that currently the District has four staff member out with symptoms and waiting for test results with one COVID positive. There has been no exposure to District staff, and the District is operating at COVID Risk Level 2.
- Reported the benefits in joint lobbying efforts regarding the District's partnership with Tahoe Water Partnership.
- Provided the Board with his 2021 Goals. He is currently assessing the status of these goals and will be providing further details at the August 19 Board meeting.

Director Peterson recused himself at 3:18

- **John Thiel** provided a Tahoe Keys Water update following a meeting last week with Tahoe Keys and District staff regarding long term water supply alternatives. The Reimbursement Agreement that the Board has already approved will be presented at the Tahoe Keys Property Owners Association (TKPOA) Board on August 18, and he addressed questions from the Board.

Director Peterson rejoined the meeting at 3:19.

BREAK AND ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: 3:20 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION:

- a. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) of the California Government code, Closed Session may be held for a conference with legal counsel.

No reportable Board action

- b. Pursuant to Section 54956.9(d)(1) of the California Government code, Closed Session may be held for conference with legal counsel regarding existing litigation: Contra Costa County Superior Court Case C21-01436, Reanne Mobley; Rena Petri; Douglas Petri vs. JFC Construction, Inc.; Verizon Wireless, Inc.; South Tahoe Public Utility District; et al.

No reportable Board action

- c. Pursuant to Section 54956.9(d)(1) of the California Government code, Closed Session may be held for conference with legal counsel regarding existing litigation: Alpine County Superior Court Case C-21-0889, Alpine County vs. South Tahoe Public Utility District; et al.

No reportable Board action

ADJOURNMENT: 4:13 p.m.



Kelly Sheehan, Board President
South Tahoe Public Utility District



Marla Sharp, Assistant Clerk of the Board
South Tahoe Public Utility District