

LAVWMA
Livermore-Amador Valley Water Management Agency
Minutes
Regular Meeting of Board of Directors
Wednesday, February 21, 2024
6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Chair Bob Carling called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Chair Bob Carling, Vice Chair Arun Goel, Directors Evan Branning, Rich Halket, Jeff Nibert, and Julie Testa.

Staff Present: General Counsel Alexandra Barnhill, Treasurer Carol Atwood, DSRSD Operations Director Dan Gill, DSRSD Administrative Assistant Sheree Davis, and General Manager Chuck Weir

Member Agency Staff Present: Pleasanton Assistant Director of Public Works, Tamara Baptista

Others: Retired DSRSD employee Levi Fuller, and Castro Valley Sanitary District Board Member Tim McGowan

4. Order of Agenda/Acknowledgement of Posting

There were no changes to the Agenda.

5. Comments from the Public

Levi Fuller introduced himself and described his background and experience for the Board. He stated that he is applying for the General Manager position.

6. Consent Calendar

- a. Board Meeting Minutes for the November 15, 2023 meeting.
- b. Resolution No. 23-08 Approving Continuation of Emergency Action Procurement for the Repair of the Livermore Interceptor Pipeline.

Director Nibert motioned, seconded by Director Testa, to approve Consent Calendar Item Nos. 6.a. and 6.b.

There were no comments from the public. The Motion passed unanimously (6 – 0) by a roll call vote.

7. Financial Reporting for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024.

Treasurer Atwood provided a summary of the second quarter financial report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024. She noted that expenses are tracking normally, with minor exceptions such as insurance, which is higher than anticipated. PG&E electrical costs are well below budget but will increase with wet weather.

This was an information item only requiring no action by the Board. There were no comments from the public.

8. LAVWMA Quarterly Report of Operations, 2nd Quarter, FY2023-2024

General Manager Weir provided an overview of the report and noted the various charts showing pump performance, electrical usage, and maintenance activities. He complimented DSRSD Operations Director Dan Gill and his staff for the improvements they have made to the report. Director Testa asked about the status of a solar panel project at the pump station. General Manager Weir, Director Goel, and Dan Gill noted that the DSRSD Board has approved a solar project at the pump station and authorized funding to determine the best options and use of the power that will be generated. DSRSD will likely pursue a Power Purchase Agreement with a private company. DSRSD will provide an update to the Board after it analyzes its options. The project is expected to utilize all available space at the pump station, and that property is owned by DSRSD. There are no viable options for a LAVWMA specific project. One option that was considered in the past was installing panels over the storage basins, but it was rejected due to cost and potential impacts to the concrete in the basins.

This was an information item only requiring no action by the Board. There were no comments from the public.

9. Authorization for General Counsel to Extend the General Manager’s Agreement as Needed through June 30, 2024

General Manager Weir and General Counsel Barnhill explained the intent of this item which is to provide for a smooth transition to the new General Manager, who is expected to start in early April 2024, approximately the same time that General Manager Weir is retiring. This authorization from the Board will provide the opportunity for General Manager Weir to provide assistance as needed for current projects and budget preparation.

Director Testa motioned, seconded by Vice Chair Goel, to approve Authorization for General Counsel to Extend the General Manager’s Agreement as Needed through June 30, 2024

There were no comments from the public. The Motion passed unanimously (6 – 0) by a roll call vote.

10. Project Status Reports – Purchase of Three Vertical Turbine Pumps, the San Leandro Sample Station Improvements Project, and the Emergency Repair of the Livermore Interceptor Pipeline

General Manager Weir noted that the final two pumps were successfully started on February 20 and will be placed in lead through the testing period. Once accepted, payment for the pumps will

be made. There will be a withholding of \$50,000 pending modifications to the O&M Manual and updates to the name plates with all the correct information. The warranty period will be 18 months from the date of acceptance. Mr. Weir noted that the process to purchase and manufacture six 500 horse power pumps took nearly ten years to complete. Mr. Weir further noted that he and DSRSD staff will be meeting on February 22 to develop a plan for rebuilding and/or replacement of the four 600 HP pumps. This will also include rebuilding the motors.

