

**LAKE HEMET MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
June 16, 2022**

Important Update

In accordance with the Governor's Declarations of Emergency for the State of California (Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20) and the Governor's Stay at Home Order (Executive Order N-33-20), the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District is providing an alternative measure for the board members and public to participate in Board Meetings. If you would like to participate via teleconference, the call-in number is as follows:

Dial-in Number: 1-602-580-9460 (TOLL)

Access Code: 6175438#

Via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89709510432?pwd=ZFZmcy94NGtDWIJmS1NuZlNlYXNlQT09>

Meeting ID: 897 0951 0432

Passcode: 578215

Means by which Members of the Public May Offer Public Comment During the Meeting:

Members of the public are not required to submit public comments in advance of the meeting, but will be given an opportunity to address the Board of Directors in real time. Members of the public attending the meeting via the Zoom videoconferencing platform can express their desire to offer public comment or provide input on an agenda item at the appropriate time by utilizing the "Raise Hand" function.

Persons who are using the call-in number and would like to make a comment can notify the Clerk of the Board by speaking up and will be identified by their name and/or number when it is their turn to speak.

Any member of the public can also observe and participate in this meeting by attending the meeting in person at 26385 Fairview Avenue, Hemet, CA 92544. Social distancing will be enforced.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Foutz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

PRESENT: Directors Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, and Pastor

ABSENT: Director Minor

OTHERS PRESENT: General Manager Gow, District Council Wojcik, Administrative Services Manager Markham, Accountant Beaver and District Secretary Billinger

III. Agenda Approval

Director Pastor moved and Director Marshall seconded a motion to approve.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor

ABSENT: Minor

IV. Public Comment Period

None

REGULAR SESSION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

V. Response Items / Reports

1. General Manager Report – Mike Gow

a. Manager's Report

b. Construction & Engineering

GM reviewed written reports in the agenda packet.

The District's second dump truck is on sale at Auction at this current time.

Director Pastor came in 2nd place in the LAFCO Election, he lost by only three votes to the incumbent.

2. **Board Member Reports**
Director Pastor attended the WaterMaster Meeting.

VI. **Board Action Items**

3. **Consent Agenda Items** – Approval by Master Motion. Directors may separate items for discussion and voting.
 - a. Ratify May 2022 Expenditures

Director Marshall moved and Director Jorgensen seconded a motion to approve.
Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

4. **Minute Order** – Consider Approval of Extending Resolution No. 805 Making Findings Relating to a Declared State of Emergency and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the Legislative Bodies of Lake Hemet Municipal Water District for the Period June 19, 2022 through July 19, 2022 Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e).

District Council Wojcik stated that our next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2022, which is more than the allotted 30 days in Government Code Section 54953(e) and we may have to have a special meeting to approve extend Resolution 805. Director Foutz stated that we will see if teleconferencing would be needed and if not, we could approve at the July 19, 2022 meeting.

Director Pastor moved and Director Jorgensen seconded a motion to approve.
Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

5. **Minute Order** - Approve Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting on May 19, 2022

Director Pastor moved and Director Marshall seconded a motion to approve.
Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

6. **Minute Order** – Approve Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Director Foutz stated that the District has set aside monies for the day we have to pay for the WaterMaster in future years.

Director Jorgensen asked if we were sounding our wells? GM Gow stated, yes, on a regular basis, we are doing ok. Canyon basin is in responsive stage, last year was in proactive relative to groundwater levels. Upper San Jacinto Basin had groundwater levels stabilize.

Director Foutz stated that we continue to have a strong budget, the cost of living was authorized in the previous rate approval but is capped at 3% max and will not be adjusted until our next rate study, which is deemed by law every 5 years.

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Pastor seconded a motion to approve.
Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

7. **Minute Order** – Request for Service by County and Ordinance 176 Compliance for Hemet Recovery Village on West Side of State Street Between Oakland and Menlo

*This item was heard first on agenda.

Dr. Matt Chang-Riverside University Health System presented a PowerPoint.

Director Jorgensen asked if they knew the percentage of law enforcement arrests and if so, how do they obtain that number? Dr. Chang responded that they track them from juvenile detention centers and jails. CBAT Teams, The City of Hemet works with the crisis teams, they divert them from psychiatric holds or incarceration, and they follow up. With the wrap around services they are able to provide within 60 days, they are able to avoid a psychiatric arrest.

Director Jorgensen asked if these occupants will be from the Hemet San Jacinto area or from all over the County? Dr. Chang stated, it is a County facility, so everyone will be able to participate. But, Hemet-San Jacinto residents will be the focus. Director Jorgensen, once recovery is over, will they just be released into Hemet? Dr. Chang, no, they will be transported to their home city. Director Jorgensen asked, how is their home city confirmed? I know a lot of homeless state the last city they were living as their home? Will there be other facilities also built throughout the County? Dr. Chang, they would like to build three in total; Hemet, Coachella and an inpatient psychiatric hospital in Moreno Valley

Director Foutz, are any plans to build a facility like this in Temecula, Murrieta or Lake Elsinore? Dr. Chang, yes, we have had talks about building in a few of those areas.

Director Foutz stated, it's a matter of how we get the water when we need it. Improving infrastructure and the delivery of said water.

Director Pastor stated, we are in the water business, you mentioned you are looking at alternate resources for water? Dr. Chang responded, I think the point is we are flexible, we need the water within these tight timelines. Director Pastor, infringing on our water supply, may raise the rates of our customers. Dr. Chang, we are open to alternatives. The County believes they fit strongly under the exclusion of Ordinance 176.

