

BIG BEAR AREA REGIONAL WASTEWATER AGENCY

Special Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency was called to order by Chair Miller at 5:00 p.m. on August 12, 2024, at 121 Palomino Drive, Big Bear City, California.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Miller, Chair

Rick Herrick, Vice-Chair

John Russo, Director

Kendi Segovia, Director

Larry Walsh, Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

David Lawrence, General Manager

Christine Bennett, Finance Manager

Bridgette Burton, Administrative Services Manager/Board Secretary

Sonja Kawa, Human Resources Coordinator/Accounting Technician

OTHERS

Laine Carlson, Vice-President, Water Systems Consulting, Inc.

Kaitlyn Dodson-Hamilton, Vice-President, Tom Dodson & Associates

Glenn Jacklin, General Manager, Big Bear City Community Services District

Megan Kilmer, Associate, Best Best & Krieger, LLP

Reggie Lamson, General Manager, City of Big Bear Lake Department of Water and Power

Charity Schiller, Partner, Best Best & Krieger, LLP

Ward Simmons, Partner, Best Best & Krieger, LLP

Members of the public who signed in included:

Joyce Crist, Big Bear City

Patrice Duncan, Sugarloaf

Pat Enyart, Sugarloaf

Dan Gulbranson, Big Bear Lake

John Osbourne

Sandy Steers, Fawnskin

Bob Ybarra, Sugarloaf

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Segovia

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Upon motion by Director Russo, seconded by Director Segovia and carried, the Governing Board moved 5.A. to the first item of the agenda and approved the remainder of the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Herrick, Russo, Segovia, Walsh, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

5. OLD BUSINESS

5.A. Resolution No. R. 08-2024, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Adopting Environmental Findings and Statement of Overriding Considerations Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, Certifying the Replenish Big Bear Program Final Environmental Impact Report (SCH #2022110595), Adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and Approving the Program

The General Manager stated there is no presentation on this item since it was continued from a previous meeting.

Sandy Steers commented that she had more questions and was confused as to why this item could not be considered after the design.

Daniel Gulbranson commented about the cost and direction of Replenish Big Bear.

Joyce Crist encouraged the Board to vote no on the EIR and Replenish Big Bear.

Tom Sitton commented about voting on Replenish Big Bear and demanded the project be stopped.

The Governing Board questioned the process to ensure environmental concerns are addressed in the final design, mitigation measures for the evaporation ponds to protect birds and control dust, and grant funds for the Final Program Environmental Impact Report.

Vice-Chair Herrick motioned to adopt Resolution No. R. 08-2024; direct staff to schedule a Replenish Big Bear Committee meeting to review the final design and a Governing Board workshop at least 30 days prior to Governing Board consideration; and direct staff to add a Replenish Big Bear mitigation monitoring checklist to its annual inspection process, include the checklist in the first meeting agenda packet of each fiscal year, and post it on the BBARWA website. The motion was seconded by Chair Miller. The motion did not pass.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller
Noes: Russo, Segovia, Walsh
Absent: None
Abstain: None

4. CLOSED SESSION

- 4.A.** Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)(1)
Title: General Manager

The Governing Board entered closed session at 5:26 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 6:58 p.m. There was no reportable action.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- 6.A.** Award Contracts for Municipal Advisory and Placement Agent Services and Retain Bond Counsel for Replenish Big Bear Final Design Funding

Upon motion by Vice Chair Herrick, seconded by Director Segovia and carried, the Governing Board tabled this item indefinitely.

Ayes: Herrick, Russo, Segovia, Walsh, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

- 6.B.** Award Contract for the Force Main Slip Lining Project and Reallocate \$595,076 from the Capital Improvement Plan

The General Manager presented this item.

The Governing Board clarified that this item is being published for competitive bidding and discussed that the total project cost was not previously anticipated. The Governing Board reviewed the pipeline age, miles of force main in the Big Bear Valley, and the not-to-exceed project cost as noted in the staff report. Further discussion clarified the work completed to prepare the project for bidding.

Additionally, the Governing Board inquired about the force main to Lucerne Valley, including its estimated repair or replacement cost, and expressed concern about the challenges of obtaining a permit from the Forest Service for repairs or replacement of the line.

Daniel Gulbranson raised questions about various aspects of the project, including contracts and the competitive bidding process, and indicated that he would be monitoring the project closely.

Tom Sitton commented about planning and performance.

Upon motion by Director Segovia seconded by Director Russo and carried, the Governing Board reallocated \$595,076 from the following Capital Improvement Plan Projects: FY 24 Oxidation Ditch Wall Carryover, 1989 Dump Truck Replacement, Loader, Sludge Building - Siding, Sludge Building – Roofing Sheet Metal, OAC Roof, and Admin Building – HVAC Chiller Projects; directed staff to engage Water Systems Consulting, Inc. for engineering services for the Force Main Slip Lining Project, not to exceed \$40,000; directed staff to award a contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the Force Main Slip Lining Project, not to exceed \$1,317,645; and authorized the General Manager to negotiate and execute the contract documents.

Ayes: Herrick, Russo, Segovia, Walsh, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

6.C. Adjourn the August 28, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

Upon motion by Vice Chair Herrick seconded by Chair Miller and carried, the Governing Board adjourned the August 28, 2024 regular board meeting.

Ayes: Herrick, Russo, Segovia, Walsh, Miller
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

7. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.A. General Manager Comments

None

7.B. Governing Board Member Comments

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Governing Board, Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:14 p.m.

ATTEST: Bridgette Burton
Bridgette Burton, Secretary to the Governing Board
Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency