

**LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JUNE 18, 2024
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, Dave Johnson, 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

Laura McSwain, 2727 Ashby Ave., representing the Water Fairness Coalition, commented on item #4. She read from NRS 227.180 and sections 5 and 13 of the LVVWD Act, which were referenced in the agenda item. She stated that the District is operating outside of its authority and creating illusions with financial assistance programs. She added that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done prior to board approval.

Pete Foley, 4512 Fernbrook Rd., commented on item #4 and stated that at the previous board meeting, there was a commitment to transparency around spending the revenue gained from the Excessive Use Charges. He stated that the leak assistance program appears to do so, but it is not firmly stated as coming from the Excessive Use Charge revenue. He added that the big issue about these excessive fees is that they are disadvantageous to multi-generational families in a single home, and that the one-size-fits-all approach does not work with water usage.

Diane Henry, 7525 Coley Ave., commented on item #4 and expressed concerns with the lack of program oversight and potential for fraud.

Andy Reitz, 1912 Bluejay Circle, commented on a poor customer service experience. He recently tried to report a water leak, but when he called the District, he experienced rude customer service and was told that he had an incorrect address. He stated that he talked to the customer service director and discovered that the District had sent out water leak notices to an incorrect address, and when rectified, the leak was repaired within days.

Ed Uehling, Las Vegas, commented on item #5 and stated that the total personnel cost of the agency is outrageous, citing the high wages earned by District employees. He also talked about item #7 and expressed his displeasure with the District borrowing money and not focusing on increasing revenue through the sale of water.

Susan Proffitt, Las Vegas, commented on item #7 and stated that a forensic audit should be performed on the District.

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 joint meeting of May 20, 2024. The motion was approved.

BUSINESS AGENDA

2. Award a contract for the construction of a duct bank for electric service at proposed District facilities to Menichino Construction LLC in the amount of \$3,495,345, authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$340,000, and authorize the General Manager to sign the contract.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice President Gibson to award the contract. The motion was approved.

- 3. Approve and authorize the General Manager, or his designee, to sign a joinder agreement between Dell Marketing L.P. and the District to purchase computer equipment, peripherals, and services in an amount not to exceed \$1,600,000, with annual increases not to exceed 15 percent per year, through June 25, 2028.**

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

- 4. Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign a Cooperative Agreement and authorize the payment of up to \$500,000 per year to the City of Las Vegas to provide financial assistance to eligible homeowners for the detection and repair of purveyor-identified excessive and/or ongoing leaks.**

Director Naft asked for clarification that the funds are only for City of Las Vegas residents and that subsequent agreements will include funds that are available to those outside that jurisdiction. Mr. Entsminger confirmed what Director Naft stated was correct, and that two additional agreements will be brought to the board at a future meeting that will include funding for those that reside in unincorporated Clark County.

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

- 5. Approve a cost-of-living wage adjustment of 3.6 percent for employees represented by the Las Vegas Valley Public Employees Association, the Water Employees Association of Nevada, the Water Supervisors Association of Nevada, Teamsters Local Union No. 14, and for non-represented employees, effective in July 2024, for a total adjustment of approximately \$5,309,685.**

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice President Gibson to approve a cost-of-living wage adjustment. The motion was approved.

- 6. Adopt a resolution making a finding that no increase in an ad valorem tax is anticipated with respect to the issuance of General Obligation (Limited Tax) (Additionally Secured by SNWA Pledged Revenues) Water Refunding Bonds, Series 2024A, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$335,630,000, to refinance all or any portion of the Bonds, and requesting that the Clark County Debt Management Commission approve the finding.**

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by President Kirkpatrick to adopt the resolution. The motion was approved.

- 7. Adopt a resolution notifying the Clark County Debt Management Commission of the District’s proposal to borrow money and issue general obligation bonds additionally secured by Southern Nevada Water Authority pledged revenues in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$472,100,000, and providing certain details in connection therewith.**

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Jones to adopt the resolution. The motion was approved.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Carol Reynolds, 2740 Mann St., referenced a family that must regulate its showers as to not incur an excessive use fee. She also talked about Las Vegas residents who were recently denied septic permits, leaving their property worthless. She stated that callings homeowners whose water use exceeds the set thresholds as “violators” is unfair coming from an agency that she believes is stealing from its constituents via the Excessive Use Charge.

Diane Henry, 7525 Coley Ave., stated that leak detection programs can be a good idea to help conserve water, but added her concern of using revenue from unfair and unjustified excessive use fees to fund these programs. She stated that the program, as written, may cause some delayed repairs in order to meet water usage requirements to receive financial assistance.

Pete Foley, 4512 Fernbrook Rd., commented on Assembly Bill 220. He cited concern that the past behavior of the Southern Nevada Water Authority and the District is likely indicative of future behavior. He stated that the Authority’s power to cut off water service to its customers in the case of a federally declared emergency is alarming.

Ed Uehling expressed displeasure on the transparency of the wages of the District's employees and frustration regarding the business practices of the District.

Andy Reitz, 1912 Bluejay Circle, does not believe that the Board is listening to the residents and does not like being dictated to.

At the close of the public comment, President Kirkpatrick addressed the legislation of Assembly Bill 220. She stated that if in the event that the federal government declares a change in water usage supply, that the local government would work with constituents to determine what the water situation would look like. Mr. Entsminger added that Assembly Bill 220 designates an elevation in Lake Mead below which those powers could be exercised by the Authority Board and requires that there be a federally declared shortage condition on the Colorado River.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 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.