

**VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

July 27, 2021

Valley Sanitary District conducted this meeting in accordance with California Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 and COVID-19 protocols.

A regular Board Meeting of the Governing Board of Valley Sanitary District (VSD) was held via videoconference, on Tuesday, July 27, 2021.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Sear called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Directors Present:

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

Staff Present:

Beverli Marshall, General Manager, Holly Gould, Jeanette Juarez, Anna Bell, Ryan Williams, and Robert Hargreaves, Best Best & Krieger

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.

None.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 Approve July 13, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes

3.2 Approve Warrants for July 8 through July 21, 2021

3.3 Accept Monthly Financial Report for Period Ending June 30, 2021

3.4 Accept Credit Card Report for Period Ending June 30, 2021

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Director Duran made a motion to approve the consent calendar items as presented. Director Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2021-3117

4. PUBLIC HEARING

4.1 Adopt a Resolution 2021-1150 Declaring Certain Accounts to be Delinquent and Directing Staff to Place These Accounts on the Property Tax Rolls for Collection

President Sear asked Ms. Marshall to give a summary of the actions leading up to the Public Hearing. Ms. Marshall stated that Pursuant to Government Code Section 6062a, a notice has been given of the Public Hearing, regarding the Resolution 2021-1150 Determining Certain Accounts to be Delinquent and Directing the Placement of these accounts on the County Property Tax Roll for Collection. The Property Owners were directly mailed a Notice of the Public Hearing and a Notice of Public Hearing was duly published on the Valley Sanitary District website. President Sear read the procedures to be followed during the hearing and asked Ms. Marshall to summarize any written communications regarding the public hearing. Ms. Marshall informed the Board that there were none. President Sear declared the Public Hearing open at 1:09 p.m. and asked Ms. Marshall to give a brief staff report which would be followed by any public testimony. Being no comments from the public, President Sear declared the Public Hearing closed at 1:11 p.m.

“A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT DETERMINING CERTAIN ACCOUNTS TO BE DELINQUENT AND DIRECTING THE PLACEMENT OF THESE ACCOUNTS ON THE COUNTY PROPERTY TAX ROLL FOR COLLECTION.”

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Secretary Canero made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-1150 Declaring Certain Accounts to be Delinquent and Directing Staff to Place These Accounts on the Property Tax Rolls for Collection. Director Teague seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1150

4.2 Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement Project

President Sear asked Ms. Marshall to give a summary of the actions leading up to the Public Hearing. Ms. Marshall stated that pursuant to Government Code Section 6062a, notice was given of the Public Hearing regarding the adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Proposed Collection System Rehabilitation. A Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration was published in The Desert Sun, a newspaper of general circulation, on July 21 and July 23, 2021, as required by Government Code and distributed through the State Clearinghouse to other agencies for their review and comment. The public review period started June 1 and ended July 2, 2021. No written communications were received. President Sear declared the public hearing open for public comment at 1:15 p.m. There being no correspondence, public comments, or additional comments from the Board, President Sear declared the Public Hearing closed at 1:18 p.m.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Teague made a motion to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Proposed Collection System Rehabilitation and Replacement Project. Director Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

5. NON-HEARING ITEMS

- 5.1 Authorize the General Manager to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Innovative Federal Strategies to Advocate on Wastewater and Recycled Water-Related Legislation and Policy Efforts in Washington D.C. for a 12-month Period in an Amount Not to Exceed \$75,000

The FY 2020/21 budget eliminated funding for federal advocacy services during the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the Combined Budget for Fiscal Year 2021/22, the Board reinstated funding for these services. Staff recommends executing a professional services contract with Innovative Federal Strategies for federal advocacy services in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for a 12-month period.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Director Teague made a motion to authorize the General Manager to execute a professional services contract with Innovative Federal Strategies for federal advocacy services in an amount not to exceed \$75,000 for a 12-month period. Director Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague
NOES: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-3119

- 5.2 Authorize the Purchase of Four (4) Utility Carts from Cart Mart in an Amount Not to Exceed \$63,353

Due to age, mileage, and overall annual maintenance costs, staff has determined some of the utility carts need to be replaced. These carts are used primarily by the Operations department and are equipped for daily job site purposes from equipment transportation to towing necessary equipment to and from the job site. Once the replacement carts are in service, the surplus carts will be sold through GovDeals.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION:

