

MINUTES

UNION PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT REGULAR BOARD MEETING

April 24, 2024

Directors Present: Eric Bottomley, President
Greg Rasmussen, Vice-President
Tom Quincy, Secretary
Bruce Tallakson, Treasurer
Ralph Chick, Director

Directors Absent: None

Staff Present: Jessica Self, General Manager
Jenna Mayo, Administrative Analyst/Board Clerk

Others Present: Andrew Ramos, Legal Counsel
Rebecca Callen, COA City Administrator
Joel Metzger, UWPA General Manager
Kelly Gerkenmeyer, CCWD External Affairs Manager
John Coleman, CCWD Water Resources Manager
Bertha Underhill, CCWD Director
Gary Conrado, UWPA Director
Public at Large

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER & THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. ROLL CALL

President Bottomley called the Regular Board Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Director Tallakson
Second: Director Rasmussen

Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

MINUTE ENTRY. MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Minutes: March 27, 2024 – Regular Meeting
- b. Expenditures - March 2024
- c. Fund Balance Report – March 2024
- d. Balance Sheet & Income Statement – March 2024
- e. YTD Budget to Actuals – March 2024
- f. Legal Fees Year-to-Date Review

Motion: Director Tallakson
Second: Director Chick
Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

MINUTE ENTRY. MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED WITH ITEM 4 F TO BE PULLED FOR DISCUSSION AND REVIEW.

Director Tallakson drew attention to the total legal fees, which he emphasized does not include staff or engineering time. In the legal matter of Hatfield versus UPUD, the cumulative fees thus far amount to \$80,754.00. In the case of Glanville versus UPUD, legal costs have reached \$20,451.00. Regarding Hatfield versus UPUD – Water Rate Initiative, the current expenditure stands at \$29,573.00. Director Rasmussen sought clarification on Glanville’s legal charges from March 2024. In response, UPUD Legal Counsel Andrew Ramos explained that it pertained to a meeting lasting approximately four hours between Glanville, his attorney, and UPUD representatives regarding a proposed connection.

Motion: Director Chick
Second: Director Quincy
Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: Director
Absent: None
Abstained: None

MINUTE ENTRY. MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 4 F AS PRESENTED.

5. **OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion/Action Regarding Consolidation of the 2024 General District Election
(Jenna Mayo, Board Clerk)

RESO NO. 2024-009

Motion: Director Rasmussen
Second: Director Chick
Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

RESO NO. 2024-009. TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2024-009 – CONSOLIDATION OF THE 2024 GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION, AS PRESENTED.

- b. Discussion/Action Regarding UPUD Fill Station – CEQA Notice of Exemption
(Jessica Self, General Manager)

General Manager, Jessica Self, presented the Water Fill Station CEQA Notice of Exemption. This collaborative effort with the City of Angels Camp targets residents with wells who face dry wells annually. The plan is to locate the fill station at the Murphys Community Park for convenient access. To expedite the project, the District plans to utilize a CEQA exemption under Public Resources Code section 21080.47. The steps to achieve this include notifying the SWRCB to ensure federal funding eligibility, obtaining UPUD Board approval for a CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE), and filing and posting the NOE for public awareness and legal compliance. The expenses associated with filing the CEQA NOE are covered by grant funds.

Motion: Director Tallakson
Second: Director Quincy
Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

MINUTE ENTRY. MOTION TO APPROVE THE CEQA NOTICE OF EXEMPTION FOR THE WATER FILL STATION PROJECT.

- c. Discussion/Action Regarding Draft Updates to District Fees
(Paul Steigerwald, Weber Ghio)

Paul Steigerwald from Weber Ghio presented an outline of the draft Connection and Capacity fees. UPUD hadn't adjusted miscellaneous fees since 2016, while connection and capacity fees saw their last update in 2008. It was crucial to review and revise not only the connection and capacity fees but also other incidental charges such as late fees, application review fees, and equipment rental fees. This process was primarily aimed at ensuring that UPUD

adequately covered the costs associated with connections, capacity demands, and other services. The staff of the District, along with legal counsel and Weber Ghio, had examined the fees of neighboring water agencies, updates in regulations, and evaluated the District's assets to propose fee adjustments. Jessica Self, General Manager, provided an overview of recommendations for updating the miscellaneous fees of the District. Updating these fees would promote fairness by aligning them with the actual cost of providing services.

d. Discussion/Action Regarding Highway 4 Water Sustainability Partnership
(Jessica Self, General Manager)

RESO NO. 2024-008

Motion: Director Quincy
Second: Director Rasmussen
Ayes: Directors Bottomley, Rasmussen, Quincy, Tallakson, and Chick
Nays: None
Absent: None
Abstained: None

RESO NO. 2024-008. TO ADOPT RESOLUTION NO. 2024-008 – SUPPORT FOR THE HIGHWAY 4 REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY PARTNERSHIP, AS PRESENTED.

7. UPDATES

a. Discussion/Potential Direction Regarding UWPA

Board Director Tom Quincy reported that the UWPA meeting is scheduled for the 30th of this month, following their recent budget committee meeting on the 18th. At the outset, they are facing a deficit exceeding \$1.4 million. However, after a lengthy 4-hour discussion, they managed to reduce the shortfall to \$147,000. Our contribution of \$370,000 leaves some remaining adjustments necessary to balance UWPA's budget. Unfortunately, the consultant's presentation revealed that all four proposed options were financially unfeasible. This led to concerns regarding the \$18,000 spent on the study. It was perceived as lacking efforts from the consultant or UWPA to explore avenues such as trimming CIP or reserve funding. Consequently, the study merely highlighted the existing challenge faced by the budget committee – a significant deficit requiring decisive action. These sentiments represent Director Quincy's viewpoint. As the study findings will be shared with the board, they will reflect the collective wishes of the board.

8. REPORTS

a. General Manager

A copy of the General Manager's report was provided to the Board, and General Manager, Jessica Self reviewed the report with the Board.

9. DIRECTORS REPORTS, INFORMATION, FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS


Director Chick expressed his enjoyment at the MCWRA Regional Leaders Reception that was held in Columbia on April 4th. Director Rasmussen expressed his eagerness to begin a project on the irrigation system.

10. **CLOSED SESSION:** The meeting was adjourned into Closed Session at 7:10 PM
- a. Pursuant to Government Code § Section 54957(b)(1): Public Employee Performance Evaluation - General Counsel
11. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:** The meeting returned to open session at 7:40 PM
12. **REPORTABLE ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION:** There was no reportable action.
13. **NEXT BOARD MEETINGS & EVENTS**
1. Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 5:30 PM – Regular Meeting
 2. Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 5:30 PM - Regular Meeting
 3. Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 5:30 PM - Regular Meeting

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

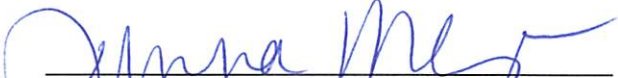
The meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM

Respectfully Submitted:



Tom E. Quincy, Board Secretary

ATTEST:



Jenna Mayo, Clerk to the Board