

BIG BEAR AREA REGIONAL WASTEWATER AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 24, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency was called to order by Chair Miller at 5:01 p.m. on March 24, 2021. Chair Miller confirmed the Governing Board meeting was conducted pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953 and Governor Newsome's Executive Order N-25-20 and N-29-20. No Board Member expressed doubt that the Board Members participating by teleconference were not so.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Jim Miller, Chair
Karyn Oxandaboure, Secretary
David Caretto, Director
John Green, Director

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Rick Herrick, Vice Chair

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

David Lawrence, General Manager
Jennifer McCullar, Finance Manager
John Shimmin, Plant Manager
Sonja Kawa, Human Resources Coordinator/Accounting Technician
Bridgette Burton, Management Analyst
Kim Booth, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS

Mary Reeves, General Manager, Big Bear City Community Services District
Liz Sebestyen, Fawnskin

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dispensed

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Caretto and carried, the Governing Board approved the agenda as presented.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

4. INFORMATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.A. General Manager Report

Mr. Lawrence provided an update to the Governing Board. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

4.B. Finance Committee Meeting Update

Secretary Oxandaboure provided an update on the items Ms. McCullar discussed during the February 11, 2021 Finance Committee meeting which included the Budget Review, Projected Performance 2021, Budget and Forecast 2022-2026, and the new Budget 2022.

5. PRESENTATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6.A. Minutes of Regular Meeting January 27, 2021 and Budget Workshop/Special Meeting February 24, 2021

6.B. Monthly Expenses

6.C. Investment Report

6.D. Operations and Connections Report

6.E. Second Quarter Report, Six Months Ended December 31, 2020

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Secretary Oxandaboure and carried, the Governing Board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green

Noes: None

Absent: Herrick

Abstain: None

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

None

8. PUBLIC FORUM RESPONSE

None

9. PUBLIC FORUM

No comments

10. **OLD BUSINESS**

None

11. **NEW BUSINESS**

11.A. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 02-2021, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Establishing the Sewer User Charge and Taking Certain Other Actions Related Thereto

Ms. McCullar explained the annual sewer user charge will increase 3.9% from \$223.07 to \$231.77, an increase of \$8.70 per equivalent dwelling unit, effective July 1, 2021. Chair Miller opened the public hearing at 5:25 p.m. There was one public comment by Ms. Liz Sebestyen, who expressed the burden an increase of the sewer user charge would have on her. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff. The public hearing closed at 5:40 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 02-2021.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.B. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 04-2021, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency to Increase the Current Fee Schedule for the Disposal of Waste Delivered to Regional Treatment Plant

Ms. McCullar explained the waste disposal fees should be consistent with the timing and percentage change in the sewer user charge. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff. Chair Miller opened the public hearing at 5:42 p.m. With no comment from the public, the public hearing closed at 5:43 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 04-2021.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.C. Resolution No. R. 03-2021, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Clarifying the Fiscal Year 2022 Sewer Standby or Immediate Availability Charges

Ms. McCullar reviewed the standby fees for FY 2022, which remain unchanged. This resolution is to clarify the standby or immediate availability charges previously approved and shall continue to be imposed in the same manner, and at the same amounts, as in previous years.

Upon motion by Secretary Oxandaboure, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 03-2021.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.D. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 01-2021, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Adopting the Operating and Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, Approving Budgeted Projects and Finding Approval of the Budget and Budgeted Projects Exempt from Review Under the California Environmental Quality Act

Ms. McCullar explained this item is to adopt the Operating and Capital Budget for FY 2022. Chair Miller opened the public hearing at 5:46 p.m. With no comment from the public, the public hearing closed at 5:47 p.m. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Chair Miller and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 01-2021.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.E. Gaeta Lease Agreement Amendment

Mr. Lawrence explained the amendment to the Agreement will extend the term for another five-year period through August 2025, with automatic annual renewals through this date; however, to ensure the most flexibility possible for the Agency, provisions have been included that allow for cancellation with 60 days' notice of the annual renewal. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board authorized the General Manager to negotiate and execute the Gaeta Lease Agreement Amendment.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.F. Notice Inviting Bids - Headworks Grit System Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Lawrence explained the Headworks Grit System Rehabilitation Project is in lieu of a full replacement of headworks. Staff requested authorization to proceed with a Notice Inviting Bids for the Headworks Grit System Rehabilitation Project. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Secretary Oxandaboure, seconded by Director Caretto and carried, the Governing Board authorized the General Manager to proceed with a Notice Inviting Bids for the Headworks Grit System Rehabilitation Project.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

11.G. Letter in Opposition of SB 278 - Public Employees' Retirement System: Disallowed Compensation: Benefit Adjustments

Mr. Lawrence discussed Senate Bill 278 and how it would affect the Agency. If passed, it would impose strict liability on a public agency that provides retirement benefits through the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) for reductions in pension benefits resulting from reported compensation that is subsequently determined to be disallowed by CalPERS. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board authorized the General Manager to execute the Letter in Opposition of Senate Bill 278 (Leyva) and transmit the letter to Senator Connie Leyva.

Ayes: Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: Miller

11.H. Letter in Opposition of AB 339 - State and Local Government: Open Meetings

Ms. Burton explained that Assembly Bill 339 would amend the Brown Act and place numerous, unworkable, unfunded mandates on all public agencies. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Secretary Oxandaboure and carried, the Governing Board authorized the General Manager to execute the Letter in Opposition of Senate Bill 339 (Lee) and transmit the letter to Assembly Member Lee.

Ayes: Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: Miller

11.I. Governing Board Committees

Chair Miller discussed the permanent advisory committee assignments and recommended the committee assignments remain the same. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Caretto, seconded by Director Green and carried, the Governing Board approved the committee assignments.

Ayes: Miller, Oxandaboure, Caretto, Green
Noes: None
Absent: Herrick
Abstain: None

12. CLOSED SESSION

Entered closed session at 6:04 p.m. with one closed session item to be reviewed.


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

Chair Miller reconvened open session at 6:50 p.m. with no reportable action.

13. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Governing Board, Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 6:51 p.m.

ATTEST:


Karyn Oxandaboure, Secretary of the Governing
Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater
Agency



Kim Booth, Administrative Assistant
Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater
Agency