Director Foutz, we are an unusual water district, we are small and we get our water from our Lake and if we have to draw more water, (we are at maximum overdraft) if we go over, we have to buy water from EMWD at \$1200 an acre foot. Our senior resident that is on a fixed income, their bill is going to go up and they must pay for it. Our board needs to make sure you will pay your own weight. When developers come, if they can find a well nearby, that they can buy water and put it into our system, it is now the same cost. Every citizen is treated equally. No political influence. I just saw a release today that MWD is at 5% of their normal allocation. Sooner or later, they are going to run out of water. We look at the City of Hemet to see if it is compatible in the community and obviously, they have, as they approved this project. But here at Lake Hemet MWD we are just about water, not if it will help reduce indigent people on the streets.

Dr. Chang, if there is an alternative, a well, and agreement with EMWD, with no infringement on your water or rates, we are open to all possibilities.

Director Foutz, an option is to find a willing well owner and work out an agreement.

Chuck Washington, Riverside County Third District Supervisor

Supervisor Washington stated he has been on the Board of Supervisors for seven years and has had the opportunity to help up to 500,000 residents, someone asked if they are building this type of facility in Temecula? I just helped with a grant to have one created at Temecula Hospital. Mental Health and homelessness is impacting law enforcement and hospitals, we need to stop saying it's someone else's problem. We know that water is in crisis, if we can find a well, create an agreement with EMWD, something, let's find a solution, but don't leave us out in the cold.

Juan Perez, Riverside County Director of Transportation and Land Management

This is a huge opportunity to fill this long-term need. Mr. Perez thanked GM Gow for working with him on finding a solution. The challenge is the schedule, he appreciates the board's time and will respect their decision.

Deputy Carlos Mora-RivCo Sheriff's Dept- Community Behavior Assessment Team

He works with clinical therapist to help relieve patrol and minimize mental health calls within the county area. The County only has four deputies for the entire area. Deputy Mora is in favor of the project.

Public Comments:

Dennis Fletcher – San Jacinto Resident and Human Relations Council - In Favor

Sandy Idle – Hemet Resident – In Favor

Jasmin Rubio -San Jacinto School Board Member – Mental Health Educator – In Favor

Tiffany Ross – Supervisor of CBAT Unit – In Favor

Brenda Scott- National Alliance on Mental Illness – in Favor

Tim Maurer – Manager of San Jacinto Business Park – In Favor

Ann Smith - Valley Resident - In Favor

Jim Lineberger – Valley Resident – Community Pantry – Against, although it is needed, a facility more centrally located near the 215 Freeway was suggested.

Andrew Allen – Hemet Resident/Business Owner – Against, there are 51 cities in Riverside County, why does Hemet get chosen for this facility

Stacie Olson – Valley Resident – in favor

April Jones- Coordinator at Hemet USD – In Favor

Director Marshall, he agrees with the need for Mental Health Resources, but do we have the water in this district to support this project, he doesn't know the answer, but we need to have a discussion. Director Pastor, we need to see if we have water to supply to this project and go from there.

Director Foutz, we appreciate everyone's comments and know most of the people here are from the mental health community. The City of Hemet has approved the project, but when it comes to water, we have to make sure we have the water. We can't fix the Sheriff's problems, we do not get money from any other agency, we get our money from rate payers, not from Sacramento, Hemet, San Jacinto or the County of Riverside. This is not our purpose, our stewardship here is 100% Water For instance, 70% of our pipe has been replaced in the last 10 years, do you know how much the City of Hemet has changed? Zero. We have no bond debt, Lake Hemet MWD is solid and appropriate. When people come to us for donations, etc., we don't do it. We will not take one dime from our system or rate payers.

Director Foutz, requested to table this decision and directs GM Gow to see if we can find an alternate source of water and make that happen from a water perspective. Our goal is to have clean pure water and a great infrastructure for the next 100 year. We, as a board, are committed to do this as we stated in our Oath of Office.

Director Foutz asked GM Gow, if we can do a letter of support of their project to help with procurement of a well.

Dr. Chang appreciates the board's time and conversation, the result is very reasonable.

Director Pastor moved and Director Jorgensen seconded a motion to table.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

Recess was taken at 4:44 p.m.

Resumed at 4:48 p.m.

8. **Resolution No. 808** – Establishing Appropriations Limit for Fiscal Year 2022-2023

Director Marshall moved and Director Jorgensen seconded a motion to approve.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

9. **Resolution No. 809** – Approving the Memorandum of Understanding with Service Employees International Union (SEIU), CTW, CLC Local 721

Director Marshall moved and Director Pastor seconded a motion to approve.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

10. **Resolution No. 810** – Approving the Employee Manual for Unrepresented Employees

Director Pastor moved and Director Jorgensen seconded a motion to approve.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

Recessed to closed session at 5:02 p.m. to discuss items IV A. and B.

IV. Closed Session

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS** – Pursuant to Gov. Code 54957.6 District Negotiator(s): General Manager Gow/District Counsel Davis and Wojcik
1. Represented Employees: SEIU Local 721
 2. Unrepresented Employees

Reported out at 5:15 p.m. No reportable action however the board did vote in open session for Items 9 & 10 as reported above.

- B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** – Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957; Continued Review of the General Manager; Michael A. Gow

No reportable action

Director Jorgensen moved and Director Pastor seconded a motion to approve.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor

X. Adjourned – at 5:17 p.m. to Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.



Kathleen Billinger, Assistant Secretary

President Foutz asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting of May 19, 2022. A copy of the minutes was sent to each board member for review prior to the June 16, 2022 meeting. Motion to approve was made by Director Pastor with a second from Director Marshall. It carried by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Foutz, Jorgensen, Marshall, Pastor
ABSENT: Minor



Steven A. Pastor, Board Vice-President
Lake Hemet Municipal Water District