

**RAND COMMUNITIES WATER DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**MINUTES**

Thursday, November 9, 2023  
27804 Comstock Ave, Johannesburg, CA 93528

**1. Call to Order**

Vice-President Ghulam Din called the regular meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**3. Roll Call**

Present: President Ghulam Din, Vice-President Mark Jones, Director Robert Baum, and Director Gregory Frazier, and Director Gregory Thompson.

No board members absent.

**4. Communications from the Public**

Carlos Bravo from Self-Help Enterprises attended the meeting virtually and provided updates on the on-going Well 2 project. The project involves lowering the well pump to access a different water table level, to potentially draw water from a water source that has a lower concentration of arsenic. Self-Help Enterprises will fund the project, and Garrison Brothers Well Service will carry out the well drilling. Self-Help Enterprises is waiting on Garrison Brothers Well Service to finalize a contract to execute the project.

**5. Adopt Agenda**

Director Jones made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Director Frazier and was passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

**6. Discuss and Take Action on Booster Pump Situation**

The general manager updated the board on the search for a spare booster pump. The general manager had followed up on leads from different manufacturers and communicated his findings to the board. The most reasonable lead was from McDonald Manufacturing Company, being the cheapest option which appears to meet the requirements of our well. The cost was quoted at \$16,000.

President Din made a motion to authorize the purchase of a spare booster pump for the amount of \$16,000. The motion was seconded by Director Thompson, and passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

**7. Discuss and Take Action on Investing in CD**

A discussion took place to reallocate the district's savings fund into in a Certificate of Deposit (CD), as it was noted that the district's finances were at a good position to do so.

President Din made a motion to invest \$100,000 from the district's TERF Money Market account into a 10-month CD. The motion was seconded by Director Baum, and passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays. An appointment will be scheduled with our bank for enactment.

## **8. Discuss and Take Action on Credit Card Processing Charges**

At the Special Board Meeting held on October 30th, the board passed a motion to implement a 2.8% processing surcharge for all payments made with a credit card or debit card, since we have previously been undertaking those charges from our ACH payment portal.

The charges were implemented at the start of the billing cycle on November 1, 2023, with a notice being posted on the website, and printed on the back of bills. Now all ACH payments will incur this surcharge.

## **9. Update on Audit**

A discussion took place regarding an update on a delay with the on-going audit.

President Din made a motion to form an Ad-Hoc consisting of President Din and Director Frazier to work on the audit. The motion was seconded by Director Jones, and passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

The Ad-Hoc committee was formed, and further action will be taken.

## **10. Discuss and Take Action on Bylaws**

Suggestions were made to update outdated information in our bylaws. Bylaws were distributed to the board members for review and discussion in the future.

## **11. Approve Minutes**

Minutes for the Regular meeting held on October 12, 2023 were presented to the board for approval.

President Din made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Jones, and passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays.

## **12. Discuss and Take Action on Accounts Payable**

A discussion took place on an accounts payable dispute. No reportable actions were taken.

## **13. Discuss Grant-Writing Proposal**

Following the meeting with the engineering firm, MC Engineering, at the special meeting held earlier this day (November 9, 2023), the board discussed potential opportunities for collaboration to renew our old grant, as well as applying new grants. Various factors were considered.

## **14. Discuss and Take Action on Requesting Grant Extension**

The board agreed that we should continue collaboration with MC Engineering, and have them start with attempting to attain a grant extension from the State Water Board's Division of Financial Assistance.

## **15. General Manager's Report**

General Manager David Perry gave a report of the notable events and achievements for the month. A summary is given below:

- Well 1 is fixed and ready to be used if needed.
- Boosters have been cleaned and had anti-rust compound applied.
- Took 2 old boosters to Surface Pumps in Bakersfield; they said the pumps were too far gone to repair.

- Installed new service connection in Randsburg.
- USGS tested Well 2 for various compounds and we are awaiting results.
- Removed a meter from a Johannesburg customer for non-payment.
- Insulated all but 3 of the system's air-vacs for winter.
- Moved 2 meter boxes out of fenced yards in Red Mountain.
- Confirmed with Carlos at Self-Help Enterprises about the Well 2 Project.
- Fixed two leaks on the transmission line.
- Fixed a mainline leak in Randsburg.

**16. Pay Bills**

Bills were presented and paid.

**17. Future Agenda Items**

No items were suggested to be tabled for a future meeting.

**18. Proceeding Adjournment**

Director Baum made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by President Din and passed with 5 ayes and 0 nays. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25pm.

ATTEST: Maaz Tahir  
Maaz Tahir, Secretary  
RCWD Board of Directors