

MINUTES
Special Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the
SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
August 6th, 2024

A. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:16 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), Vice President James Parker (JP), Director Dee Brown (DB), Director Jerry Buzzetta (JB), Director Michael Alcorn (MA).

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

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: President Mauro requested a motion to approve the agenda. Director Parker motioned to approve the agenda, seconded by Director Alcorn, for which President Mauro then took a roll call vote as follows: (JB), yes; (DB), yes; (MA), yes; (JP), yes; and (EM), yes; the motion carried 5-0.

D. 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. No comments were received.

Staff Present for Open Session: In Person: General Manager/Secretary Drew Lander, Executive Assistant/Stenographer Madison Koester, Principal Engineer Robert Hillebrecht.

E. PUBLIC HEARING:

- 1. Receive Presentation Of The Water Fund Financial Plan And Proposed Rate Increase, Receive Protests, And Approve Ordinance No. 82, Imposing Rates, Fees, And Charges For Water Service Amending Article III, Section 3.40.150 And Table 3.40.150 Of The Sunnyslope County Water District Code. (Not A Project Under CEQA Per Article 20, Section 15378)**

Teresa Jurotich, a consultant from Raftelis, presented the Water & Wastewater Rate Study slideshow presentation that was given at both the May 15th, 2024, special board meeting and the May 28th, 2024, regular board meeting. After a quick recap on the presentation General Manager Lander presented the 10 protests that were received regarding the rate increase, concerns among the protests included sewer rates not decreasing and additional homes being built. Mr. Lander reached out to the customers that had concerns about the additional homes being built, to which he informed them that more homes in the area would actually offset increases and keep rates lower.

Director Buzzetta questions the \$3.5 million bond for fiscal year 2026 regarding the West Hills expansion and ADROP project, stating that the board has yet to approve those projects. General Manager Lander replies that although that is the direction the District is moving, if those projects don't happen, then in future years increases don't have to be as high as projected. Director Alcorn questioned whether there was a trigger to lower rates if a project weren't to come to fruition, to which Mr. Lander replied that the yearly budget review is when the board would seek to lower rates if deemed appropriate.

General Manager Lander took a moment to address the considerable increases in goods and services the area has seen in the last few years without Sunnyslope increasing their rates, expressing that the District has done a phenomenal job in managing funds.

President Mauro 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 receive presentation of The Water Fund Financial Plan and proposed water rate increase, receive protests, and approve Ordinance No. 82, Imposing Rates, fees, and charges for water service amending Article III, Section 3.40.150 and Table 3.40.150 of the

Sunnyslope County Water District Code. This motion was seconded by Director Parker for which President Mauro then took a roll call vote as follows: (JP), yes; (DB), yes; (MA) yes; (JB) no; and (EM), yes; the motion carried 4-1.

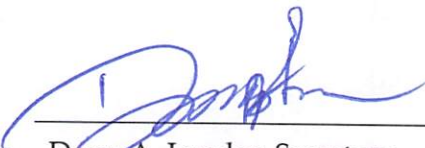
F. **ADJOURNMENT:** President Mauro adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD:



Edward J. Mauro, President

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Drew A. Lander, Secretary