



SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

David Peterson, President
Nick Haven, Director

BOARD MEMBERS
Shane Romsos, Vice President

Kelly Sheehan, Director
Nick Exline, Director

Paul Hughes, General Manager

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT December 7, 2023 MINUTES

The South Tahoe Public Utility District Board of Directors met in a regular session, 2:00 p.m., at the District Office, located at 1275 Meadow Crest Drive, South Lake Tahoe, California.

ROLL CALL: Board of Directors: President Peterson, Directors Haven, Romsos, Sheehan, Exline

Staff: Paul Hughes, Keith Collins, Melonie Gutfry, Julie Ryan, Chris Stanley, Trevor Coolidge, Donielle Morse, Bren Borley, Vinny Stagnaro, Shannon Chandler, Cliff Bartlett, Mark Seelos, Liz Kauffman, Brent Goligoski, Shelly Thomsen, Erika Franco, Chris Skelly, Megan Colvey, Adrian Combes, Star Glaze, Stephen Caswell, Jamie Taylor, Heidi Baugh, Lauren Benefield, Sinead Carney, Robert Christiansen, Dan Arce, Gary Kvistad, Art Zorio

Guests: Roger Jensen, City of Mountain View and Justin Williams, MUN CPA's

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

2. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:** None

3. **CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA OR CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Melonie Gutfry reported that there is a request to add Item 13b – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation to the Agenda. This item came to the Board's attention after the Agenda was posted and cannot wait another two weeks to be addressed. This requires a 4/5's vote to be added to the Agenda.

Moved Haven/Second Sheehan/Peterson Yes/Haven Yes/Romsos Yes/Sheehan Yes/Exline Yes to find that this item was brought to the Board's attention after the Agenda was posted and cannot wait another two weeks due to a December 11, 2023, deadline, and add Agenda Item 13b to Closed Session – Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation.

4. **ADOPTION OF CONSENT CALENDAR:**

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

a. WINTER STORMS EMERGENCY RESPONSE

(Paul Hughes, General Manager)

Pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 22050(c), continued the emergency action to respond to the Winter Storms Emergency pursuant to Resolution No. 3242-23.

b. KELLER HEAVENLY WATER SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 2 PROJECT

(Trevor Coolidge, Senior Engineer)

1) Approved no-cost Final Balancing Change Order No. 3 to White Rock Construction, Inc., 2) Approved the Project Closeout Agreement and Release of Claims with White Rock Construction Inc., for the Keller Heavenly Water System Improvements, Phase 2 Project; and 3) Authorized the General Manager to execute Change Order No. 3 and the Project Closeout Agreement and Release of Claims.

c. DIAMOND VALLEY RANCH IRRIGATION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

(Julie Ryan, Engineering Department Manager)

1) Approved Project Closeout Agreement and Release of Claims with Thomas Haen Company, Inc., for the Diamond Valley Ranch Irrigation Improvement Project; and 2) Authorize the General Manager to execute the Project Closeout Agreement and Release of Claims.

d. ENGINEERING PROCESS AND PROCEDURES

(Julie Ryan, Engineering Department Manager)

Adopted Resolution No. 3260-23 granting authority to the General Manager to approve certain regulatory and contracting documents.

e. LIABILITY CLAIM AGAINST SOUTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT RECEIVED FROM MATTHEW EERNISSE

(Ryan Lee, Customer Service Manager)

Rejected the Claim against South Tahoe Public Utility District for losses allegedly sustained by Matthew Eernisse.

f. AERATION BLOWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

(Brent Goligoski, Associate Engineer)

1) Approved the Proposal to amend existing Task Order No. 24 for Carollo Engineers, Inc., for additional engineering services for the Aeration Blower System and Improvements Project in an amount not to exceed \$177,570; and 2) Authorized the General Manager to execute Amendment A to Task Order No. 24 to the Master Services Agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc.

g. RECEIVE AND FILE PAYMENT OF CLAIMS (Greg Dupree, Accounting Manager)

Received and filed Payment of Claims in the amount of \$4,100,623.31.

h. REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES: November 16, 2023

(Melonie Guttry, Executive Services Manager/Clerk of the Board)

Approved November 16, 2023, Minutes

5. CONSENT ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION/ACTION: None

6. PRESENTATION:

Roger Jensen, Chief Information Officer / IT Director with the City of Mountain View presented the MISAC Award of Excellence to the Information Technology (IT) Department. **Paul Hughes** congratulated the IT Department for their commitment to excellence.

