

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**of the**  
**SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Mauro, at the Sunnyslope County Water District office, 3570 Airline Highway, Hollister, California.

**ROLL CALL: Present in Person:** President Edward Mauro (EM), Director Dee Brown (DB), Director Michael Alcorn (MA), Director Jerry Buzzetta (JB).

**Absent:** Vice President James Parker (JP).

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION MATTERS:** The Board welcomed members of the public and opened the meeting to public comments regarding matters identified on the Closed Session agenda. No comments were received.

**C. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTIONS:**

**1. Labor Negotiation Discussion (§ 54957.6)**

*Update Regarding Negotiations with Collective Bargaining Unit.*

President Mauro retired to closed session at 4:35 p.m. and upon returning to the regular session, moved to take a brief recess at 5:10 p.m. The meeting was reconvened to open session at 5:15 p.m.

**D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Director Brown led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**E. REPORT IN OPEN SESSION ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:**

**1. Labor Negotiation Discussion (§ 54957.6)**

No report, closed session is to continue after the regularly scheduled board meeting.

**F. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** President Mauro requested a motion to approve the agenda. Director Brown motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Director Alcorn, for which President Mauro then took a roll call vote as follows: (DB), yes; (JB), yes; (MA), yes; and (EM), yes; the motion carried 4-0 (1 absent).

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND AUDIENCE INTRODUCTIONS:** The Board welcomed members of the public and opened the meeting to public comments regarding matters not itemized on the agenda. Multiple Sunnyslope County Water District Employees were in attendance, with 6 employees choosing to stand up and speak.

**Staff Present for Open Session: In Person:** General Manager/Secretary Drew Lander, Executive Assistant/Stenographer Madison Koester, Water/ Wastewater Superintendent Jose Rodriguez, Finance and HR Manager Barry Kelly, Principal Engineer Robert Hillebrecht.

Basilio Hernandez, Abel Alvarez, Diego Perez Bribiesca, Michael Vargas Garcia, and Kevin Castro are Water/Wastewater Utility Maintenance employees for Sunnyslope, who spoke on the closed session agenda topic, labor negotiations. Kelly Roberts, the Lead Account Technician for Sunnyslope, also spoke on the same topic. All 6 employees are part of Local Union 820, and they all spoke about the current labor negotiations that the District has been working through the last few months. Basilio Hernandez spoke first, emphasizing the multiple certifications required of operators, but if the Board seeks to close the wage gap from other water districts, then employees will lose incentive to stay with the district. Abel Alvarez commented on the recent bargaining practices during labor negotiations, stating that, along with multiple other union members, he

did not find the practices to be fair and encouraged the board to work with employees to correct the process. Diego Perez Bribiesca informed the board that he has obtained a handful of certifications and to obtain these certificates it requires a lot of overtime and dedication to the District. Michael Vargas Garcia commented that negotiation times are really where employees should be seeing the appreciation for all their efforts, especially as the District is seeing immense growth, making more responsibility for employees. Kelly Roberts urged board members to do their due diligence in understanding operations and all the costs associated with keeping Sunnyslope going in order to make the proper decisions in the best interest of Sunnyslope employees. Kevin Castro informs the board of his dedication to his job over the last 16 years but explains how the suggested changes in medical through the recent union negotiations has left him feeling discriminated against.

**H. CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of Minutes for:

Regular Board Meeting of May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

2. Allowance of Claims – The Board reviewed the Disbursement Summary (below) for the period of May 1, 2024 through May 31, 2024, totaling \$1,367,065,64 which includes \$548,818.26 for payments to vendors, \$375,891.83 for Payroll, \$442,108.49 paid to the City of Hollister for collection of City sewer billings (net of our fees), and \$49.81 for customer refunds.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
05/01/2024	52464	AT&T	\$492.75
05/01/2024	52465	Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	\$29,063.18
05/01/2024	52466	Brigantino Irrigation	\$61.87
05/01/2024	52467	Calgon Carbon Corporation	\$71,697.79
05/01/2024	52468	Central Ag Supply LLC	\$1,589.63
05/01/2024	52469	Clean Brothers	\$150.00
05/01/2024	52470	E.H. Wachs Co.	\$491.30
05/01/2024	52471	Grainger, Inc.	\$124.42
05/01/2024	52472	Hach Company	\$5,291.01
05/01/2024	52473	Itron, Inc.	\$8,810.21
05/01/2024	52474	Mc Master-Carr	\$57.10
05/01/2024	52475	Mission Uniform Service	\$451.93
05/01/2024	52476	Petty Cash	\$45.00
05/01/2024	52477	RJR Recycling	\$2,000.00
05/01/2024	52478	Star Concrete	\$1,543.16
05/01/2024	52479	ULINE	\$1,519.01
05/01/2024	52480	USA Blue Book	\$798.94
05/01/2024	52481	Wallace Group	\$4,838.75
05/01/2024	52482	ANTHONY GATTO	\$49.81
05/02/2024	ACH2851	Sterling Administration Health	\$35.00
05/03/2024	JN00581	Net Pay	\$59,018.24
05/03/2024	JN00581	Total Tax	\$15,183.74
05/06/2024	ACH2852	Sterling Administration Health	\$140.00
05/06/2024	ACH2853	Principal	\$3,293.34
05/07/2024	52485	ACC Business	\$1,343.14
05/07/2024	52486	Ace Hardware (Johnson Lumber Co.)	\$172.89
05/07/2024	52487	Atlas Copco Compressors LLC	\$1,907.92
05/07/2024	52488	Auto Tech Service Center, Inc.	\$160.00
05/07/2024	52489	Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	\$13,436.95
05/07/2024	52490	Brigantino Irrigation	\$62.08
05/07/2024	52491	Bryan Mailey Electric, Inc	\$8,743.46