The San Leandro Sample Station Design Improvements Project is underway. The contractor has requested an extension to the completion date from July to November to account for delays in procurement for the 30-inch valve. LAVWMA will consider the extension pending proper documentation of the delays, which would include correspondence between the contractor and the supplier. The contractor has made a commitment to complete all other items by the original completion date. Director Goel suggested that the contractor be notified of all requirements specified in the agreement. General Manager Weir stated that the specifications in the contract are very specific in terms of submittals, preparation of a project plan, and requests for extensions. A letter has been sent to the contractor in response to the extension request and it is very detailed in terms of what is required from the contractor in order for an extension to be considered.

The Project for the emergency repair of the Livermore interceptor pipeline is also proceeding. Easements with City of Livermore and Zone 7 Water Agency are nearing completion. The new pipeline is in service and the temporary bypass pipeline and pumps have been removed. The project is over 80% completed and should be finished in mid-March. Some concrete work and restoring the berm that was moved to accommodate the trenching for the new pipeline remain to be completed.

General Manager Weir discussed some of the issues dealing with State regulatory agencies and FEMA. He complimented DSRSD staff for their efforts in managing this project on behalf of LAVWMA and City of Livermore.

This was an information item only requiring no action by the Board. There were no comments from the public.

11. Update and Response to Various Legal and Legislative Issues

General Manager Weir provided an overview of the various updates from CASA, BACWA and CSDA. These documents provide information related to all the regulatory and legislative issues facing wastewater treatment agencies, including nutrients, PFAS, and collection systems. The biggest issue facing agencies now is the pending renewal of the Nutrient Watershed Permit. The draft of the permit was just issued. It applies to the EBDA combined effluent, which will require the EBDA and LAVWMA agencies to work cooperatively to meet the requirements. The permit includes an interim limit of 9,000 kg/day of Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN). There is also a final limit effective in 2034 that is a 50% reduction, or 4,500 kg/day. EBDA agencies are implementing process control improvement projects ranging from \$200-\$500 million, which will greatly increase the rates charged to their constituents.

One issue of concern for the member agencies is there is no longer any acknowledgment of “early actions” taken to address nutrient loadings to the Bay prior to being required to do so. The

member agencies should still be able to meet their requirements through water recycling. One key will be creating ways that all new development is served by recycled water for landscaping purposes.

The Board reviewed Senate Bill 1430 which would provide PFAS liability protection for water and wastewater agencies. The Board agreed with the recommendation by NACWA to send support letters to both California Senators and Majority Leader Schumer.

Director Nibert motioned, seconded by Vice Chair Goel, to approve having the Chair sign letters of support for Senate Bill 1430.

There were no comments from the public. The Motion passed unanimously (6 – 0) by a roll call vote.

12. General Manager’s Report

General Manager Weir highlighted several areas of his report, including asset management, the GM recruitment, capital projects, PG&E usage, and major activities since the November 15, 2023 Board meeting.

This was an information item only requiring no action by the Board. There were no comments from the public.

13. Closed Session – Personnel Matters Pursuant to Gov’t Code § 54957(b) Public Employee Appointment

Title: General Manager

Chair Carling adjourned the regular session at 6:44 p.m.

Chair Carling reconvened the regular session at 7:00 p.m.

General Counsel Barnhill reported that the Board took no reportable action.

15. Matters From/For Board Members

There were no matters from/for Board members.

16, Next Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, May 15, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

The next Board meeting will be held in DSRSD’s Board Room.

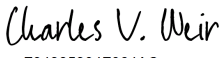
Special Board meetings have been scheduled for March 14 and March 28, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in DSRSD’s Board room.

Director Branning stated that he would be unable to attend the March 14, 2024 Board meeting, and that he would check with Mayor John Marchand about attending in his place.

21. Adjournment

There being no further action, Chair Carling adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Minutes Approved by the Board March 14, 2024.

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Charles V. Weir
General Manager

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