



Cabazon Water District
14618 Broadway Street • P.O. Box 297
Cabazon, California 92230

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES

Meeting Location:
14618 Broadway St.
Cabazon, CA 92230

Teleconference:
Dial-in #: 978-990-5321
Access Code: 117188
Email: info@cabazonwater.org

Meeting Date:
Tuesday, November 19, 2024 – 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
REMEMBRANCE OF OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN
ROLL CALL

Director Melissa Carlin - Present
Director Taffy Brock - Present
Director Alan Davis - Present
Board Vice Chair Terry Tincher - Present
Board Chair Sarah Wargo - Present
Michael Pollack, General Manager - Present
Evelyn Aguilar, Board Secretary - Present

Note: This meeting was recorded by the District

CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters in this category are considered to be consistent with the Board/District goals, District Policies and Regulations adopted and/or approved by the Board of Directors, and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is required, items may be removed from the consent calendar and will be considered separately.

1. Approval of:

- a. Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 15, 2024
- b. Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 15, 2024

Motion to approve following consent calendar items (a.) Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 15, 2024 and (b.) Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Warrants of October 15, 2024 made by Board Vice Chair Tincher and 2nd by Director Carlin

**Director Carlin - Aye
Director Brock - Aye
Director Davis - Abstain
Board Vice Chair Tincher - Aye
Board Chair Wargo - Aye**

2. Warrants – None
3. Awards of Contracts – None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action: Customer Concern - Jennifer Barajas, Aloma Dr.

- Jennifer Barajas was not present for the meeting. The GM explained that the customer was concerned about a high bill in September, claiming that there was no way she could have used that much water (3000 ft³). Staff had offered her an adjustment by charging her at a different rate, but she didn't want to pay for the water that she claimed she didn't use. The GM did a high bill investigation, and noticed fresh sod on the property. The GM also pointed out that the water bill was high around the same time in 2023, and a work order stated that there was new sod at that time as well.

*Since the customer was not present to make her case, this item was tabled until next month.

2. Discussion: SGPWA/CWD Heli-Hydrant Sub-Recipient Agreement – Already approved & executed per Board direction on February 20, 2024

- The Board had approved this project at the February 20, 2024 Board meeting, so this is just a discussion item since the agreement has already been executed. SGPWA Director Duncan reminded CWD that maintenance for the Heli-Hydrants would be CWD's responsibility after 2 years.

3. Discussion/Action: Water Billing System Upgrade – from CUSI's CBSW to UB4

- CBSW is currently being used by CWD but is outdated. Several vendors were researched, but CUSI's UMS and UB4 are most compatible with CWD. UMS is no longer an available option, even though that program would have been more cost effective in the long run. UB4 is cloud-based, and is much less up-front, but will cost more per year. Since CWD is planning on having the servers upgraded through a grant in the next few months, the new billing system will not be installed until those upgrades have taken place.

Motion to accept the water billing system upgrade from CBSW to UB4 made by Director Davis and 2nd by Board Vice Chair Tincher

**Director Carlin - Aye
Director Brock - Aye
Director Davis - Aye
Board Vice Chair Tincher - Aye**

Board Chair Wargo - Aye

4. Discussion: Best Best & Krieger's ACWA Fall Conference – December 4, 6 PM

- Any Directors who attend this conference will need to report it on their Form 700s.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Updates: Discussion/Updates with SGPWA Director(s) regarding various matters

- SGPWA Director Ron Duncan stated that he has been blessed with the chance to work with CWD, and acknowledged the progress that has taken place under new leadership in the past few years. He credited this progress to the General Manager, and also to Board Chair Wargo. Even though the election results are still not official, he congratulated Wargo on effectively winning the SGPWA seat that he stepped down from. He said he will still be available if anyone has any questions, and said that CWD has a great support system at SGPWA. He recommended continuing to use grants for projects, when possible.

2. Discussion/Action: Quotes for Water Rates Study

- Water Resources Economics
- IB Consulting
- Black & Veatch

- Cindy Byerrum from Eide Bailly put together a summary list of Rate Study quotes, recommending Water Resources Economics. The timeline of how long the Rate Study is expected to take will be determined prior to the next meeting.

*This item was tabled so that the Board could look more into the proposals that had been received.

3. Discussion/Action: Community Involvement

- The Community Center had a turkey giveaway on Monday, and does not have any events planned for Thanksgiving. An event will be planned for Christmas, but no details are available at this time.

