



*Dedicated to
Satisfying our Community's
Water Needs*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MESA WATER DISTRICT
Wednesday, April 10, 2024
1965 Placentia Avenue, Costa Mesa, CA 92627
4:30 p.m. Regular Board Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Dewane.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Fisler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present

Shawn Dewane, President
Marice H. DePasquale, Vice President
Jim Atkinson, Director *(arrived at 4:34 p.m.)*
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director
James R. Fisler, Director

Directors Absent

None

Staff Present

Paul E. Shoenberger, P.E., General Manager
Denise Garcia, Chief Administrative Officer/
District Secretary
Marwan Khalifa, CPA, MBA, Chief Financial Officer/
District Treasurer
Andrew D. Wiesner, P.E., District Engineer
Tyler Jernigan, Water Operations Manager
Stacy Taylor, Water Policy Manager
Kaitlyn Norris, Public Affairs Specialist
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

Others Present

John Kennedy, General Manager, Orange County Water District
Keith Stribling, CFA, Senior Portfolio Manager, PFM Asset Management, LLC
Alexandra Irving, Client Services Coordinator, Public Agency Retirement Services
Angela Tang, Senior Coordinator, Client Services and Sales Public Agency Retirement Services

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Dewane asked for public comments.

There was no public present and President Dewane proceeded with the meeting.

ITEMS TO BE ADDED, REMOVED, OR REORDERED ON THE AGENDA

General Manager Shoenberger reported there were no items to be added, removed, or reordered on the agenda. There were no objections.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Approve minutes of regular Board Meeting of March 13, 2024.
2. Approve minutes of adjourned regular Board Meeting of March 19, 2024.
3. Approve minutes of regular Board Meeting of March 27, 2024.
4. Approve attendance considerations (additions, changes, deletions).
5. Board Schedule:
 - Conferences, Seminars, and Meetings
 - Board Calendar
 - Upcoming Community Outreach Events

MOTION

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Bockmiller, to approve Items 1 – 5 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 4 – 1, with Director Atkinson absent.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

6. ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT BRIEFING:

GM Shoenberger introduced Orange County Water District (OCWD) General Manager John Kennedy who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- FY 2024-2025 Proposed Budget
- Per-and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)
- Talbert Seawater Barrier
- Groundwater Replenishment System
- Groundwater Basin Conditions

Mr. Kennedy responded to questions from the Board and they thanked him for the presentation.

7. PENSION & OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TRUST UPDATE:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic and introduced Chief Financial Officer Khalifa and PFM Asset Management, LLC Senior Portfolio Manager Keith Stribling who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) Pre-Funding Program & Pension Rate Stabilization Program

- Summary of Agency's OPEB Plan
- OPEB Actuarial Results
- Summary of Agency's Pension Plan
- Pension Funding Status

Public Agency Retirement Services (PARS): Mesa Water District

- Annualized Return Comparison
- Discussion Highlights: Mesa Water District

Mr. Khalifa and Mr. Stribling responded to questions from the Board and they thanked them for the presentation.

8. KEY MESSAGE: MESA WATER IS FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE AND FINANCIAL STRONG:

GM Shoenberger provided a brief overview of the topic and introduced Public Affairs Specialist Norris who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Mesa Water Key Messages
- 3-Step Approach to Delivering Key Messages
- Key Message
- Key Message Proof Points

Ms. Norris responded to questions from the Board and they thanked her for the presentation.

9. WORKFORCE OPTIMIZATION:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

The Board concurred with the recommendation and gave direction to staff to develop a draft Workforce Optimization statement and bring to a future Board meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

10. RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR WATER SERVICE:

President Dewane asked for comments from the public. There were no comments.

MOTION

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Fisler, to adopt Resolution No.1593 Amending Mesa Water’s Rules and Regulations for Water Service Superseding Resolution No. 1548, with modifications. Motion passed 5 – 0, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	DIRECTORS	Atkinson, Bockmiller, Fisler, DePasquale, Dewane
NOES:	DIRECTORS	None
ABSTAIN:	DIRECTORS	None
ABSENT:	DIRECTORS	None

11. FINANCIAL STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES:

MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Vice President DePasquale, to approve a contract amendment with Plante Moran, PLLC for \$175,000 to expand their consulting services to include an internal control assessment and the development of financial standard operating procedures. Motion passed 5 – 0.

REPORTS:

12. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

13. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

INFORMATION ITEMS:

14. SURPLUS PROPERTY

15. TRAVEL AND BUSINESS EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT POLICY

16. DIRECTORS' REPORTS (AB 1234) PER CA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 53232.3 (D)

Recess

President Dewane declared a recess at 5:55 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 5:59 p.m.

President Dewane announced the Board was going into Closed Session at 6:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSIONS:

17. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR:

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6(a)

District Negotiator: General Manager

Employee Organization: Represented and Non-Represented Employees

18. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION:

Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b)

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:12 p.m.

District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted a Closed Session on Item 17 with the General Manager, District Secretary, District Engineer and General Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6(a). The Board received information and put forth the following motion:

MOTION

Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Atkinson, to authorize staff to initiate the recruitment process to fill the Public Affairs Manager position. Motion passed 5 – 0.

District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted a Closed Session on Item 18 with the General Manager, District Secretary, District Engineer, and General Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b). The Board received information and gave direction to staff. There was no further announcement.

President Dewane adjourned the meeting at 6:13 p.m. to a Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:

Shawn Dewane

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Shawn Dewane, President

DocuSigned by:

Denise Garcia

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Denise Garcia, District Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sharon D. Brimer