

RAND COMMUNITIES WATER DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
MINUTES

Wednesday, February 9, 2022
27804 Comstock Ave, Johannesburg, CA 93528

- I. Call to Order**
President Cliff Kennedy called to order the regular meeting of the Rand Community Water district at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, January 12, 2022 in Johannesburg, California. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- II. Roll Call**
Present were President Cliff Kennedy, Vice-President Ernest Napolis, Director Tom Williams, and Director Ghulam Din. The fifth seat was vacant.
- III. Swear In New Board Member and Elect New Board Treasurer**
Pamela Keiser was sworn in by GM Jones as the new board member. She was also elected as the Treasurer.
- IV. Adopt Agenda**
Director Din made a motion to adopt the agenda after changing the title for item 13 for the water tank and adding Mr. Baum between item 13 and 14. Vice-President Napolis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. Communications from the Public**
Various members of the public commented.
- VI. Closed Session**
CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) - Name of case: Greg Thompson v. Rand Communities Water District, et. al.
The Board went into closed session at 7:30 pm.
- VII. Open Session**
The Board went back into open session at 8:10 pm. No reportable actions taken.
- VIII. Approve Minutes from December 06, December 22, 2021 and January 12, 2022**
Director Din made a motion to approve the minutes from December 6, 2021 and January 12, 2022. Director Williams seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 ayes and 1 abstain. The minutes from December 22, 2021 were put on hold until the notes for that meeting, which were taken by Director Williams, were given to the Board Secretary and the minutes revised.
- IX. New Rate Hearing and Flyer**

There was some discussion on this subject, but no action was taken. Director Napolis made a motion to table the flyer, seconded by Director Williams. The motion passed unanimously.

X. General Managers Report
(Copied from original report)

On January 24, 2022, the pump in Prather Well 2 failed to turn on. The electrical panel turned on, but the pump failed to respond. Garrison well service was called on January 25 and came out the next day.

They inspected the wiring first and could find nothing wrong. There were no burnt wires, and all of the electrical components in the control panel were working, but the pump still would not respond. So, they pulled the pump out of the well. It was 504 feet deep in a 600 foot well.

Once the pump was out, it was obvious that the pump had burned up. Since all of the wiring down to the pump was fine, it had to be something internal in the motor. Garrison Well Service told me that the pump was at the end of its life for this type of pump they only last five to seven years, and this pump was originally installed April of 2015. So, a new pump was ordered, and they installed the new pump on January 27. They left out one pipe that was extremely corroded, so the new pump is set at 483 feet deep. They also replaced the wiring in the control panel.

In the meantime, Prather Well 1 was put into service in the system in order to keep the water level in the tanks up. The first time it was turned on, it blew a transmission line pipe on the water road not far from it after running for about 1½ hours. Because it also has a new pump, we figured the pipe couldn't handle the higher psi from this well. After fixing the pipe, well 1 was again turned on, and approximately 2½ feet of water was added to the tanks.

The pipe coming from the wellhead of well 2 started leaking all over from an old fitting, so I found a welder in Ridgecrest who came out and welded a new piece to it.

The State Water Board was informed of everything that was going on from the time the pump quit in Well 2 until it was back online.

On January 3, 2022, Osiel Jaime from the State Water Board came here to do their tri-annual inspection of the water system. I took him to all three wells, all three boosters, and all three water tanks. All that he found that needed to be done was a cover put on a fitting on well 1, a vacuum connection installed, and a hose removed when not in use at Well 2. There were no major issues with anything he looked at.

January 18th we had two major leaks. One was on the transmission line near booster 2. Again, a thin-walled pipe split. At the same time, there was a leak on The Rand and Sunset where four pipes met in a cross and including a valve connection. The transmission line was attended to first, being a higher priority as we couldn't fill the water tanks without it.

(End of report)

XI. Pay Bills

All bills presented were signed.

XII. Blending Tank and Pipeline from Booster 3 to Randsburg/Johannesburg Water Tank 3

A report from Jay Friel was given. No action was taken.

XIII. Future Agenda Items

Ad-Hoc Committee to address Well 3 and Grant

Ad-Hoc Committee for Office Organization and Accounts

Treasurers Report

Arsenic Study

General Managers Responsibilities

XIV. Adjournment

Director Din made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Williams.

Motion passed with 4 ayes and 1 vacant. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.

ATTEST: _____

Debbie R Jones, Secretary
RCWD Board of Directors