

**VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
September 22, 2020**

*******SPECIAL NOTICE – Telephonic Accessibility*******

Pursuant to Paragraph 11 of Executive Order N-25-20, executed by the Governor of California on March 12, 2020, as a response to mitigating the spread of coronavirus known as COVID-19, during the September 22, 2020 regular meeting of Valley Sanitary District Board of Directors, members of the public will be allowed to attend and address the Board of Directors during the open session of the meeting telephonically.

Members of the public wanting to listen to the open session of the meeting were able to do so by calling (425) 436-6376 and when prompted, enter access code 166514. Members of the public wanting to address the Board, either during public comment or for a specific agenda item, or both, were requested to send an email notification no later than 12:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting to the Valley Sanitary District's Clerk of the Board at hgould@valley-sanitary.org.

A regular Board Meeting of the Governing Board of Valley Sanitary District (VSD) was held at the District offices, 45-500 Van Buren Street, Indio, California, on Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice President Sear called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Directors Present:

Debra Canero, Dennis Coleman (via telephone), Mike Duran (via telephone),
Scott Sear, William Teague

Staff Present:

Beverli Marshall, General Manager, Holly Gould, Ian Wilson; Via Telephone: Ron
Buchwald, Jeanette Juarez, Robert Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger

Guests:

Donnya Villareal, Desert Arc

1.2 Pledge of Allegiance

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

This is the time set aside for public comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Please notify the Secretary in advance of the meeting if you wish to speak on a non-hearing item.

Ms. Marshall announced that Valley Sanitary District received the Silver Award from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, in recognition of the District's complete and consistent permit compliance during calendar year 2019. Ms. Marshall stated that this is a direct reflection of the hard work and efforts of the staff. The Board congratulated staff on their achievement.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

- 3.1 Approve September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
- 3.2 Approve Warrants for September 3 to September 16, 2020
- 3.3 Accept Monthly Financial Report for Period Ending August 31, 2020
- 3.4 Declare Surplus Equipment and Authorize Disposition per District Policy
- 3.5 Authorize Tuition Reimbursement for Beverli A. Marshall, General Manager, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$1,000 Per District Policy

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Teague a motion to approve the consent calendar as presented. President Duran seconded the motion.
Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3039

4. NON-HEARING ITEMS

- 4.1 Authorize the General Manager to Execute a Contract with Desert Arc for Janitorial Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$50,000 for a 12-month Period

Donnya Villareal, Assistant Director of Vocational Programs at Desert Arc, gave a presentation to the board regarding their janitorial proposal for VSD. She went over Desert Arc's COVID-19 protocol and answered questions from the directors. The Board would like to hold off on this item until staff receives the landscaping proposals so they can get a better picture of the full fiscal impact of these services. The Board asked Ms. Marshall to bring the item back in October.

- 4.2 Authorize the Purchase of a Ford F550 Utility Crane Truck from Fiesta Ford in an Amount Not to Exceed \$98,812

Staff determined that the existing utility crane truck, a 2010 Ford F350, needs to be replaced due to age, mileage, and overall annual maintenance costs. This vehicle is used primarily by the Collection division and is equipped for multiple purposes from pulling pieces of equipment with the crane to transporting large equipment and towing necessary equipment to and from the job site. The arrow board meets the City of Indio's Traffic Control Standards for use within the District's service area. Once the replacement truck is in service, the surplus truck will be sold through GovDeals. It is recommended to purchase a 2021 Ford F550 Utility Crane Truck from Fiesta Ford in the amount of \$98,812.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Teague made a motion to authorize the General Manager to purchase a Ford F550 Utility Crane Truck from Fiesta Ford in the amount of \$98,812, which includes tax and delivery. President Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3040

4.3 Authorize Purchase of a 6,100-Gallon Tank for Sodium Bisulfite from D & H Water Systems in an Amount Not to Exceed \$31,158