Director Duran made a motion to authorize the General Manager to purchase of Four (4) Utility Carts from Cart Mart for \$63,352.26, which includes tax and delivery. Secretary Canero seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:
AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague
NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2021-3120

- 5.3 Authorize the Purchase of Two 25 Horsepower Floating Brush Aerators from ECS House Industries to Replace Existing Aerators for a Total Amount Not to Exceed \$93,000

This is a sole-source procurement of aerators from ECS House Industries due to the severity of breakdowns of S&N Airoflo in the aeration ponds. In the future, the District will purchase similar aerators from the same manufacturer, which will allow for the exchange and salvage of spare parts. These items are included in the adopted Comprehensive Budget for FY2021/22. Ancillary costs may include concrete and rental costs for the installation of tie-down posts.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Duran made a motion to authorize the General Manager to purchase two 25-horsepower Floating Brush Aerators from ECS House Industries in an amount not to exceed \$93,000 (including tax and delivery). Vice President seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-3121

5.4 Authorize the Purchase of a 430 Backhoe Loader from Quinn Company in an Amount Not to Exceed \$148,424

Staff determined that the District's 2002 420D Backhoe Loader, needs to be replaced due to age, emissions, and overall annual maintenance costs. Staff identified the 430 Backhoe Loader model as the one that meets current and forecasted needs. Quotes were obtained from three Cat dealers in Southern California. Staff recommends purchasing the backhoe loader from Quinn Company in the amount of \$148,424, which includes tax and delivery.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Teague made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 430 Backhoe Loader from Quinn Company for \$148,424, which includes tax and delivery. Director Duran seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2021-3122

5.5 Authorize the Purchase of a Stainless-Steel Slide Gate for the Influent Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Amount Not to Exceed \$42,115

Part of the Influent Pump Station Rehabilitation Project is the replacement of the slide gate separating the forebay to the influent pump station. Slide gates are built to order due to the size and shape of the opening they are to cover and the fluids they are to stop. The slide gate has a 14-to-22-week lead time from the time of ordering to arriving at the district. Staff proposes to have the district procure the slide gate with Board approval now which will allow the lead time to be concurrent with finishing the next phase of the project. By following this path, the slide gate would most likely be onsite by the time the contractor is ready to start work. Staff solicited quotes from two leading, nationally recognized manufacturers of slide gates. Staff recommends using Golden Harvest for an amount not exceed \$42,115.

ACTION TAKEN:

MOTION: Director Duran made a motion to authorize the General Manager to purchase the slide gate from Golden Harvest in an amount not to exceed \$42,115. Vice President Coleman seconded the motion. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Canero, Coleman, Duran, Sear, Teague

NOES: None

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2021-3123

5.6 Discuss the Valley Sanitary District Investment Policy and Provide Direction

Jeanette Juarez, Business Services Manager, presented the draft of the revised Investment Policy for discussion. California Government Code Section 53646 requires that all public agencies adopt an investment policy and that the policy be reviewed and approved annually. On April 14, 2015, the District adopted Resolution No. 2015-1063 adopting the VSD Investment Policy and no amendments have been executed. The updated policy is a more detailed policy following the government code. This item was presented as information only and will be brought back as an action item at the August 10, 2021, board meeting.

6. GENERAL MANAGER'S ITEMS

Ms. Marshall updated the Board on the State of California mandating vaccinations for state employees and health care workers. Legal will be advising how the District can move forward with a possible mandated vaccination policy. She also informed the Board that she will present at the AWWA/WEF conference next week. A discussion took place on business cards.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Vice President Coleman gave an update on the EVRA meeting held on June 29, 2021. He stated that they passed the FY 2021/22 budget. The budget will need to be amended to include added expenses for the Recycled Water Project.

8. DIRECTOR'S ITEMS

The Board thanked Ryan Williams, Maintenance Supervisor, for his hard work and dedication to the District and wished him well on his next endeavor. The Board also recognized Anna Bell, Acting Facility Operations Manager, for stepping up and heading the Operations and Laboratory departments during the Facility Operations Manager recruitment.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. and will be catered by CV BBQ.

10. 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 on August 10, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Gould, Clerk of the Board
Valley Sanitary District