05/07/2024	52492	City of Hollister-Finance Dept	\$442,108.49
05/07/2024	52493	Employee Relations, Inc.	\$27.22
05/07/2024	52494	Green Valley Farm Supply, Inc	\$1,265.13
05/07/2024	52495	Hollister Paint Co.	\$303.23
05/07/2024	52496	Interstate Battery System of San Jose Inc	\$508.34
05/07/2024	52497	J M Electric	\$528.00
05/07/2024	52498	Mission Uniform Service	\$500.93
05/07/2024	52499	O'Reilly Auto Parts	\$19.63
05/07/2024	52500	Quinn Company	\$1,288.37
05/07/2024	52501	Recology San Benito County	\$342.91
05/07/2024	52502	San Benito County Water District	\$197.25
05/07/2024	52503	San Benito Engineering & Surveying Inc.	\$2,640.00
05/07/2024	52504	Sharp Engineering and Construction, Inc.	\$17,530.00
05/07/2024	52505	Simplot Grower Solutions	\$1,876.70
		State Water Resources Control Board-	\$90.00
05/07/2024	52506	DWOCF	
05/07/2024	52507	Toro Petroleum Corp.	\$2,620.16
05/07/2024	52508	U.S. Bank Corporate Payment Systems	\$5,348.04
05/07/2024	52510	ULINE	\$307.00
05/07/2024	52511	USA Blue Book	\$2,430.74
05/07/2024	52512	Veolia Water Technologies, Inc.	\$64,508.88
05/07/2024	ACH2854	iCloud	\$12,976.30
05/08/2024	ACH2855	Sterling Administration Health	\$143.01
05/10/2024	ACH2856	Sterling Administration Health	\$5.00
05/10/2024	ACH2857	ADP	\$2,221.35
05/10/2024	ACH2858	CalPERS - Retirement	\$6,861.66
05/10/2024	ACH2859	CalPERS - Retirement	\$7,953.42
05/10/2024	ACH2860	P G & E	\$23,064.29
05/10/2024	ACH2861	CalPERS - Retirement	\$23.08
05/13/2024	ACH2862	Sterling Administration Health	\$152.47
05/13/2024	ACH2863	Nationwide Retirements Solutions	\$8,290.77
05/14/2024	ACH2864	Colonial Life	\$1,813.76
05/15/2024	52516	Ace Hardware (Johnson Lumber Co.)	\$384.51
05/15/2024	52517	Agile Occupational Medicine, PC	\$115.00
		American Water Works Association	\$2,502.00
05/15/2024	52518	(AWWA)	
05/15/2024	52519	Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	\$27,254.65
05/15/2024	52520	Calcon System, Inc.	\$1,690.00
05/15/2024	52521	EBCO Pest Control	\$75.00
05/15/2024	52522	Ebix, Inc.	\$482.06
05/15/2024	52523	exceedio	\$4,043.44
05/15/2024	52524	Green Rubber Kennedy Ag	\$14.71
05/15/2024	52525	Hollister, City of (Engineering Dept)	\$918.94
05/15/2024	52526	John Smith Road Landfill	\$4,713.00
05/15/2024	52527	Mission Uniform Service	\$400.66
05/15/2024	52528	Mitch's Certified Classes, Inc	\$1,300.00
05/15/2024	52529	Palace Business Solutions	\$619.64
05/15/2024	52530	Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc.	\$910.00
05/15/2024	52531	RJR Recycling	\$500.00
05/15/2024	52532	Security Shoring & Steel Plates, Inc.	\$163.88
05/15/2024	52533	Sharp Engineering and Construction, Inc.	\$20,550.00
05/15/2024	52534	Trans Union LLC	\$157.05
05/15/2024	52535	USA Blue Book	\$3,206.93

