



*Dedicated to  
Satisfying our Community's  
Water Needs*

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MESA WATER DISTRICT  
Wednesday, April 24, 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 Acting President DePasquale.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Fisler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Directors Present**

Marice H. DePasquale, Acting President  
Jim Atkinson, Director *(arrived at 4:55 p.m.)*  
Fred R. Bockmiller, P.E., Director  
James R. Fisler, Director

**Directors Absent**

Shawn Dewane, President

**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  
Karyn Igar, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer  
Hester "Fritz" Petropoulos, M.Ed., Water Use Efficiency and  
Education Coordinator  
Rob Anslow, Partner, Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

**Others Present**

Jeffrey C. Freedman, Partner Emeritus, Liebert Cassidy  
Whitmore *(teleconference)*  
Whitney L. Tolar, Associate, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore  
*(teleconference)*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Acting President DePasquale asked for public comments.

There was no public present and Acting President DePasquale 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. Receive and file the Developer Project Status Report.
2. Receive and file the Mesa Water and Other Agency Projects Status Report.
3. Receive and file the Water Quality Call Report.
4. Receive and file the Accounts Paid Listing.
5. Receive and file the Monthly Financial Reports.
6. Receive and file the Outreach Update.

## MOTION

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Fisler, to approve Items 1 – 6 of the Consent Calendar. Motion passed 3 – 2, with President Dewane and Director Atkinson absent.

## PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

### 7. ONE-YEAR PLAN FOR MESA WATER EDUCATION CENTER:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic and introduced Water Use Efficiency and Education Coordinator Petropoulos who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Mesa Water Education Center Purpose
- Target Audiences (Year 1)
- STEM Education Partner: Brain Builders
- Fifth Grade Field Trip Components
- Accompanying Curriculum Workbook
- Hands-on Engineering Activity
- Transportation Stipends
- Format for Field Trips
- Format for Small Groups and VIP Tours
- Post-Visit Survey
- Plan, Teach, Reflect, Apply

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

### 8. RESERVOIRS 1 AND 2 PUMP STATION UPGRADES PROJECT QUARTERLY UPDATE:

District Engineer Wiesner provided an overview of the topic and proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Reservoir 1 – Site Layout
- Reservoir 2 – Site Layout
- Reservoir Project Schedule
- Reservoir Project Planned vs. Actual

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

9. PIPELINE INTEGRITY PROGRAM:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic and introduced Senior Civil Engineer Igar who proceeded with a presentation that highlighted the following:

- Resolution No. 1525 Replacement of Assets
- Non-Destructive Testing
- Non-Destructive Testing with Echologics ePulse

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

10. ORANGE COUNTY FAIR SPONSORSHIP:

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

- Water Bottle Refilling Stations Presenting Sponsor
- Water Bottle Refilling Stations
- Water Station Locations
- Additional Presenting Sponsor Benefits

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

**ACTION ITEMS:**

11. FISCAL YEAR 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic.

Discussion ensued amongst the Board.

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Atkinson, to approve Mesa Water District's Fiscal Year 2025 Strategic Plan. Motion passed 4 – 1, with President Dewane absent.

12. CUSTOMER INFORMATION SYSTEM SUPPORT SERVICES:

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Atkinson, to approve a contract with T2 Tech Group for \$42,835 to provide a professional technology team to support the evaluation and implementation of a Customer Information System and authorize execution of the contract. Motion passed 4 – 1, with President Dewane absent.

13. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE:

GM Shoenberger provided an overview of the topic and introduced District Engineer Wiesner who provided additional information on the recommendation and scope of work.

Mr. Wiesner responded to questions from the Board and they thanked him for the information.

**MOTION**

Motion by Director Bockmiller, second by Director Atkinson, to award a contract to Carollo Engineers, Inc. for \$954,504 and a contingency of \$95,450 for an amount not to exceed \$1,049,954 for the Capital Improvement Program Update Professional Services. Motion passed 4 – 1, with President Dewane absent.

**REPORTS:**

14. REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER:
  - March Key Indicators Report
15. DIRECTORS' REPORTS AND COMMENTS

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

16. FEDERAL ADVOCACY UPDATE
17. STATE ADVOCACY UPDATE
18. ORANGE COUNTY UPDATE

**Recess**

Acting President DePasquale declared a recess at 5:49 p.m.

The Board meeting reconvened at 5:56 p.m.

**CLOSED SESSIONS:**

Acting President DePasquale announced the Board was going into Closed Session at 5:57 p.m.

19. CONFERENCE WITH SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION:  
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)  
Number of Cases: 1
20. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION:  
Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b)
21. CONFERENCE WITH SPECIAL LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION:  
Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(a) and 54957.1(a)(2) – based on existing facts and circumstances, the Board is meeting with Special Legal Counsel.  
Number of Cases: 1

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:50 p.m.

Mesa Water Regular Board Meeting of April 24, 2024

District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted a Closed Session on Item 19 with the General Manager and District Secretary pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4). The Board received information and the following action was taken:

MOTION

- Motion by Vice President DePasquale, second by Director Bockmiller, to
- a. Appear and file briefing as an amicus curiae in *Mark Coziahr v. Otay Water District* in support of Coziahr; and
  - b. Amend the contract with Ciresi Conlin LLP for an amount now to exceed \$190,000 to provide Special Legal Services.


Motion passed 4 – 1, with President Dewane absent.

District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted a Closed Session on Item 20 with the General Manager, District Secretary, District Engineer and Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(d)(4) and 54954.5(b). The Board received information and there was no further announcement.

District Secretary Garcia announced that the Board conducted a Closed Session on Item 21 with the General Manager, District Secretary and Special Legal Counsel pursuant to California Government Code Sections 54956.9(a) and 54957.1(a)(2). The Board received information and provided direction to staff. There was no further announcement.

Acting President DePasquale adjourned the meeting at 6:52 p.m. to a Regular Board Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

Approved:

DocuSigned by:  
  
 27DA17D6F2334E...  
 Shawn Dewane, President

DocuSigned by:  
  
 F61DD52360E405...  
 Denise Garcia, District Secretary

Recording Secretary: Sharon D Brimer