Justin Williams provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2022-2023 Audit results. **Paul Hughes** addressed several questions from the Board and agreed to follow up on certain questions. **Directors Romsos** and **Sheehan** thanked and congratulated staff on the audit results.

7. ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION:

- a. Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project (Stephen Caswell, Principal Engineer) – **Stephen Caswell** provided details regarding the Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project.

Moved Sheehan/Second Romsos /Peterson Yes/Haven Yes/Romsos Yes/Sheehan Yes/Exline Yes to 1) Find minor irregularities in the bid from T&S Construction Co., Inc. to be immaterial and waive immaterial irregularities; and 2) Award the Project to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, T&S Construction Co., Inc., in the amount of \$1,810,750.

- b. Director of Operations Position (Paul Hughes, General Manager; Liz Kaufman, HR Director) – **Paul Hughes** provided details regarding the new management position titled Director of Operations and addressed questions from the Board.

Moved Exline/Second Sheehan/Peterson Yes/Haven Yes/Romsos Yes/Sheehan Yes/Exline Yes to approve the addition of a new management position titled Director of Operations with a monthly salary range of \$14,557 - \$18,579 and approve the wage and associated benefits expenditure to be added to the fiscal year 2023/2024 budget.

- c. Election of Board Officers (Melonie Guttry, Executive Services Manager/Board Clerk)

Moved Haven/Second Sheehan/Peterson Yes/Haven Yes/Romsos Yes/Sheehan Yes/Exline Yes to elect Dave Peterson Board President for the 2024 Calendar Year.

- d. Election of Board Officers (Melonie Guttry, Executive Services Manager/Board Clerk)

Moved Exline/Second Sheehan/Peterson Yes/Haven Yes/Romsos Yes/Sheehan Yes/Exline Yes to elect Shane Romsos Board Vice President for the 2024 Calendar Year.

8. STANDING AND AD-HOC COMMITTEES AND LIAISON REPORTS:

President Peterson will not be able to attend the December 13th El Dorado Water Agency Meeting and Alternate **Director Sheehan** may attend in his absence.

9. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS:

Director Romsos reported he had a discussion with **Stephen Caswell** regarding the strategic water plan.

President Peterson reported that an article was recently in the *Wall Street Journal* regarding bit coin mining and a study that concluded that the water use used for bitcoin mining exceeded the water use for New York City.

10. STAFF/ATTORNEY REPORTS:

Donielle Morse provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding current grant and loan funding resources and addressed questions from the Board. **Director Exline** thanked staff for the presentation and asked that grants staff be included in the System Efficiency and Sustainability Committee meetings.

Shelly Thomsen and **Cliff Bartlett** provided details regarding electric vehicle fleet to meet the California regulations for 2024 and addressed questions from the Board.

11. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Paul Hughes reported on several items:

- The District's Holiday Party is tomorrow night at 6 p.m.
- Due to holiday closures and possible lack of quorum, the District will possibly be cancelling the January 4, 2024, Board meeting.

12. NOTICE OF PAST AND FUTURE MEETINGS/EVENTS

13. BREAK AND ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION: 3:34 p.m.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: 4:27 p.m.

- a. 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: Yolo County Superior Court Case CV 2021-1686, Alpine County vs. South Tahoe Public Utility District; et al.

No reportable Board Action

ADJOURNMENT: 4:28 p.m.



Melonie Guttry, Executive Services Manager/
Clerk of the Board
South Tahoe Public Utility District



David Peterson, Board President
South Tahoe Public Utility District