

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of  
The Board of Directors of the  
Aromas Water District  
February 25, 2014

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Aromas Water District was called to order by President Norton on Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the District Office located at 388 Blohm Ave, Aromas, California.

**II. ROLL CALL:**

President Norton, Vice President Leap, Directors Dutra, Holman and Mahler were in attendance. General Manager Vicki Morris, Maureen Cain, Laurie Goodman and Counsel Bob Bosso were also present.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** President Norton led the pledge of allegiance.

**IV. STATEMENTS OF DISQUALIFICATION:** There were no disqualification statements.

**V. ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS:** There were no additions or deletions.

**VI. MINUTES:** The minutes of the January 28, 2014 Regular Meeting were presented for acceptance and approval. VP Leap noted a correction adding the word "million" gallons on item regarding total production . Staff made correction in advance of Board meeting.

Director Holman moved to approve the minutes and Director Mahler seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved with the correction.

**VII. ORAL COMMUNICATION:** AWD customer S. Johnson commented that the District could look into Graywater systems as a way to implement conservation. GM Morris suggested that the Board will be discussing that topic under item A on tonight's agenda.

**VIII. PRESENTATIONS**

**A. Director's Reports:**

- Pres. Norton and Director Mahler met as an Ad Hoc committee to review responses to Rate Study RFP's received by AWD.

**B. Attorney's Report:**

- San Juan Capistrano rate case still pending with a decision expected in the Fall of 2014.

**C. Manager's Report:**

Operations:

- Total production for the month of January 2014 was high due to drought.
- Production in January 2014 was 8.105 million gallons. Low rainfall amounts show slightly higher production/use.
- Ballantree had a lateral line break, it has occurred in that area before. AWD absorbed the existing system which periodically has breaks. AWD operators repaired it.
- Carpenteria Well back on line. Maggiora installed the replacement pump and TESCO put in program starter. Mike Freitas was on hand to oversee. Operators pumped it to a deadhead and it shut off as designed to do. Chlorination being applied.

Staff:

- AWD awarded the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence from the Special District Leadership Foundation.

- Congratulations to our Intern Micah Kimura for donating many hours of volunteer service.
- AWD now provides customers with the opportunity to pay bills online, to have their bills sent to them via email and to see their usage history online.

Projects:

- GM Morris is continuing the lengthy USDA Application for the *Oakridge/Via del Sol Assessment*.
- San Benito LAFCO unanimously approved the Seely Avenue Annexation at the meeting on January 23, 2014. LAFCO has scheduled a protest hearing on March 12, 2014 at 11am at AWD office.

## IX. ACTION ITEMS

**A. Drought Update:** Review recent developments and status, consider formation of an ad hoc board committee and the next steps for AWD.

- Governor Brown has allocated \$687 million relief package 2/22/14, including money for infrastructure improvements, emergency water shortages and aid to farm workers.
- AWD data indicates that the overall per person per day usage is approximately 133 gallons. There are some customers that have high landscape water usage. Perhaps we could provide targeted outreach to assist with improving landscape irrigation practices.
- AWD is partnering with Transition Aromas and Ecology Action on a Graywater Workshop on Saturday, May 3, 2014 at the Aromas Grange. Staff has learned of a potential Laundry to Landscape rebate provided by PVWMA.
- AWD is partnering with PVWMA on a Conservation Fair at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds on March 20, 2014.
- Pres. Norton suggested to invite PVWMA to present a status of the water basin.
- AWD staff is improving our billing software to show customers their usage and to produce a graphic reminder of a conservation goal online.
- Pres. Norton asked V.P. Leap to chair an Ad Hoc Conservation Committee and agreed to join him on that committee.

**B. Review Water Rate and Capacity Charge Study responses to RFP:** Receive ad hoc committee recommendation.

- Directors Mahler and Norton reviewed three proposals submitted in response to the District's Request of Proposals (RFP).
- AWD staff reported on the proposals and the references.

Director Holman made the motion to hire Municipal Financial Services to conduct our rate study which was seconded by Director Mahler. It was approved unanimously.

**C. Solar System Installation at Seely/Carpenteria station to offset pumping costs:** Review summary of data gathered to date, consider formation of ad hoc board committee to review product and proposals.

- AWD staff are collecting information on solar options for the District's Carpenteria site.

- Director Holman offered to participate on an Ad Hoc Solar Committee to assist staff with evaluating options. Director Dutra offered to assist as available.

**D. Presentation of the Financial Reports for the Month of January 2014:**

Revenue for January is \$65,724.95. Total assets are \$6.323 million. Total liabilities are \$1.406 million. Expenditures between January 21, 2014 and February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 are \$83,898.64. Payments were reviewed by Pres. Norton.

Director Holman moved to accept the financials as presented and V.P. Leap seconded. The financials were accepted unanimously.

**X. FUTURE MEETINGS & AGENDA ITEMS**

Pres. Norton suggested that there be updates from the Ad Hoc Conservation Committee and the Ad Hoc Solar Committee.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

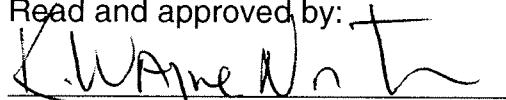
Pres. Norton adjourned the meeting at 9:05 PM.


Report submitted by Lisa Dobbins, District Secretary

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.

Date: March 25, 2014

Read and approved by:

  
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Director

Attest:   
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Lisa Dobbins, Board Secretary