

**LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 3, 2023
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER 9:00 a.m., Commission Chambers, Clark County Government Center,
500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Marilyn Kirkpatrick, President
Jim Gibson, Vice President
Justin Jones
William McCurdy II
Ross Miller
Michael Naft
Tick Segerblom

STAFF PRESENT: John Entsminger, Doa Ross, Greg Walch, Kevin Bethel

Unless otherwise indicated, all members present voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

For full public comment, visit www.lvwd.com/apps/agenda/lvwd/index.cfm

There were no persons wishing to speak.

ITEM NO.

1. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice President Gibson to approve the agenda and the minutes from the regular meeting of September 5, 2023. The motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA Items 2 – 8 are routine and can be taken in one motion unless a Director requests that an item be taken separately.

2. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Las Vegas Paving Corporation for on-call construction services for an increase not to exceed \$10,000,000.
3. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an agreement between the City of Henderson and the District, which terminates the December 1, 2020, interlocal agreement for the lease of temporary and emergency water service through the Bermuda 2745 Zone Pumping Station and Discharge Pipeline to the City of Henderson.
4. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign a cooperative agreement between the Nevada Division of Forestry and the District to conduct inmate conservation work detail services from the date of award through June 30, 2024, in an amount not to exceed \$200,000, and authorize one renewal for an additional one-year term.
5. Approve and authorize the President to sign an amendment to the Interlocal Agreement among Clark County, the Clark County Water Reclamation District, the University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the Las Vegas Valley Water District, the Clark County Regional Flood Control District, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, the Southern Nevada Health District, the Henderson District Public Libraries, the Mount Charleston Fire Protection District, the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, the Moapa Valley Fire Protection District and the Eighth Judicial District Court, establishing the rates for the Self-Funded Group Medical and Dental Benefits Plans, effective January 1, 2024.

6. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an amendment to the existing interlocal agreement among Clark County; the cities of Las Vegas, Henderson, North Las Vegas, Boulder City, and Mesquite; Southern Nevada Health District; Clark County Water Reclamation District; Clark County School District; Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department; Clark County Regional Flood Control District; Clark County Department of Aviation; Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, Overton Power District 5; and the District for participation in a county-wide Geographic Information System project to provide GIS data and aerial imagery for an annual fee of \$42,708 through June 30, 2026, authorize the General Manager to exercise additional annual renewal options, and authorize an increase of up to 5 percent for each annual renewal period.
7. Approve and authorize the President to sign an amendment to the Self-Funded Group Medical and Dental Benefits Exclusive Provider Organization (EPO) Plan among Clark County, Clark County Water Reclamation District, University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Las Vegas Valley Water District, Clark County Regional Flood Control District, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, Southern Nevada Health District, Henderson District Public Libraries, Mount Charleston Fire Protection District, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Moapa Valley Fire Protection District and the Eighth Judicial District Court, adopting an amended Self-Funded Group Medical and Dental Benefits EPO Plan, effective January 1, 2024.
8. Approve and authorize the President to sign an amendment to the Self-Funded Group Medical and Dental Benefits Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) Plan among Clark County, Clark County Water Reclamation District, University Medical Center of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Las Vegas Valley Water District, Clark County Regional Flood Control District, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada, Southern Nevada Health District, Henderson District Public Libraries, Mount Charleston Fire Protection District, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Moapa Valley Fire Protection District and the Eighth Judicial District Court, adopting an amended Self-Funded Group Medical and Dental Benefits PPO Plan, effective January 1, 2024.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice President Gibson to approve staff's recommendations. The motion was approved.

BUSINESS AGENDA

9. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an agreement between The Howard Hughes Company, LLC, and the District for design and construction of a perimeter wall around the 3665 Zone Reservoir Site and take any actions required under the agreement.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Jones to approve staff's recommendations. The motion was approved.

10. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign a master services agreement between Fiserv Solutions, LLC, and the District to provide payment processing and electronic billing services for an initial three-year term and an option of two, one-year renewals in an annual amount not to exceed \$6,000,000, and authorize annual year over-year cost increases of up to 5 percent for the contract's duration.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice President Gibson to approve staff's recommendations. The motion was approved.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Laura McSwain, 2727 Ashby Ave., representing the Water Fairness Coalition urged the board to rescind the excessive use charge immediately. She stated that the Business Impact Statement process for the implementation of this policy excluded residents and did not give them an opportunity to offer an opinion.

