

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, APRIL 11, 2024.

A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551, at 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560, and via teleconference. Chair Mac Laren-Gomez called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1) Pledge of Allegiance.

At the request of Chair Mac Laren-Gomez, Commissioner Thibault led the pledge of allegiance.

2) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, Chair
Don Wilson, Secretary
Leo Thibault, Treasurer
Keith Dyas, Commissioner
Gary Van Dam, Alt. Cmsnr.

Others Present:

Peter Thompson II, General Manager
Tom Barnes, Resources Manager
Matthew Knudson, AVEK General Manager
James Chaisson, LCID General Manager
Dennis LaMoreaux, PWD General Manager
Scott Kellerman, PWD Board Director
George Lane, AVEK Board Director
Drew Mercy, AVEK Board Director
David Kraai, LCID Board Director
Claudia Bolanos, PWD Res./Analyt. Spvsr.
Angel Fitzpatrick, Administrative Technician
Dan Jacobs, AV Fair Chief Executive Officer
Trolis Niebla, COL Assistant City Manager
2 members of the public

EXCUSED ABSENCE~

Robert Parris, Vice Chair
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner

3) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Van Dam, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as written:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – absent

4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments.

5) Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting Held February 8, 2024.

It was moved by Commissioner Van Dam, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 8, 2024, as written:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – absent

6) Presentation on the Resilience Center at the Antelope Valley Fairgrounds. (Dan Jacobs, Chief Executive Officer, Antelope Valley Fair & Events Center, and Trolis Niebla, Assistant City Manager, City of Lancaster)

Mr. Trolis Niebla presented the future of the \$100 million, state-of-the-art, Multi-Agency Regional Resiliency Center (MARRC) and Antelope Valley Fair and Event Center. The MARRC will be situated at the fairgrounds and will consist of (3) three new buildings to the Fairground facilities. The first building will be a 140,000-square-foot structure that will serve as an evacuation center in an emergency. Additionally, it can be used to host large-scale events. The second building will be a 26,000-square-foot

auditorium, which will function as an operation center during emergencies but can also host conferences and lectures. Lastly, the third building will be a 75,000-square-foot kitchen to prepare meals for emergency responders in case of a crisis. This building will also be used for culinary events, catering, and cooking classes.

The MARRC Center will be off the electrical grid, using solar, battery, and hydrogen fuel cells to operate 24/7 without electricity. Additionally, it plans to have a water tank that can hold 7-10 days of potable water if the current water infrastructure is damaged during a disaster.

Mr. Dan Jacobs added that the MARRC Center seeks additional community partnerships and support.

Commissioner Thibault motioned to recommend that the individual agencies present this project to their individual boards. The motion was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Van Dam, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – absent

7) Payment of Bills.

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Van Dam, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve payment and ratification of payment of the bills received from AVEK in the amount of \$857.12 for staff services, from Streamline in the amount of \$504.00 for the Association's website for March 1, 2024 through March 1, 2025, a payment to AVEK in the amount of \$46,291.38 for pass-through funds received from the Department of Water Resources on behalf of the AV IRWMP Group for Prop 1 Grant Project funding, a payment to LCID in the amount of \$812.99 for a refund of LCID's remaining funds from the Big Rock Creek Project restricted funds budget per board action approved February 8, 2024, for the payments made to AVEK in the amount of \$277,612.60, PWD in the amount of \$57,401.03 and LCID in the amount of

\$43,175.67 for replacement water per the October 23, 2019, agreement between the Association and the Antelope Valley Watermaster and November 11, 1023, Watermaster Request for Replacement Water:

Chair Mac Laren-Gomez – aye
Commissioner Van Dam – aye
Commissioner Thibault – aye
Commissioner Wilson – aye
Commissioner Dyas – aye
Commissioner Hogan – absent

8) Report of Resources Manager.

a) Grant Funding for Culverts

Resource Manager Barnes provided a detailed presentation on the possibility of receiving grant funding to construct culverts for the Upper Amargosa Creek, Littlerock Creek, and Big Rock Creek Recharge Projects. The culverts at Upper Amargosa Creek will help reduce flooding at cross streets in Lancaster and are necessary along West Avenue N. The culverts at Littlerock Creek will also help reduce flooding at cross streets in Littlerock and are required along East Palmdale Blvd. Similarly, the culverts at Big Rock Creek will help reduce flooding at cross streets in the Pearblossom/Llano area and are necessary along East Avenue T and Avenue S.

He provided instructions on how to obtain the grant funds. This involved giving an initial overview to the Los Angeles County departments and IRWMP Group, forming a grant coordination team, creating the necessary framework and initial documents for the grant application, securing the authority to pursue funds in the next round of grants, and exploring potential grant opportunities related to climate, transportation, and water.

9) Report of Controller.

a) Update on Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Net Position.

In Controller Hoffmeyer's absence, General Manager Thompson II provided an overview of the Association's revenue, expenses, and change in net position for the month ending March 31, 2024.

10) Report of General Manager.

a) Status Updates:

1) Antelope Valley Watermaster Meetings.

General Manager Thompson II reported that the Watermaster moved its April board meeting to May 1st. Todd Groundwater received a favorable review, and administrative staff was authorized to seek a three-year extension with Todd Groundwater. Administrative staff will develop a template for a carryover water storage agreement, and the RFQ for Watermaster Administrative Services will be considered for approval at the next board meeting.

2) Antelope Valley and Fremont Basin IRWMP Stakeholder Meetings.

He then reported that the IRWMP Group received the Round 1- 9th quarterly invoice in February and that Staff is finalizing the AVIRWM cost share MOU for 2024-2026.

3) Voluntary Agreement Updates.

He then reported and provided clarification that the Voluntary Agreements are agreements between the SWRCB and all parties with water rights on tributaries that feed into the Delta. These agreements are proposed to replace the SWRCB's "Unimpaired Flow" regulation. The Agreement aims to avoid litigation, improve SWP operation permits, and reduce the cost of SWP permits. It involves all water rights holders, bringing transparency and measurement to permit criteria. The State Board will hold workshops on the Voluntary Agreements from April 24-26, and the SWC actively supports Voluntary Agreements.

4) Basin Management Meeting.

He then reported that the staff plans to organize a meeting with other water basin managers to discuss funding, policies, templates, and coordination in the future. The meeting is tentatively set for May.

5) Littlerock Creek Recharge Project.

He then reported that the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project MOU was executed by all member agencies. The staff also sent a Request for Proposal for CEQA work. The staff plans to have a project meeting with interested firms and provide the selection of firms to the Association at the June meeting. The staff will then submit a storage agreement to the Watermaster to earn credit for the water stored.

6) Future Agenda Items.

He then stated that future agenda items would include selecting a firm for the Littlerock Project CEQA Compliance, the AVIRM Cost Share MOU, and a PSA with Woodard and Curran for Prop 1/AVIRWM support.

11) Reports of Commissioners.

Commissioner Thibault expressed his gratitude for the MARRC Center.

12) Report of Attorney.

No attorney was present at the meeting.

13) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

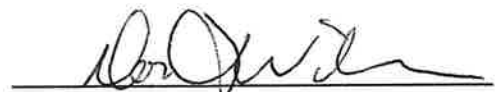
Commissioner Thibault requested future updates on the MARRC Center.

14) Consideration and Possible Action on Scheduling the Next Association Meeting June 13, 2024.

The Association's next regular meeting will be held on June 13, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

15) Adjournment.

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Commissioners was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.



Secretary, Don Wilson