



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER
DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 2, 2023**

Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., SLVWD Conference Room, 12788 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, and via videoconference and teleconference.

1. Convene Meeting: 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Mark Smolley, President
Jeff Hill, Vice President
Jayme Ackemann, Director
Gail Mahood, Director
Bob Fultz, Director*

Staff Present:

Barbara Brenner, District Counsel*
Holly Hossack, District Secretary
Scott Mattoch, Network Specialist

Attended remotely*

2. Changes to Closed Session Agenda: None

3. Oral Communications Regarding Items in Closed Session: None

4. Adjournment to Closed Session: 5:32 p.m.

5. Re-Convene Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Mark Smolley, President
Jeff Hill, Vice President
Jayme Ackemann, Director
Gail Mahood, Director
Bob Fultz, Director*

Staff Present:

Barbara Brenner, District Counsel*
Holly Hossack, District Secretary
Scott Mattoch, Network Specialist
Rick Rogers, District Manager

Garrett Roffe, District Engineer
Carly Blanchard, Environmental Programs Manager & Admin Analyst
James Furtado, Director of Operations

Attended remotely*

Pres. Smolley introduced Supervisor Bruce McPherson.

Supervisor McPherson addressed the Board and presented a resolution of appreciation to Rick Rogers from the County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors.

6. **Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session:** None

7. **Changes to the Agenda:** None

8. **Oral Communications:** None

9. **New Business:**

- a. **APPRECIATION FOR RICK ROGERS UPON HIS RETIREMENT**
M. Smolley introduced and explained this item.

A motion was made and seconded to be it resolved by the Board of Directors of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District that Rick Rogers is hereby commended for 48 years of dedicated service to the District. He has the deep respect of all who have worked with him, and he is viewed with affection and gratitude by the community. His tireless work ethic, deep knowledge of the District's water systems, and devotion to the District and the San Lorenzo Valley community will be sorely missed.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Rick's service to the District
- Inspiration
- Responsiveness
- Trustworthiness
- Happy retirement

R. Moran (Ben Lomond), D. McNair (former employee), J. Mosher, L. Ford, E. Fresco (Felton), A. Layng (Boulder Creek), J. Furtado (Director of Operations) addressed the Board and Rick.

M. Smolley presented R. Rogers with a clock from the Board.

R. Rogers thanked everyone.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER
M. Smolley introduced and explained this item.

B. Frus addressed the Board.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Welcome
- Legal Document
- In office position
- Leave/Personal Time Off
- Termination
- Indemnification
- Clarification of interim General Manager
- Process for permanent General Manager

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to extend an offer of employment to Brian Frus for the position of Interim General Manager as specified in the attached employment agreement.

J. Furtado, Director of Operations, addressed the Board.

The motion passed unanimously.

10. **Unfinished Business:**

- a. CROSS COUNTRY PIPELINE - PEAVINE
R. Rogers introduced and explained this item.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Timeline
- History of the pipeline
- Infeasibility of hand dug underground pipeline
- Soil coverage in areas
- Emergency cut-off valves/gases
- Environmental impact - once the bench is cut work must begin immediately
- Re-establishment of the trail
- Surface water source is needed
- Go ahead with tree removal
- Moving forward with environmental

E. Martin, Boulder Creek, addressed the Board.

R. Moran, Ben Lomond, addresses the Board.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Hazardous tree removal - lop & scatter
- Shut off valves and other protective measures

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to direct the Interim General Manager to begin the replacement of the Peavine Raw Water Supply Line with above grade 8" HDPE pipeline starting immediately with hazardous tree removal, re-establishment of the pipeline trail, and necessary environmental review.

The motion passed with a 4 to 1 majority in favor of the motion, Director Fultz voting no. Motion passed.

A motion was made and seconded with work on the Peavine Raw Water Supply Line is underway the Board directs the General Manager and the Engineering & Environmental Committee to explore ways to make above grade HDPE pipeline more resilient in case of wildfire.

The motion passed unanimously.

b. 2023 RATE STUDY

H. Ippoliti introduced and explained this item.

T. Jurotich, Raftelis, presented this item.

H. Ippoliti added that the Admin Committee will be meeting to discuss the public outreach on this plan.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Fire Surcharge is a component of the water bill
- Rates must increase
- Largest impact will be on high water users
- Outreach
- Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA)
- Drought surcharge
- P & L report
- Peaking costs/hours
- Justifiable tiers
- Debt service
- Presentation is understandable
- Scheduling of meetings - low turn out

R. Moran, Ben Lomond, addressed the Board.

E. Martin, Boulder Creek, addressed the Board.

A. Zilber, addressed the Board.

Discussion by the Board regarding:

- Need for a motion
- Timing of the meetings
- 2 Prop 218 processes- Water & Wastewater
- Expectations of the Board

A motion was made and seconded for the Board to accept the staff report concerning the utility rate structure as presented November 2, 2023, and directs staff to conduct public outreach based on input from the Admin Committee, and return by no later than December 7, 2023, with a resolution authorizing staff to move forward with the Prop 218 process with the presented rates.

M. Smith, Boulder Creek, addressed the Board.

The motion passed with a 4 to 1 majority in favor of the motion, Director Fultz voting no. Motion passed.

11. **Consent Agenda:** Approved
 - a. **SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES 10.16.23**
12. **District Reports:** No comments.
13. **Written Communication:** None
14. **Informational Material:** None
15. **Adjournment:** 9: 33 p.m.

Minutes approved: January 4, 2024



Holly B. Hossack, District Secretary

