

MINUTES
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
THREE VALLEYS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Thursday, January 16, 2020
8:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

The Special Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. at the District office located at 1021 East Miramar Avenue, Claremont, California. The presiding officer was President Bob Kuhn.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The flag salute was led by President Bob Kuhn.

3. Roll Call

Roll call was taken with a quorum of the Board present.

Directors Present

Bob Kuhn, President
David De Jesus, Vice President
Carlos Goytia, Director
Denise Jackman, Director
John Mendoza, Director

Directors Absent

Brian Bowcock

Staff Present

Matt Litchfield, General Manager
Steve Kennedy, Legal Counsel
Dominique Aguiar, Operations Supervisor
Nadia Aguirre, Executive Assistant
Liz Cohn, Sr. Financial Analyst
Ray Evangelista, Engineering Assistant
Kirk Howie, Chief Administrative Officer
Tim Kellett, Chief Water Resources Officer
Steve Lang, Chief Operations Officer
James Linthicum, Chief Finance Officer
Robert Peng, I.T. Manager
Esther Romero, Accounting Technician

Guest present: Ted Ebenkamp, Walnut Valley Water District; Ed Hilden, Walnut Valley Water District; Erik Hitchman, Walnut Valley Water District; Jennifer Stark, City of Claremont; John Monsen; Bob Pence; Victor Cerno; Victoria Hahn; Ted Ebenkamp; Jennifer Fu; Jody Roberto.

4. Public Comment

President Kuhn called for public comment. There were no requests for public comment.

5. Procedural Requirements – Division 5 Vacancy

General Counsel Steve Kennedy reviewed the procedural requirements listed in the memo he prepared on December 17, 2019. The Board has 60 days to make an appointment from the day Director Ruzicka passed, that period being from December 13, 2019 to February 11, 2020. The Notice of Vacancy was posted for 15 days at 4 locations. Ten (10) applications were received, therefore the Ad Hoc Committee convened, reviewed all applications and narrowed it down to four (4) applicants. One candidate declined to interview and gave notice the morning of January 16, 2020. For voting purposes, a majority vote of four is needed to confirm the appointment. Deliberations are to be conducted in open session. If the Board is not able to come to 4 affirmative votes, then another special meeting will be conducted prior to February 11, 2020. The appointee will serve until the next general election in November 2020 and will be up for election again in 2022.

6. Review Credentials of Prospective Candidates for Division 5 Vacancy

Candidate number one: Mr. Theodore L. Ebenkamp is a resident of Rowland Heights. He is an elected member of the Board of Directors for Walnut Valley Water District, Board member of Puente Basin Water Agency, serves on the Spadra Basin GSA and Los Angeles County 4th District Consolidated Oversight Board.

Candidate number two: Ms. Jennifer Fu is a Diamond Bar resident. She is a practicing attorney with her own law office, serves on the Board of Directors for the Rosemead Chamber of Commerce and is involved with Kiwanis and the California Bar Association.

Candidate number three: Ms. Jody Roberto is a Diamond Bar resident. She worked with Senator Huff for twelve years, is a Board member for the Boys Republic, advisory board member for Pomona Valley Hospital, chair for the 55th Assembly District Central Committee and is involved with the Diamond Bar Community Foundation.

Each candidate was asked the following questions:

Question 1: Describe your past experience concerning governance and service on a Board of Directors, e.g., private, public or non-profit.

Question 2: What impact have you made specifically in Division 5 with respect to community service or involvement?

Question 3: If appointed, how would you represent TVMWD in your division?

Question 4: Provide your definition of what an effective Board member does or does not do?

Question 5: How would you handle situations where the Board, collectively, makes a decision whereby you may as an individual Board member not necessarily agree?

Question 6: Describe your understanding of the relationship between the Board and the General Manager.

Question 7: Do you have any additional information you would like to share or have any questions for the Board?

After the candidates completed the questioning phase of the interview, the Board began a discussion on the qualifications of each candidate. Since it is an open meeting, President Kuhn advised the candidates they were welcomed to stay in the room or excuse themselves into the conference room during deliberations. All three candidates excused themselves.

Director Jackman nominated Mr. Ebenkamp, President Kuhn nominated Ms. Jody Roberto and Director Goytia nominated Ms. Jennifer Fu.

A partial roll call vote was taken for the nomination for Mr. Ebenkamp as Director of Division 5. At the suggestion of legal counsel each Board member indicated their choice for the appointment.

The Board did not come to a 4-1 vote and called for another Special Board Meeting with Director Bowcock present. The meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 20, 2020, upon confirmation of availability from Director Bowcock. The recording of the meeting is to be sent to Director Bowcock for review.

A break was called for at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened at 10:49 a.m.

The candidates were called back in for further questioning.

7. Selection and Appointment of the New Division 5 Director

After deliberation, the Board of Directors was deadlocked and a selection and appointment for Division 5 was not made.

8. Oath of Office – New Division 5 Director

No oath of office was taken.

9. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were requested.

10. Adjournment

The Board adjourned at 11:15 a.m. to a tentative Special Board Meeting on Monday, January 20, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.



Bob Kuhn
President, Board of Directors
Three Valleys Municipal Water District



Recorded by: Nadia Aguirre
Executive Assistant