05/15/2024	52536	VEOLIA WTS Analytical Instruments, Inc.	\$8,763.92
05/16/2024	JN00582	Net Pay	\$62,357.14
05/16/2024	JN00582	Total Tax	\$16,112.35
05/17/2024	ACH2865	Sterling Administration Health	\$383.00
05/17/2024	ACH2866	Sterling Administration Health	\$718.60
05/20/2024	ACH2867	CalPERS - Retirement	\$23.08
05/20/2024	ACH2868	CalPERS - Retirement	\$7,067.30
05/20/2024	ACH2869	CalPERS - Retirement	\$7,942.61
05/20/2024	ACH2870	Nationwide Retirements Solutions	\$8,290.77
05/20/2024	ACH2871	CalPERS - Health Insurance	\$30,033.65
05/22/2024	52537	A-1 Services	\$403.00
05/22/2024	52538	Ace Hardware (Johnson Lumber Co.)	\$227.17
05/22/2024	52539	Auto Tech Service Center, Inc.	\$150.00
05/22/2024	52540	Bracco's Towing	\$150.00
05/22/2024	52541	Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	\$69,443.69
05/22/2024	52542	Central Ag Supply LLC	\$1,116.41
05/22/2024	52543	CM Analytical, Inc.	\$13,233.75
05/22/2024	52544	Corbin Willits Systems, Inc. (MOM's)	\$150.00
05/22/2024	52545	CWEA Membership- TCP	\$108.00
05/22/2024	52546	De Lay & Laredo	\$7,785.50
05/22/2024	52547	exceedio	\$9,119.67
05/22/2024	52548	Grundfos CBS Inc.	\$11,425.00
05/22/2024	52549	Hach Company	\$1,459.10
05/22/2024	52550	ICON Cloud Solutions, LLC	\$487.80
05/22/2024	52551	Iconix Waterworks (US) Inc.	\$1,802.34
05/22/2024	52552	InfoSend	\$6,911.60
05/22/2024	52553	Mission Uniform Service	\$500.93
05/22/2024	52554	Palace Business Solutions	\$34.80
05/22/2024	52555	Platt	\$107.51
05/22/2024	52556	Rain for Rent	\$4,284.22
05/22/2024	52557	Tesco Controls Inc	\$2,577.00
05/22/2024	52558	Toro Petroleum Corp.	\$1,904.73
05/22/2024	52559	Unified Truck Services	\$660.00
05/22/2024	52560	Veolia Water Technologies, Inc.	\$7,025.43
05/22/2024	52561	Wallace Group	\$10,851.25
05/22/2024	52562	Wright Bros. Indust. Supply	\$105.07
05/22/2024	ACH2872	Sterling Administration Health	\$212.00
05/30/2024	52566	Ace Hardware (Johnson Lumber Co.)	\$176.85
05/30/2024	52567	Alvin Do	\$174.59
05/30/2024	52568	AT&T	\$317.94
05/30/2024	52569	Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	\$21,122.76
05/30/2024	52570	Brigantino Irrigation	\$157.70
05/30/2024	52571	Calcon System, Inc.	\$2,476.50
05/30/2024	52572	DKF Solutions Group, LLC	\$2,650.00
05/30/2024	52573	DXP Enterprises, Inc.	\$3,151.31
05/30/2024	52574	Edges Electrical Group, LLC	\$977.69
05/30/2024	52575	Grundfos CBS Inc.	\$6,986.00
05/30/2024	52576	Mission Uniform Service	\$453.15
05/30/2024	52577	O'Reilly Auto Parts	\$126.69
05/30/2024	52578	Palace Business Solutions	\$153.61
05/30/2024	52579	Statewide Traffic Safety & Signs Inc.	\$885.74
05/30/2024	52580	TPO	\$6,600.00
05/30/2024	52581	UWUA Local 820	\$1,038.60

05/30/2024	52582	Verizon Wireless	\$580.70
05/30/2024	ACH2873	CalPERS - Retirement	\$23.08
05/30/2024	ACH2874	CalPERS - Retirement	\$7,947.33
05/30/2024	ACH2875	Nationwide Retirements Solutions	\$8,290.77
05/30/2024	ACH2876	CalPERS - Retirement	\$8,654.45
05/30/2024	JN00583	Net Pay	\$70,887.40
05/30/2024	JN00583	Total Tax	\$18,784.17

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**-\$1,367,065,64**

3. Receive Associate Engineer Monthly Status Report.
4. Receive Finance Manager Monthly Status Reports: a. Narrative Report, b. Operation Summary, c. Statement of Income, d. Investment Summary, and e. Board Designated Reserves.
5. Receive Superintendent Monthly Status Reports: a. Maintenance, b. City Meter Reading, and c. Groundwater Level Measurement.
6. Receive General Manager Monthly Status Report.