One of the two existing sodium bisulfite tanks is scheduled for replacement this fiscal year. The tank was part of the 2008 plant expansion project. The typical useful life in the desert conditions is approximately 10 years. Staff sent out requests for quotes for a new 6,100-gallon tank and received three quotes. The least expensive of the quotes was received from D & H Water Systems for an amount not to exceed \$30,158. The recommended tank meets current industry standards and is insulated to reduce heating costs during the cooler months.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Secretary/Treasurer Canero made a motion to authorize the purchase one 6,100-gallon tank for sodium bisulfite from D & H Water Systems in an amount not to exceed \$30,158 (including tax and delivery). Director Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3041

4.4 Authorize Purchase of Four Ammonium-Nitrate Probes from Hach in an Amount Not to Exceed \$48,726

The District's current NPDES permit is requiring a study to evaluate potential actions to reduce ammonia discharges into the receiving water. The study is to be conducted over the course of one year and a technical report is to be provided to the RWQCB. The RWQCB has also indicated that an effluent limit for ammonia will most likely be added to the NPDES permit during this current permit cycle. The purchase and installation of the ammonia and nitrate combination sensors will allow staff to track nitrification (the reduction of ammonia to nitrate) in the aeration tanks. Staff currently must wait for data from a composite sample, which is data from the previous day, or from grab samples, which is information attained from a single point in time. The ammonia and nitrate sensors would provide real time data and allow staff to trend ammonia levels 24 hours a day by integrating the data on to the SCADA system. It is recommended to purchase four ammonium and nitrate combination sensors from Hach for an amount not to exceed \$48,726.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Secretary/Treasurer Canero made a motion to authorize the purchase of four ammonium and nitrate combination sensors in an amount not to exceed \$48,726. President Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3042

4.5 Authorize VSD's to Continue its Membership with the National Association of Clean Water Agencies for the Period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, at a Cost of \$7,680

While the Board discussed this membership as part of the budget, staff is requesting that it reconsider its position based on the savings achieved from not having to pay for the upcoming election as well as the benefits received from this valuable membership. It is recommended to continue the membership with the national Association of Clean Water Agencies for the period of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, at a cost of \$7,680.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

President Duran made a motion to authorize VSD to Continue its membership with the National Association of Clean Water Agencies for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, at a Cost of \$7,680. Director Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3043

4.6 Authorize Directors Option to Enroll in the Medical, Dental, and Vision Plans Offered to VSD Employees Effective January 1, 2021

At its meeting on December 10, 2019, the Board adopted resolution 2019-1125 setting the directors' annual stipend for medical expenses at the PEMHCA minimum amount. The District does not allow directors the option of enrolling in one of the CalPERS medical plans that are to District employees. Several directors have expressed interest in being allowed to do so. The Board gave direction to staff to prepare the necessary resolutions for Board approval and then inform CalPERS of the District's intent. Directors would also have the option to enroll in the District's dental and vision plans with no contributions made by the District on the directors' behalf. The effective date of the enrollment in the plan(s) would be January 1, 2021.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

President Duran made a motion to authorize directors the option to enroll in one of the CalPERS medical plans that are offered to District employees and to keep the District's contribution at the PEMHCA rate. In addition, staff recommends that the Board authorize directors the option to enroll in the dental and vision plans offered to District employees but with no contributions made by the District. Secretary/Treasurer Canero seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2020-3044

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S ITEMS

General Manager's items not listed are for discussion only; no action will be taken without an urgency vote pursuant to State law.

Ms. Marshall gave a brief update of the status of Riverside County in relation to COVID-19. The county has entered the red zone, allowing more businesses to open back up. At this time, the District will not make any changes to the protocol it's been following the past few months.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No meeting to report on.

7. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

Director's items not listed are for discussion only; no action will be taken without an urgency vote pursuant to State law

Director Teague inquired about the next EVRA meeting. Ms. Marshall stated that they are looking to schedule something by the end of October.

8. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The DiSC Workshop for the Board of Directors will be held Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:31 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be held October 13, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board
Valley Sanitary District