James Quisenberry, 4115 Del Monte Ave., stated that his property has no grass and that his trees that were planted in the 1950s when the house was built. He stated that he follows SNWA's mandatory watering schedule but cannot keep his plants alive on his one-acre property with the amount of water allotted in the threshold. He also stated that the excessive use charge does not apply to everyone and that the guidelines are for a much smaller property. He added that it is unfair that the other cities in Southern Nevada do not have this same fee.

Judith Clark, 3425 Maverick St., stated that if this was a conservation effort, all Southern Nevada residents should be subject to this charge, not just LVVWD customers. She stated that she has no grass at her home, all desert landscaping, has not watered for two months, and is still receiving an excessive use charge. She stated that she is on a fixed income and cannot afford an excessive use charge for her water use. She stated that the customers have a right to know how this extra revenue is being used.

Pete Foley, 4512 Fernbrook Rd., stated that the excessive use charge is a hidden tax and that it is outrageous that people are paying \$600+ per month to use the same amount of water that they used in the past. He stated that this policy is taking money from residents who have been in the valley for a long time and effectively using it to fund new development. He asked how this extra revenue is being used and stated that the district is using an outrageous \$10 million on marketing.

John Debetz stated that he owns a property on 10658 Chillingham, which is currently vacant and has a typical water bill of \$100-\$200. He stated that the property has no grass, but that he recently received a bill that included \$5,300 in excessive use charges. He stated that a valve was stuck open and that the water district told him that they sent him a text about it, but that he never received any communication about it until his bill came. He stated that he called the water district and after a long wait time, visited the campus where he was told that the water district refused to credit his bill.

Tom Dudas, 1917 Verten Dr., stated that he lives in an old neighborhood and appreciates the efforts made to conserve water. He spoke of the values of trees to the community and that this excessive use charge threatens the tree canopy. He feels that he should receive a water credit for his trees and their benefit to the community.

Drew Erra, 10300 Summit Canyon Dr., stated that this policy has nothing to do with conservation and that the focus should be on protecting Nevada's water rights and allocation. He stated that he is told by the water district that he can only use 26,000 gallons of water before being issued a fee, but also told by his HOA that he needs to keep his landscaping to a certain standard. He says that he is caught in the middle and stated that there should be a per-square-foot-allowance for water.

Andrew Reitz, 1912 Bluejay Cir., spoke to the exemption of businesses from the excessive use charge and stated that all LVVWD customers should be charged equally. He felt that residents were not properly notified of the policy change.

Chris Marcoux, 4230 E. Oquendo Rd., stated that he lives on a one-acre property and recently received a \$3,000 water bill. He stated that with all the smart metering in place, the district should notify customers of excessive use during the month to help avoid high charges. He spoke about the long wait times while trying to call the water district's customer service line.

Mike McKenna, 9021 Eagle Hills, stated that he received photos from the water district of runoff from his sloped lawn accusing him of water waste. He said that he has received more than \$1,000 in water waste fines in the last few months and suggests that the water district work with customers to come to a solution rather than just issue fines to residents.

Chris Chebegia, 2612 Colanthe Ave., stated that he has some grass in his yard which helps with the urban heat effect. He stated that he has received citations due to water waste and feels that it is punitive. He stated that the water district should focus on increasing its water allocation from the Colorado River due to significant growth in the valley.

Erin Pratt, 9201 Eagle Hills, stated that she reports water waste to the water district when possible and added that she rarely sees any response from the district. She feels that there are a lot of other areas within the community where water conservation should take place and asked why the other cities in Southern Nevada do not have this excessive use charge.

William Lee, 3735 Pacific St., wants to know why residents in the other cities in Southern Nevada are not subject to the excessive use charge. He lives on a one-acre lot, has removed much of his grass, is watering less, but is paying more than he has in the past. He feels this is unfair and requests that the excessive use charge be stopped, and refunds be made to residents. He stated that if nothing changes, residents will take legal action against the water district.

Stephanie Steffen, 2021 Grouse St., stated that the excessive use charge is unfair. She feels like this policy penalizes large families and impacts how much indoor water use can be used. She stated that one of her recent water bills was \$950 and while she has attempted to call plumbers, finds leaks, and fix any issues, not all people have the same resources to be able to do that.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Copies of all original agenda items and minutes, including all attachments, are on file in the General Manager's office at the Las Vegas Valley Water District, 1001 South Valley View Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada.