

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, AUGUST 12, 2021.**

*A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, August 12, 2021, via teleconference. Chair Parris called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**1) Pledge of Allegiance.**

No pledge of allegiance was held.

**2) Roll Call.**

**Attendance:**

Robert Parris, Chair  
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, V. Chr.  
Leo Thibault, Treasurer-Auditor  
Gloria Dizmang, Secretary  
Keith Dyas, Commissioner  
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner

**Others Present:**

Peter Thompson II, General Manager  
Tom Barnes, Resources Manager  
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Controller  
Matthew Knudson, AVEK Asst. Gen. Manager  
James Chaisson, LCID General Manager  
Amberrose Merino, PWD Alt. Commissioner  
Holly Hughes, AVEK Board Secretary-Treas.  
Danielle Henry, Management Analyst  
2 members of the public

**3) Adoption of Agenda.**

It was moved by Commissioner Dyas, seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, 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 Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault - aye  
Commissioner Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments.

Chair Parris stated that Agenda Item No. 6 will now be considered.

**6) Payment of Bills.**

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, 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 PWD in the amount of \$2,893.49 for staff services, from AVEK in the amount of \$374.25 for staff services, from Kennedy/Jenks in the total amount of \$11,708.75 for professional services associated with the Big Rock Creek Joint Ground Water Recharge Project, from Nigro & Nigro in the amount of \$2,500.00 for the final billing of the 2020 Audit, and from Woodard and Curran in the amount of \$8,089.50 for professional services associated with the 2019 Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan update:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault – aye  
Commissioner Dizmang – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

Chair Parris then stated that Agenda Item No. 5 will now be considered.

**5) Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting Held June 3, 2021.**

It was moved by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Commissioner Thibault, and carried on a 5-0-1 vote 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 June 3, 2021, as written:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye

Commissioner Thibault - aye  
Commissioner Dizmang – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – abstain

**7) Presentation on the Big Rock Creek Joint Ground Water Recharge Project Cost Analysis. (Mr. Paul Chau of Kennedy/Jenks)**

Mr. Paul Chau, of Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, provided a detailed presentation on the four proposed alternatives of the Big Rock Creek Joint Ground Water Recharge Project Feasibility Study, including the alternative rankings based on recharge capacity, costs, regulatory and permitting requirements, construction ease and community impacts, and after a brief discussion of Alternative No. 3 “Offsite Recharge Basins and Pipeline” being the best alternative option, of the next steps involved, and of grant opportunities, it was requested that this presentation and a return on investment report be provided to each member agency’s Board for consideration.

**8) Presentation on Mutual Response Agreement for Antelope Valley Agencies. (Jennifer Emery, PWD Human Resources Director)**

PWD Human Resources Director Emery provided a detailed overview of the Mutual Response Agreement for Antelope Valley Agencies, including the current participants, the Agreement review timeline, the inclusion of emergency aid and equipment use, and the interest of smaller mutual water agencies pending insurance requirements and then stated that General Manager Thompson II is preparing a tiered insurance system for the smaller mutual water agencies and will be coordinating monthly meetings with the Agreement participants beginning August 23, 2021.

The Commissioners then thanked PWD Human Resources Director Emery for the presentation.

**9) Consideration and Possible Action on Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding with the Antelope Valley Regional Water Management Group. (General Manager Thompson II)**

General Manager Thompson II provided a brief overview of the Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Antelope Valley Regional Water Management Group, including the Association’s commitment to provide

administrative services through January 2027, and then requested authorization to execute the MOU after which it was moved by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Commissioner Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve authorization for General Manager Thompson II to execute the Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding with the Antelope Valley Regional Water Management Group:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault - aye  
Commissioner Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**10) Consideration and Possible Action on Restricted Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. (Controller Hoffmeyer)**

Controller Hoffmeyer provided a detailed overview of the proposed Restricted Funds Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022, including the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Ground Water Monitoring/CASGEM Program, the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (AVIRWMP) through Fiscal Year 2023/24, and the carry-through budget for the Big Rock Creek Joint Ground Water Recharge Project followed by a brief discussion of the fiscal year audit process and the separation of General and Restricted Program Funds.

It was then moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Restricted Funds Budget for the USGS/CASGEM Program as presented:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault - aye  
Commissioner Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

It was then moved by Commissioner Dizmang, seconded by Commissioner Thibault, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the Restricted Funds Budget for the AVIRWMP for Fiscal Years 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2023/24 as presented:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault - aye  
Commissioner Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**11) Report of General Manager.**

**a) Status Updates:**

**1) Antelope Valley Watermaster Meetings.**

General Manager Thompson II reported that there continues to be a concern regarding water supply for new production and replacement water obligations; that the member agencies have long term supply benefits as State Water Contractors; that transfers from producers with existing production rights may be a more affordable option for new producers; and that water theft related to illegal marijuana grow operations continues to be a concern.

Aqueduct water theft and enforcement of security was then discussed after which it was determined that staff will contact the Department of Water Resources regarding this concern and an update item will be added to the next agenda.

The enforcement of meter compliance, delinquent Production Reports and past due assessments was then briefly discussed after which AVEK Assistant General Manager Knudson stated that a workshop will be held the same day as the next Watermaster meeting with the Watermaster attorney to address these topics.

General Manager Thompson II then reported that the 2020 replacement water request from the Watermaster has been delayed due to the continued submittals of past due Production Reports and that staff is working on the scope of work and budget for the continuation of engineering services with Todd Groundwater.

**2) Antelope Valley and Fremont Basin IRWMP Stakeholder Meetings.**

He then reported that the AVIRWMP Grant Agreement is currently in effect; that staff is working with Woodard and Curran to begin the quarterly report submittals to the Department of Water Resources for project funding; that half of the AVIRWMP Stakeholders have submitted their executed Amended and Restated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU); that those Stakeholders have been invoiced; and that staff will follow up on the outstanding MOUs.

There was no report on the Fremont Basin IRWMP.

**3) Antelope Valley Home Show and SMART Water Expo.**

He then reported that the Antelope Valley Home Show and SMART Water Expo has been postponed to 2022; that the AV Fair will take place in October this year; and that staff is working with the Antelope Valley Fair Association on a contract extension for the SMART Water Expo and Water Conservation Garden.

Resource Manager Barnes then provided a brief presentation on the AV Fair Conservation Garden, including current photos of the Garden and of the new AV Rural Museum, and then stated that the Antelope Valley Fair Association is seeking financial support for water features that will be included in the recreated Rural Museum after which it was determined to add this item as a presentation on the next meeting agenda.

**12) Report of Controller.**

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

Controller Hoffmeyer provided an overview of the Association's revenue, expenses and change in net position for the month ending July 31, 2021.

**13) Reports of Commissioners.**

There were no reports of Commissioners.

**14) Report of Attorney.**

No attorney was present at the meeting.

**15) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.**

It was determined that "Discussion and Possible Action on the Big Rock Creek Joint Ground Water Recharge Project Alternatives," "Update on Aqueduct Water Theft and Security Enforcement," and "Presentation and Possible Action on Sponsorship of the Antelope Valley Rural Museum" be added to the next meeting agenda.

There were no further requests for future agenda items.

**16) Consideration and Possible Action on Scheduling the Next Association Meeting October 14, 2021.**

It was determined that the next meeting of the Association will be held October 14, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

**17) Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

  
Secretary