UPDATES

**1. Update: CWD Operations Report
(by GM Pollack)**

- The Heli-Hydrant agreement is complete. The sites have been properly marked. Each Heli-Hydrant is budgeted for \$300k.
- A correction to the October, 2024 GM Report: The water production and sales listed in that report were for the month of March, 2023, not the entire year of 2023. In the year of 2023, 456.46 acre feet of water was produced, and 386.73 acre feet of water was sold.
- Ellen Koumparis is retiring at the end of 2024. A retirement party will be held for her following the New Year. Directors were given invitations to the celebration.
- CWD received the \$5,000 signing bonus for the Cell Tower lease amendment.
- CWD is still waiting on the rebate check from Enersponse. Enersponse provides rebates for enrolled companies who use less energy during high demand periods.
- Riverside County installed new street signs throughout the community. The logo is not the one with the dinosaur, even though that one was the popular choice among the Board and community.

- There was one service leak on Bonita in October.
- The Well #2 site has been prepped for the concrete base of the new warehouse. An \$8.4k deposit for the building has been paid, and \$3.7k has been paid for the plans. Edison has been contacted for the electricity to the building, and permits will be obtained once the plans are complete.
- An air conditioner company called Retrofit Service Co. reached out to provide a quote. CWD currently uses Ontario Refrigeration and pays \$6,000/year, with no additional costs for repairs. Retrofit quoted CWD for \$1,848.00/year, but would charge for additional hourly rates and repairs. The GM will bring this up at the next Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any person may address the Board of Directors at this time on any matter within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Cabazon Water District that is not listed on the agenda; however, any matter that requires action will be referred to staff for investigation and reported at a subsequent Board of Directors meeting. The Board of Directors is prohibited by law from discussing or taking immediate action on items during this public comment period. To comment on specific agenda items, please advise the Board secretary prior to the meeting. Each public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes. Individuals may not give their time away to another spokesperson. After two (2) minutes, the speaker will be notified that he/she has one (1) minute remaining. AB 1234 ORAL REPORTS (Gov. Code Sec. 53232.3(d))

GENERAL MANAGER/BOARD COMMENTS

1. Future Agenda Items

The Board Chair or the majority of the Board may direct staff to investigate and report back to an individual(s) and the Board on matters suggested or direct the General Manager/Board Secretary to place the matter on a future Board meeting.

- Suggested agenda items from the Public.
- Suggested agenda items from Management.
- Air Conditioner Contract
- Rate Study, if any updates
- Suggested agenda items from Board Members.
- Board realignment, if Wargo resigns (depending on election results)

2. Management Comments

Staff members may speak on items of information not requiring comment or discussion to the Board and public. Topics which may be included on a future meeting agenda may be presented but cannot be discussed. (3 minutes)

- The \$198 towards Equipment Rental that was brought up in the FAC meeting was for the mini excavator at the Well #2 site for the storage bins. The majority of that rental was included in FY 24, but the remainder was included in the current fiscal year. This charge will be recoded to Well #2 New Facility Building.

3. Board Member Comments

Board members may speak on items of information not requiring comment or discussion to the Board and public. (3 minutes)

- Board Chair Wargo said that if she wins the SGPWA seat, she is looking forward to meeting with the CWD Board to discuss the needs of Cabazon. She expressed that the CWD Board has meant so much to her in the past 8 years, and appreciates that she has been allowed to run things for the past couple of years. She encouraged the rest of the Board to ask questions, especially concerning the water rate study. She said that in regards to the rate study, she always keeps in consideration that many Cabazon residents are on fixed incomes.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Future Board Items/Next Board Meeting Date(s)

- a. 12/02/2024 (Monday) at 1:30 PM: San Geronio Pass Water Agency Meeting
- b. 12/17/2024 (Tuesday) at 5:00 PM: Finance & Audit Committee Meeting
- c. 12/17/2024 (Tuesday) at 6:00 PM: Regular Board Meeting
- d. 01/22/2025 (Wednesday) at 5:00 PM: San Geronio Pass Regional Water Alliance Committee Meeting
- e. **Tentative:** 01/09/2025 (Thursday) at 6:00 PM: West Desert MAC Meeting at the Community Center
- f. TBD: Community Action Committee at the Cabazon Library
- g. TBD: Personnel Committee Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:02 pm made by Director Davis and 2nd by Board Vice Chair Tincher

Director Carlin - Aye
Director Brock - Aye
Director Davis - Aye
Board Vice Chair Tincher - Aye
Board Chair Wargo - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm on Tuesday, November 19, 2024



Terry Tincher, Vice Board Chair
Board of Directors
Cabazon Water District



Evelyn Aguilar, Secretary
Board of Directors
Cabazon Water District

ADA Compliance Issues

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act & Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 849-4442. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide access.