

VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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"Pride in Community Service"

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MINUTES Regular Meeting

February 6, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Bumpass who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. REQUEST FOR REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER AB2449: Director Brooks requested to participate remotely due to emergency circumstances per Government Code § 54953(f). The Directors unanimously approved with a roll call vote.

3. ROLL CALL: Directors, Brooks, Bumpass, Gonzales, Heuring and Stassi

OTHERS PRESENT

General Manager Cynthia Allen, Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Manager Mike Garner, and Financial Services (FS) Manager Patricia LeCavalier. Craig Geyer with Goleta West Sanitary District and Senior Director with California CLASS, Jerry Legg participated via ZOOM.

3. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA - None

4. PUBLIC FORUM

President Bumpass invited public comments and there were none.

5. OPERATIONS REPORT

O&M Manager Garner reported the District pumped 23 million gallons of water in January with an average daily demand of 743,000 gallons. This is 25 percent more than last year.

There was 1.74 inches of rain in January and the current storm has brought 2.89 inches of rain at site #1.

The District's well levels for January were 1B-141', 3A-135', and 3B-135'.

O&M Manager Garner and Field Crew Service Person Jeff Cole found a couple of corrections to the filter project and the Pureflow engineers will have the final design to us next week.

American Drilling said the parts for the pump will need to be recoated before they can be reinstalled. Should be ready in the next two weeks.

The field crew has installed one of the new analyzers from Blue & White. O&M Manager Garner sent a picture of the installation to the company and was told it's one of the best they've seen and will have it on their website.

To conclude his report, O&M Manager Garner said Jeff Cole filmed all of the sewer lines on Sirius Avenue in preparation for Santa Barbara County to do a street overlay. The field crew had three service line repairs and no sanitary sewer overflows in January.

6. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

FS Manager LeCavalier reported the District received \$612,000 for the LRWRP Upgrade Charge, which was collected from property taxes in December.

Staff is collecting information in preparation for next year's budget. The Legal/Personnel and Finance/Budget Committees are scheduled to meet over the next couple of months before the proposed budget goes to the board in April.

To conclude her report, she said there have been a handful of customers questioning an increase in their bill. After explaining the reason for the increase the customers have been satisfied.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes from the Special Meeting on January 9, 2024

B. Treasurer Report

1) Monthly Financials

2) Disbursements through January 31, 2024

3) Schedule of Investments

C. Water Pumped vs. Sold, 12 months

Motion by Director Gonzales, seconded by Director Heuring to accept the consent calendar as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

8. ACTION ITEM

A. Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) election

General Manager Allen introduced Craig Geyer, incumbent for Santa Barbara LAFCo.

It was decided among the Directors to have Board President Bumpass cast a vote for Craig Geyer as the Regular Special District Member on behalf of the District.

B. Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA)

Motion by Director Stassi, seconded by Director Gonzales to confirm the appointment of Directors Brooks (representative) and Stassi (alternate) to the Joint Powers Agency for the Joint Powers Agency for the Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

C. Water and Wastewater Capacity Charges

Motion by Director Gonzales, seconded by Director Heuring to find that this fee increase is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and direct the General Manager to file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk; and schedule a public hearing for revision to Ordinance 4.10 and the water and wastewater capacity charges for March 5, 2024

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

D. California CLASS

California CLASS Senior Director Jerry Legg gave the Finance/Budget Committee a presentation on January 19 and was available to answer questions and concerns. There was discussion among the Directors before making the following motion.

Motion by Director Gonzales, seconded by Director Stassi to authorize the Board President to sign the California CLASS registration materials; to authorize the General Manager/Treasurer to transfer \$2 million from the Santa Barbara County Treasury to

California CLASS; and to Authorize the General Manager/Treasurer to transfer funds from Mechanics Bank to California CLASS subaccounts periodically to optimize investment earnings up to \$250,000 and any transfer over \$50,000 requires notification to the board at the next regular meeting.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

E. Mid-Year Budget Review

After some discussion among the Directors the following motion was made.

Motion by Director Heuring, seconded by Director Stassi to review, discuss, and accept the attached mid-year budget review.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

9. REPORTS

A. Committees

The Finance/Budget Committee met and discussed items on this agenda.

B. District Representatives to External Agencies – Nothing to report

C.

D. President – Nothing to report

E. General Manager

On January 24, four contractors attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting for the Apollo/Constellation Sewer Main Replacement Project. The bid opening is scheduled for Wednesday, February 21. The contract will be awarded at the March board meeting.

The State Lands Commission and Fish and Wildlife were unable to accommodate an in-person meeting in Sacramento. Most of those involved in VVCSD's case do not work out of the Sacramento office (some of them work out of Los Angeles). General Manager Allen scheduled a video conference for March 12.

On Thursday, February 8, the Department of Water Resources will present a symbolic \$5.5 million grant check in Buellton to the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District. The grant will be used to fund Groundwater Sustainability projects in the Western, Central, and Eastern Management Agencies. All board members are invited to attend the ceremony.

Last month, Mechanics Bank increased the District's interest rate to 4.2 percent on all of the interest-bearing accounts.

General Manager Allen submitted the last reimbursement request to FEMA for the January 2023 storm damage. The District received \$12K of the \$33K claim and anticipates an additional \$19K in the next few months. VVCSD's share of the expenditures is about \$2K.

The state is still processing the District's arrearages application. They had questions about why some of the accounts had higher-than-normal balances. Unfortunately, a few customers did not pay during the discontinuance moratorium and closed their accounts shortly after the moratorium was lifted. Leaving the District with a large uncollectable balance which staff is hoping will be reduced by this grant.

To conclude her report, General Manager Allen said there is a Finance/Budget Committee meeting scheduled for February 14 and a Legal/Personnel Committee meeting scheduled for February 22.

10. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

US Drought Monitor: California, January 30, 2024

11. DIRECTORS FORUM

Director Stassi suggested that the committee members sign off on future agenda memos in the board package and would like the board to review and approve the District's board manual.

Director Gonzales commented on the amount of rain from the last storm, and thanked all of the field crew and O&M Manger Garner for their work.

Director Heuring passed out a list of services he would like the Directors to consider being added to Vandenberg Village CSD's scope of responsibility.

Director Bumpass thanked the field crew and the O&M Manager for all of their work.

12. CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened into closed session at 8:32 p.m.

13. OPEN SESSION

The Board convened into open session at 8:57 p.m.

Motion by Director Gonzales, seconded by Director Stassi to approve an employee's request for a four-month leave of absence.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

Motion by Director Stassi, seconded by Director Heuring to approve the hiring of a temporary employee during an employee's leave of absence.

Roll Call Vote

Ayes: Directors Brooks, Bumpass, Heuring, Gonzales, Stassi

Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

14. ADJOURN

President Bumpass declared the meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Attest:

Signed:

Stephanie Garner
Secretary, Board of Directors

Robert Bumpass
President, Board of Directors