



**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](mailto:info@cabazonwater.org)

**Meeting Date:**  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021 – 6:00 PM

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**REMEMBRANCE OF OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

**ROLL CALL**

Director Martin Sanderson - Present  
Director Diana Morris - Present  
Director Sarah Wargo - Present  
Director Maxine Israel - Absent  
Director Robert Lynk - Present

Calvin Louie, General Manager - Present  
Elizabeth Lemus, Board Secretary – Present  
Evelyn Aguilar, Board Secretary (Trainee) - Present  
Cindy Byerrum, Financial Consultant - Absent  
Steve Anderson, Best Best & Krieger Law Firm - Absent

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 approved by the committee on January 19, 2021
- b. Regular Board Meeting Minutes and Warrants of January 19, 2021

**Motion to approve following consent calendar item(s) (a.) Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Minutes/Warrants of January 19, 2021, and (b.) Regular Board Meeting Minutes/ Warrants of January 19, 2021, made by Director Wargo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Morris.**

Director Sanderson - Aye

Director Morris - Aye

Director Wargo - Aye

Director Israel - ~~Aye~~ Absent *ea*

Director Lynk - Aye

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

**UPDATES**

1. Update: **San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance Update (by Director Israel / Director Morris)**

Nothing to report.

2. Update: **Manager's Operations Report (by GM Louie)**

- No recent Edison PSPS events, but scheduled power outage for 2/20/21 (Saturday). District staff will monitor wells.
- COVID: No changes/new updates.
- GM would like to include an agenda item regarding resuming interest and penalty charges in the near future.
- Chick-fil-A project on Seminole: GM to review developers comments before sending to engineering for review. District would like to loop the main water line from Apache to Seminole during this project.
- GoogleMeets platform: GM will address during the next board meeting regarding cost, limitations, etc.
- Well #4: pump motor was showing signs of wear and tear; Legend Pump repaired.
- Well #5: waste water valve was leaking water; needed a new gasket. Cla-val repaired.
- Well #1: Legend still working on rehab, but ahead of schedule. Completion date anticipated to be April 10, 2021.
- Tank #1: Almost complete with recoating project; Simpson Sandblasting is merely waiting on Legend Pump to complete well project so that they can pump water into the tank to perform a final flush/cleaning before declaring the tank rehab complete.

- Tank #2, #3, #4: The District's GM is waiting on a revised quote regarding diving inspections, etc. for each tank. May have tanks inspected during future fiscal years.
- Ruptured service lateral on Bonita – crew repaired.
- The GM showed an informative DigAlert video, which explained what DigAlert was and why it should be utilized.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion: **Mr. Lance Eckhart, General Manager, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency – Introduction, Brief Mission Statement by Mr. Eckhart, and Q&A (by GM Louie)**

Mr. Eckhart's introduction was very detailed and informative, but in summary he explained that there are many State water projects, grant funding opportunities, and a high demand for water. He would like to see water infrastructure (which our region has been paying for via taxes for years) actually make it to us one day.

The Board explained that Cabazon has long-been neglected, and quite frankly that the San Gorgonio Pass Agency in the past has done nothing to bolster Cabazon's confidence in them. Mr. Eckhart understood this, and a very open and honest dialogue was held between Mr. Eckhart and the Cabazon Board regarding the needs of the community.

2. Discussion/Action: **Affordable Housing, Ownership and Construction Proposal (by developer Victor Diaz)**

Mr. Diaz and his team explained that they would like to develop two lots on Bonita just past the "Red House". The District's water line does not extend to his properties, but he would like to work with the Cabazon Water District in order to get these development projects started.

Mr. Diaz and his team explained the great benefits of his housing projects, and what it could mean for the District's growth.

The Board Chair asked Mr. Diaz if he could put together a proposal of what they wanted to request from the District specifically, so that the District could provide an answer. Mr. Diaz was to contact the District's GM in the near future.

**No Motion Made; Mr. Diaz will contact the General Manager Calvin Louie in regards to the next steps to take.**

**A quick break was taken from 19:25 hr. until 19:35 hr., when the meeting resumed.**

3. Discussion/Action: **Transfer from District's LAIF Acct. to District's General Acct. (to pay for Simpson Sandblasting Tank #1 recoating project) (by AGM Lemus)**

The AGM requested that \$100,000 be transferred from the LAIF Acct. to the General Acct. in order to afford a cushion to pay anticipated Well #1 and Tank #1 rehab invoices from Simpson Sandblasting and Legend Pump. It was her hope that we would soon be transferring money back to the LAIF account, but wanted to be prepared.

Motion to authorize a \$100,000 transfer from the District's LAIF account to the District's General Acct. made by Director Wargo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Morris.

Director Sanderson - Aye  
Director Morris - Aye  
Director Wargo - Aye  
Director Israel - Absent  
Director Lynk - Aye

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Discussion/Action: NBS Water Rate Study Review and Discussion (by Board)**

Ms. Jordan Taylor from NBS explained that a study was performed in 2017 regarding the water rates, and that at the time a 70% fixed, 30% variable charge rate structure was chosen to get the District's financials to where they needed to be. Now the Board is considering a 40% fixed, 60% variable rate structure, which will lower the monthly water bills for conservative users tremendously. She further explained that in the State of CA, ideally, a water rate study is performed every 5 years, and that by law the District cannot charge a customer more than what it costs to serve them water. Performing this rate study ensures that the District is charging a fair amount to customer, and is not overcharging. Prop 218 requirements were met, and notices were sent out to all customers at least 45 days in advance. If the Board approves the new rate structure (40%F/60%V), the new rates will take effect March 1, 2021.

While there were public present during the meeting, no objections to the 40/60 proposed rate structure were voiced.

Motion to approve the new water rate structure of 40% fixed charges, 60% variable charges, as presented in the most recent NBS study made by Director Wargo and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Morris.

Director Sanderson - Aye  
Director Morris - Aye  
Director Wargo - Aye  
Director Israel - Absent  
Director Lynk - Aye

**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.
- Suggested agenda items from Board Members.

**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 General Manager thanked the AGM for her years of service to the District (she was retiring), and welcomed Ms. Aguilar to the District as the replacement Business Administrative Assistant I/Board Secretary.

**3. Board Member Comments**

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

**MISCELLANEOUS**

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

- a. Finance & Audit Workshop – Tuesday – March 16, 2021, 5:00 pm
- b. Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday – March 16, 2021, 6:00 pm
- c. Personnel Committee – None
- d. San Geronio Pass Regional Water Alliance – Alliance Meeting – Wednesday – February 17, 2021

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 20:00 hr. made by Director Sanderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Morris.

Director Sanderson - Aye  
Director Morris - Aye  
Director Wargo - Aye  
Director Israel - Absent  
Director Lynk - Aye

Meeting adjourned at 20:00 hr. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021



Robert Lynk, 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.*