

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE MONTE VISTA WATER DISTRICT**

March 9, 2022

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Sandra Rose, President
G. Michael Milhiser, Vice President
Manny Martinez, Board Auditor
Philip Erwin, Director
Tony Lopez, Director

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None.

STAFF PRESENT

Justin Scott-Coe, General Manager
Andrew Gagen, Legal Counsel
Stephanie Reimer, Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer
A. William Schwartz, Director of Engineering, Operations, & Maintenance
Kelley Donaldson, Community Affairs Manager
John Hughes, Water Operations Manager
Leah Nazaroff, Accounting Manager
Juan Ventura, Customer Service & Information Technology Manager
Brandi Goodman-DeCoud, Executive Assistant II

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

None.

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE

President Rose called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
Director Lopez led those assembled in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Gagen stated that the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Monte Vista Water District (District) will be conducted consistent with the provisions in Government Code section 54953(e), as recently amended by Assembly Bill 361, and pursuant to District Resolution. Each director confirmed their attendance and ability to hear the proceedings. Other attendees confirmed they could hear each director. The directors and staff were reminded that any votes taken during the portion of the meeting when Board members or the public are participating remotely must be taken by roll call vote. President Rose provided brief instructions on appropriate conduct during the meeting.

ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT/OPEN FORUM

None.

ITEM 3: AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

None.

ITEM 4: CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Director Erwin, seconded by Vice President Milhiser, and unanimously carried:

M22-03-01

MOVED: Approve the Consent Calendar, as by roll call vote:

- A. Meeting minutes of February 23, 2022
- B. Resolution 808-22: Re-Authorizing Remote Meetings

President Rose	aye
Vice President Milhiser	aye
Board Auditor Martinez	aye
Director Erwin	aye
Director Lopez	aye

ITEM 5: DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. Groundwater Rights Management Strategy

Mr. Schwartz provided a brief presentation in support of staff’s recommendation.

Board Auditor Martinez requested clarification regarding the 19,000 acre-feet (AF) of stored groundwater. Mr. Schwartz clarified that the combined desalter replenishment obligation estimated through 2030 is 24,240 AF. Mr. Scott-Coe further clarified that the numbers presented are projecting ahead to make sure there is enough water to produce through 2030.

Board Auditor Martinez inquired when the 2030 desalter replenishment obligation ends. Mr. Scott-Coe stated that the answer to that question is currently uncertain.

Board Auditor Martinez questioned if the current storage is projected to draw down in 2030, will those numbers continue to decline in 2040 or subsequent decades. Mr. Scott-Coe reported that the desalter replenishment long-range strategy is the criteria to address the future uncertainties.

Director Rose inquired as to how it is determined how much water is desalted. Mr. Scott-Coe confirmed that 40,000 AF of desalted water is required per year based on the Chino Basin Watermaster’s Optimum Basin Management Program.

Vice President Milhiser inquired if the District could look into buying more water. Mr. Scott-Coe confirmed that the current plan is to purchase 500 AF per year.

The groundwater rights management strategy was received and filed.

B. City of Chino Groundwater Rights Purchase

Mr. Scott-Coe provided a brief presentation in support of staff’s recommendation.

Upon motion by Vice President Milhiser, seconded by President Rose, and unanimously carried:

M22-03-02

MOVED: Approve the purchase of 500 acre-feet of Chino Basin Groundwater production rights from the City of Chino for the not-to-exceed amount of \$319,600, as by roll call vote:

President Rose	aye
Vice President Milhiser	aye
Board Auditor Martinez	aye
Director Erwin	aye
Director Lopez	aye

C. Utility Billing Arrearages Update

Mr. Ventura provided a brief presentation in support of staff’s recommendation.

Director Erwin inquired if the State provided the District with a specific amount of funds for customer payment assistance. Mr. Ventura confirmed that this was the case.

President Rose requested confirmation that 100 out of the 119 customers enrolled in payment plans did not complete their plan. Mr. Ventura confirmed that this was the case. Board Auditor Martinez asked whether it were possible that the 100 that did not complete their payment plans participated in other assistance programs. Mr. Ventura confirmed this was possible.

President Rose referenced the presentation and inquired as to what “WUE” programs are. Mr. Ventura confirmed that WUE was the abbreviation for “Water Use Efficiency.”

Board Auditor Martinez inquired if the shutoff method is a strong enforcement tool. Mr. Ventura confirmed that 95% of those shut off pay within the same day to restore service and, of the 200 reported shutoffs, service has likely been restored.

Mr. Ventura announced the Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP) Block Grant program beginning in May/June 2022.

Board Auditor Martinez expressed his appreciation for Customer Service staff’s efforts in providing assistance for families in need.

President Rose stated that the programs and assistance offered to customers shows the District has a heart.

The utility billing arrearages update was received and filed.

ITEM 6: GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

In addition to his written report, Mr. Scott-Coe briefed the Board on issues and activities of the past two weeks. Topics covered included the COVID-19 public health emergency and lessening restrictions, consideration to continue the current hybrid format of meetings, reference to the drought update provided in the Board packet, potential future mandatory water conservation requirements, Saturday’s in-person workshop “Ready for Drought: Simple Ways to Save Water Inside & Outside your Home” held at the Waterwise Community Center from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., District sponsorship of OPARC’s Annual Founders Gala on May 7th and encouragement for Board attendance, Monte Vista Gives Back Blood Drive on May 26th, and appreciation to staff on Employee Appreciation Day.

ITEM 7: INFORMATION ITEMS

Information items were included in the agenda packet.

ITEM 8: BOARD COMMENTS (including reports on conferences/meetings attended at District expense)

Vice President Milhiser announced the Chino Basin Water Conservation District’s Waterwise Community Center Open House, from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. on March 12th.

Board Auditor Martinez expressed his appreciation for the Chino Basin Watermaster Board coordination meeting with Mr. Scott-Coe, City of Ontario Utilities General Manager Scott Burton, and City of Ontario Councilmember Debra Dorst-Porada to discuss ongoing mutual short-term and long-term goals.

Vice President Milhiser thanked staff for their customer service efforts.

ITEM 9: CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (GC §54956.9[d][1])

Case Number RCV 51010: CBMWD v. City of Chino et al.

No Closed Session was held.

ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Vice President Milhiser, seconded by Director Erwin, and unanimously carried:

M22-03-03

MOVED: Approve to adjourn the meeting, as by roll call vote:

President Rose	aye
Vice President Milhiser	aye
Board Auditor Martinez	aye
Director Erwin	aye
Director Lopez	aye

There being no further business, President Rose adjourned the meeting in memory of former City of Upland Councilmember Tom Thomas at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Scott-Coe
General Manager/Secretary