

Thermalito Water and Sewer District
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
June 20, 2023 – 2:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Taggart at 2:00 pm

1.1 Flag Salute

Engineer Heindell led the flag salute.

1.2 Roll Call

Present were President Taggart, Vice President Koch, Directors Hatley, Wristen and Clark. Also present were Attorney McClure, Office Manager Padilla, Engineer Heindell and Manager Boucher.

2. PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Shane Gable to speak on Item 5.1.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 16, 2023

3.2 Financial Statement – May 2023

3.3 Water Warrants – Check Number 20246-20324 Total \$546,245.33

Water LAIF Deposit - \$7,824.32

Water LAIF Withdrawal - \$162,000.00

Sewer Warrants – Check Number 7417-7420 Total \$24,820.15

Sewer LAIF Deposit - \$20,175.68

Health Reimb Account – Check Number 2950-2954 Total \$974.86

3.4 Superintendent's Monthly Report of Maintenance and Operations and Solar Power Generation for May 2023

It was moved by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Wristen to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

5. PUBLIC HEARING - President Taggart opened the Public Hearing at 2:05 pm.

5.1 Proposition 218 – Proposed Water and Sewer Rates

Michael DeGroot from Bartle Wells presented a power point presentation detailing the needs for the water and sewer rate increases. He mentioned that the reason for the water and sewer increase is that:

- Current rates do not reflect the full cost necessary to provide water and wastewater service due to an increase in staffing costs and projected future inflation in operating cost.

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- District is projected to incur \$470,000 per year for water enterprise and \$250,000 per year for wastewater enterprise capital improvement projects.

Manager Boucher then opened Item 5.1 up for questions from the audience.

Ms. Shane Gable approached the Board and stated that he has property in the District as well as in South Feather Power and Water. He stated that he feels that our rates keep increasing and the District does not offer superior service. A discussion ensued. President Taggart informed Mr. Gable that the rate increase affects all customer including Board members. He also mentioned that if he has any concerns regarding the water to contact the District so that staff can be made aware of it.

President Taggart closed the Public Hearing at 2:25 pm.

5.2 Review of Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Draft Budget

Manager Boucher mentioned that a draft copy of the FY2023/24 budget was included in the Board Packet. Breakdown of the FY 2023/24 budget is as follows:

Water Revenues - \$2,707,986
Water Expenses - \$2,495,778
Water Capital Expenditures - \$907,510

Sewer Revenues - \$1,814,366
Sewer Expenses - \$1,794,436
Sewer Capital Expenditures - \$250,000

He asked if the Board had any questions regarding the proposed budget. There were no questions asked by the Board. This item will be presented for approval at the 7:00pm Board meeting on June 20, 2023. No action was taken.

5.3 Resolution 02-23 – Adding Unpaid Charges to the Annual Assessment

Manager Boucher submitted for Board review the 2023-24 Direct Assessment and Fee Information submitted by the Butte County Auditor-Controller's Office. It was moved by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Wristen and carried by a unanimous vote that Resolution 02-23, "Resolution Adding Unpaid Charges to the Annual Assessment" be adopted. Roll call was taken.

6. WATER BUSINESS

None

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7. **ATTORNEY REPORT**

None

8. **SEWER BUSINESS**

8.1 **SC-OR Report**

Commissioner Wristen reviewed over the May 23, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Sewerage Commission – Oroville Region.

8.2 **Standing Committee – SC-OR Commissioners – Policy 4.150**

President Taggart appointed the following SC-OR Committee for FY 2023/24:

COMMITTEE

SC-OR

SC-OR Voting Member

DIRECTORS

Taggart and Koch

Taggart

Motion made by Director Hatley; seconded by Director Clark and unanimously carried to appoint Directors Taggart and Koch to the SC-OR Commission and to appoint Director Taggart as the Voting Member.

9. **WYANDOTTE CREEK GSA**

9.1 **Wyandotte Creek GSA Report**

Director Wristen reviewed over the May 25, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Wyandotte Creek Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

10. **MANAGER REPORT**

New Employees: The District welcomes Oscar Arias and Marissa Ortez to work in the Administration Department. Oscar will be filling in for Customer Service Rep Teesdale while she is on maternity leave and Marissa will be working as summer help assisting Office Manager Padilla.

Butte LAFCO – Oroville MSR: Comments from California Water Services in regards to the Draft Municipal Service Review of the Oroville Area Water & Wastewater Services are included in the packet.

Summer Help: The District welcomes Sean Rush and Davis Long to assist back in the Distribution Department for the summer.

Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade: Engineer Heindell reported that the modules which are the hollow fiber tubes are being installed. They plan on having the plant up and running by the end of the month.

11. **HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

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12. BOARD COMMENTS

The Board thanked Michael DeGroot from Bartle Wells for his presentation.

13. RECESS AND RECONVENE AT 7:00 P.M.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was recessed at 3:00 pm and will reconvene at 7:00 pm.


Secretary of the Board


President of the Board