President Mauro then asked for public comment and upon receiving none, President Mauro requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Upon a motion made by Director Alcorn to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Director Brown, for which President Mauro then took a roll call vote as follows: (DB), yes; (JB), yes; (MA), yes; and (EM) yes; the motion carried 4-0 (1 absent).

**I. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Consider Approval and Adoption of the District Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-25. (Not a Project Under CEQA Per Article 20, Section 15378)**

General Manager Lander spoke on this item, bringing the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget in front of the board with intentions to get it approved. Mr. Lander began his commentary referencing the suggested water blend, shooting for a consumption of 2,000-acre ft of water for the year for Sunnyslope customers. Additionally, in order to maintain costs more water will be treated through West Hills as opposed to Lessalt. Mr. Lander briefly reviewed the capital projects planned for the fiscal year and then opened up the conversation to director questions.

President Mauro questioned whether this would be a "break-even" year for the District, to which General Manager Lander confirmed that it did look to be that way, but there is the opportunity for it to be possibly better. Directors asked for clarification on the budget data to which Finance and Human Resources Manager Barry Kelly was able to explain how the data was calculated using the District's Tyler accounting system. Director Buzzetta commented on the net loss for Fiscal Year 2023-2024, attributing that loss to San Benito County requesting us to produce excess water due to a 100% allocation year. Director Buzzetta additionally commented on the \$175 reliability charge to expand West Hills and do the ADROP project, both projects Sunnyslope's Board has yet to agree to. Director Buzzetta then questioned whether adopting the budget would be adopting the 5-year outlay, to which General Manager Lander confirmed they'd be adopting the outlay but every project will still have to be brought back to the board for additional approval.

President Mauro then asked for any public comment. Upon receiving no public comment, President Mauro requested a motion to approve the item. Director Alcorn made a motion

to approve and adopt the District Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. This motion was seconded by Director Brown for which President Mauro then took a roll call vote as follows: (DB), yes; (JB), yes; (MA) yes; and (EM), yes; the motion carried 4-0 (1 absent).

**J. BOARD COMMITTEE and STATUS REPORTS**

1. **Governance Committee:** (No Meeting.)
2. **Water/Wastewater Committee:** (No Meeting.)
3. **Finance Committee:** (Meeting held June 17<sup>th</sup>.) Discussed FY 24/25 Budget.
4. **Policy and Procedure Committee:** (No meeting.)
5. **Personnel Committee:** (No Meeting.)
6. **Water Resources Association of San Benito County (WRA):** (No Meeting.)

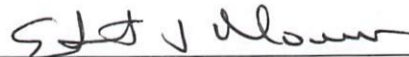
**K. BOARD and STAFF REPORTS**

1. **Directors:** No Report.
2. **District Counsel:** No Report.
3. **General Manager:** GM Lander gave an update on the letter that was sent to San Benito County regarding proceeding with good faith negotiations under Article 7 of the Hollister Urban Area Water Supply and Treatment Agreement. He informed the board that the letter was sent and has been received and a meeting will be scheduled very soon. Mr. Lander proceeded by giving an update on various projects throughout the district, commenting that there will be a Tres Pinos Board meeting that Mr. Lander plans to attend to discuss how the Tres Pinos project is going to move forward. Additionally, Fairview corners is nearly done with their sewer connection and the Best Roads design is at 90%. Mr. Lander concluded his report by mentioning a disgruntled customer that had commented on the "Next Door" app about his water being shut off during a heat wave. He informed the board of the District's steps to shutting off water and ensured them that the customer had not only been given multiple opportunities to set up a payment plan but also received a handful of shut off notices, the last one being directly on his front door.

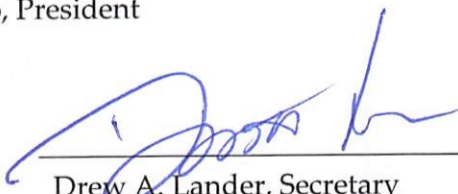
**L. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

**M. ADJOURNMENT:** President Mauro closed the public meeting at 6:17 P.M. and took a brief recess before reopening closed session.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD:**

  
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Edward J. Mauro, President

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:**

  
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Drew A. Lander, Secretary