

RAND COMMUNITIES WATER DISTRICT
Regular Board Meeting
MINUTES

Wednesday, July 14, 2021
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, July 14, 2021 in Johannesburg, California. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Roll Call

Present were President Cliff Kennedy, Vice-President Ernest Napolis, Director Tom Williams, Director Brent Brown, and Director Ghulam Din.

III. Adopt Agenda

Director Din made a motion to adopt the agenda as is. Director Williams seconded the motion. Motion passed with all ayes.

IV. Communications from the Public

Mr. Stanton made a comment about the new rate increase and how it has been approved for the first year only.

V. Correction to the May 12, 2021 Meeting Announcement

GM Jones stated the following correction to the announcement originally read at the May 12, 2021 board meeting by the board president:

The last sentence of the paragraph read under agenda item Announcements was as follows: "A copy of the settlement agreement can be obtained from the Board Secretary upon request." The last sentence should have read: "A copy of the settlement agreement can be obtained by way of a Public Records Act Request directed to the District."

VI. Correspondence

GM Jones received the following correspondence: Two identical budget trailer bills have been introduced that propose the statutory implementation details for \$1 billion in funding to assist with COVID-19 related customer water debt. The relief period would be defined as March 4, 2020 to June 15, 2021. A community water system applicant would calculate or estimate, based on its billing frequency, the total amount of past due bills that have accumulated during the relief period. I have already given out the W-9 forms requested by the State Water Board and San Bernardino County in preparation for this bill.

VII. Approve Minutes

Director Williams made a motion to approve the minutes from June 9 and June 23, 2021. Director Din seconded the motion. Motion passed with all ayes.

VIII. General Managers Report
(Copied from original report)

The tank divers are now coming out on Monday, July 19th to inspect the tanks. They were delayed by another client but are now finished with them.

On 6/28 Booster 1 failed to turn on when Tiger went to turn on the system. It turned out to be a blown fuse and was fixed the next day.

A leak developed at the hydrant located on Redrock Randsburg Road by the Goodin's property. It turned out to be a leak from the coupler attaching the pipe to the hydrant. It is unfixable as whoever repaired it before glued the coupler in, so a new hydrant was purchased to replace it. It has been repaired.

Both the Arsenic and the Consumer Confidence reports were mailed out to customers on July 1, 2021. Both are available on the website.

The water levels in the aquifer are remaining constant with no drop in the water level. The water level at Well 1 seems to fluctuate more than at Well 2 but stays between 300 and 400 feet.

7/6 there was a leak in the transmission line at the intersection of Johannesburg Avenue and St Elmo Street. It was discovered that a service line that no one knew was there was what was leaking. It was going to a vacant lot that no longer had a house and hadn't for years. The buried meter and meter box was removed.

We are working on getting a second meter installed at well 1. Both Northwind and another company have approached me about buying water for the job they are bidding against each other for with BLM. With two meters, both companies can use water without interfering with the readings of each other.

(End of report)

IX. New Rates and Rate Protest Letter Fraud

Discussion about the letter mailed to the community disparaging several members of the board. GM Jones was directed to contact the attorney concerning the best course of action, if any, to be taken concerning it. GM Jones stated that 11 letters that had been originally accepted as valid were found to have forged signatures after all the signatures had been verified with the those on file. Noticing a protest form letter signed by someone who has been out of town for months prompted the signature verifications the day after the hearing.

Director Williams made a motion that we have the correspondence from the public sent to the attorney to get an answer on how to approach it. Motion seconded by Vice-President Napolis. Motion passed with all ayes.

X. Budget Review

There was discussion about several items on the budget, but no changes were made. Vice-President Napolis made a motion to accept the budget for fiscal year 2021-2022. Director Brown seconded the motion. Motion passed with all ayes.

XI. Pay Bills

All the bills presented were signed.

XII. Future Agenda Items

Attorney response to public correspondence.

XIII. Adjournment

Vice-President Napolis made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Din. Motion passed with all ayes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

ATTEST: _____

Debbie R Jones, Secretary
RCWD Board of Directors