

# WEST VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

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## Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the West Valley County Water District (WVCWD) has been called for:

**Tuesday, October 22, 2024, 7:00 pm**  
**25315 West Ideal Ave, Lancaster, CA 93536**

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** The Regular Meeting of the West Valley County Water District was called to order at 7:00 PM. The Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL.** Members present were Secretary B. Richmond, Director K. Hooker and Director T. Green. President K.J. Hoerricks and Vice-President L. Ballentine were absent. Also, Field Technician G. Gurry was present and SUSP Executive Director arrived at 7:14 PM.

The meeting was conducted by Secretary, Brian Richmond due to the absence of the President and Vice President.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES.** Director Green motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on August 27, 2024. The motion was seconded by Director Hooker. The motion was carried with 3 Ayes and 0 Noes.

### **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT – Financial Year through September 30,2023.**

Secretary Richmond queried if SUSP back bills were being paid. It was reported that not this month but one was paid last month. Director Hooker motioned to approve the Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Director Green. The motion was carried with 3 Ayes and 0 Noes

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT.** There was no report.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S & FIELD OPERATIONS REPORT.**

#### **Field Operations Report:**

**Customer complaints:** Four customer requested re-reads were performed, all were correct. One customer meter pressure check was performed; the meter was operating at a normal capacity.

**Customer shut offs:** One customer shut off was complete for a customer side leak.

**Customer lock offs:** Six door hangers were distributed to delinquent customers, all paid before being locked off.

**Water main and service line leaks:** At 50722 252nd St W; Service line leak at the junction of the 1.5'' CTS Poly and the two separate customer services. Two insta-tite by

IPS threaded couplers were used to repair the leak at the junction. Fire hydrant on the corner of 255th St W and Flat Creek St. was hit and sheared the head of the hydrant off at the breakaway flange. SUSP Staff are sourcing a new hydrant to be installed with concrete bollards to prevent future issues with this hydrant.

**Road repair/ Mowing:** Continued mowing borders around district roads/ Easements. Secretary Richmond stated that the County roads are supposed to be maintained by the county and District staff should mow around the district roads only.

**Miscellaneous:** On September 10th-13th district staff became aware of a fire approximately 2.0 miles Southeast of the boundaries of West Valley County Water District. At approximately 3:00 PM on September 10th Edison shut off the power as a precaution due to the fire growing. District staff were able to locate a generator for delivery, to ensure district residents would have access to water with the uncertain timeframe for the power to be re-activated. Within 5 hours the generator was delivered, hard wired into the well #3 pump, and put into service. The Fire Chief estimated that the fire department pulled approximately 100,000 Gallons of water from the district. (13,367 CF) It was noted that such water consumption for a fire outside our district is still counted off our allocation.

**Water Theft:** The district has become increasingly aware of water theft throughout our district. Trail cameras have been placed in various parts of the district to try and track down who and when.

### **September Managers Report**

**West Valley Audit-** The audit is almost completed and will be available at the next board meeting. They are currently working on AR testing, meaning checking Accounts Receivables and the collection activities. The prices for audits have been markedly increased for audits due to new State Regulations.

**Grant Activity** – The generator grant is still active but not moving forward as the State is fighting with contractors over engineers estimates for simple generator installations and electrical connection costs. SUSP is moving forward with a loan application for \$150K to support the engineering work that needs to be done to produce the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) required for the district to apply for planning and grant construction dollars. The loan terms are very favorable as it from the National Rural Water Association's revolving loan program which is a 10-year loan at 2% interest and can be accessed in 30 -60 days.

**Mulching Issues** –Mr. DeMoss responded on behalf of the Water District's Board to the County Supervisor, Kathryn Barger, and then again responded to the request for public input for a public meeting that was held on the issue. He acknowledged Flavia's assistance in preparing responses and providing information for responses on the public meeting and by attending the public meeting. His hopes are that this process results in some meaningful regulatory requirements and clean-up efforts for the area.

**AVEK/ Supplemental Water Purchase** – The district purchased and paid for the last 100 acre-ft of supplemental water from the Goode family living in the area. SUSP does not have plans currently to arrange more supplemental purchases as we are awaiting a requested report from the Water Master's office which has been moved back from Sacramento to the AVEK office in Palmdale. Once we see what the district has banked from the last 3 years, we will discuss with the board what purchase options are available. Please note these supplemental water purchases saved the district a little over 20% of the costs of the water and kept us from paying penalties for the water overages. AVEK is increasing the cost of overages.

SUSP Executive Director stated that we have to start on replacing the water system as required by SB 218. Planning on getting a loan for the engineering and also getting a construction grant.

**DIRECTOR COMMENTS.**

Secretary Richmond noted that the Board of Directors has 3 vacant seats at the end of the year. Due to only one person applying to run for those seats, there will be no election. Therefore, the Board will appoint anyone who is interested. Then the Board will elect positions.

**OLD BUSINESS.** None

**NEW BUSINESS.**

- A) The Board reviewed the proposal for new signors for the LAIF account.
- B) The Board reviewed and discussed Resolution 2-<sup>2-2024</sup>20024 which authorizes the new signors that are required to deposit funds or transfer funds out of the LAIF account. Two signors are required for each transaction. The Resolution was read out and Director Hooker motioned to approve the Resolution. The motion was seconded by Director Green. The motion was carried with 3 Ayes and 0 Noes.
- C) December 2024 Board Meeting: The Board discussed and considered moving the December Board Meeting to December 3, 2024. Director Hooker motioned to approve moving the December meeting to December 3<sup>rd</sup>. The motion was seconded by Director Green. The motion was carried with 3 Ayes and 0 Noes

**PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

Jesse Kerr recommended the district investigate and find out who damaged the fire hydrant and charge them for the replacement cost.

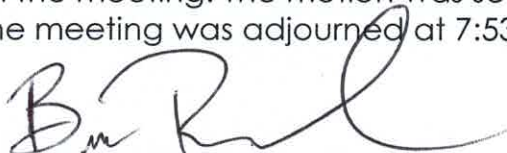
The mulch situation was also discussed as to the danger of ground water contamination.

The public were asked to take pictures of any water theft activity.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT.**

Director Hooker motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Green. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Attest:



Secretary, B. Richmond