

BIG BEAR AREA REGIONAL WASTEWATER AGENCY

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency was called to order by Vice-Chair Miller at 5:00 p.m. on March 22, 2023 at 121 Palomino Drive, Big Bear City, California and via Zoom.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

John Green, Chair (via Zoom)

Jim Miller, Vice-Chair

Rick Herrick, Director

Bynette Mote, Director

Larry Walsh, Director

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

David Lawrence, General Manager

Christine Bennett, Finance Manager

John Shimmin, Plant Manager

Bridgette Burton, Management Analyst/Board Secretary

OTHERS

Frank Forbes, San Bernardino County Representative (via Zoom)

Members of the public who signed in included:

None

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Director Mote

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Steve Ludecke thanked Agency staff for their snow plowing efforts during the recent storms. Mr. Ludecke advised that Palomino Drive is one of the best snow plowed streets in the Valley.

5. PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

5.A. Troy Bemisdarfer 15-year recognition

Mr. Bemisdarfer was unable to attend.

6. INFORMATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.A. General Manager's Report

The General Manager discussed the emergency repair at 42825 Big Bear Blvd., Big Bear Lake. The Governing Board requested additional information about the notification process on the emergency repair, frequency of pump station checks that feed that line, records of line pressure drop, gas release options, if there is any additional pipe of the same vintage, and solar productivity. Further discussion included high flows into the treatment plant from I/I, down-the-hill agencies' entitlement to water from BBARWA, and if there is a possibility to produce additional water from the Replenish Big Bear Project over time.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVED ITEMS

7.A. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from the February 22, 2023 Regular Meeting and the March 7, 2023 Special Meeting Budget Workshop

7.B. Monthly Disbursements Report for February

7.C. Investment Report Identifying Agency Investments and Reporting Interest Income for February

7.D. Board Policy: Brown Act Teleconferencing Policy

Upon motion by Director Herrick seconded by Vice-Chair Miller and carried, the Governing Board approved the Consent Calendar as presented.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.A. 2023 Rate and Fee Studies

The Finance Manager explained there were no changes to the 2023 Rate and Fees Studies since the February Governing Board meeting. The Governing Board clarified that the 18% is compounded, the difference between the Replenish Big Bear rate and the Agency rate, the rates do not include any local agency contributions, and the total amount of grants awarded to date. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

This item is informational only.

10. NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

10.A. Resolution No. R. 02-2023, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Clarifying the Fiscal Year 2024 Sewer Standby or Immediate Availability Charges

The Finance Manager detailed the sewer standby or immediate availability charges and confirmed that there are no increases to this charge.

Upon motion by Director Mote, seconded by Director Walsh and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 02-2023, a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Clarifying the Fiscal Year 2024 Sewer Standby or Immediate Availability Charges.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

10.B. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 03-2023, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Establishing Sewer User Charges Subject to Annual Review and Taking Certain Other Actions Related Thereto

The Finance Manager presented changes to the sewer user charge and detailed the Agency and Replenish Big Bear percentages. The Governing Board clarified the dollar amount for the Agency and Replenish Big Bear portions, the process in which a rate decrease would occur due to local agency contributions or additional grant

funding, and if there needs to be a rate study to reduce rates. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

The public hearing opened at 5:28 p.m. There were no comments from members of the public. The public hearing closed at 5:28 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Herrick, seconded by Director Walsh and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 03-2023, a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Establishing Sewer User Charges Subject to Annual Review and Taking Certain Other Actions Related Thereto.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10.C. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 05-2023, 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 the Regional Treatment Plant Subject to Annual Review

The Finance Manager discussed the increase to the fee schedule for disposal of waste delivered to the treatment plant.

The public hearing opened at 5:30 p.m. There were no comments from members of the public. The public hearing closed at 5:30 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Mote, seconded by Director Walsh and carried, the Governing Board adopted Resolution No. R. 05-2023, 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 the Regional Treatment Plant Subject to Annual Review.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10.D. Public Hearing: Resolution No. R. 04-2023, A Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Adopting the Operating and Capital Budget of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency for Fiscal Year 2024, Approving Budgeted Projects and Finding Approval of the Budget and

Budgeted Projects Exempt from Review Under the California Environmental Quality Act

The public hearing opened at 5:31 p.m. There were no comments from members of the public. The public hearing closed at 5:31 p.m.

Upon motion by Director Herrick, seconded by Chair Green and carried, the Governing Board passed, adopted, and approved Resolution No. R. 04-2023, a Resolution of the Governing Board of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Adopting the Operating and Capital Budget of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency for Fiscal Year 2024, Approving Budgeted Projects and Finding Approval of the Budget and Budgeted Projects Exempt from Review Under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10.E. Governing Board Committee Appointments

Upon motion by Director Mote, seconded by Director Walsh and carried, the Governing Board appointed Vice-Chair Miller and Director Herrick to the Finance Committee.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Upon motion by Director Mote, seconded by Director Walsh and carried, the Governing Board appointed Chair Green and Director Mote to the Administrative Committee.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

Upon motion by Director Herrick, seconded by Vice-Chair Miller and carried, the Governing Board appointed Vice-Chair Miller and Director Herrick to the Operations Committee.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10.F. Replenish Big Bear Advisory Committee

The General Manager explained this item was asked to be brought to the Governing Board for consideration and described the main purpose of the Committee being advising and supporting the General Manager. The Governing Board clarified that the Committee would not make any decisions that should be decided by the full Governing Board. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff.

Upon motion by Director Mote, seconded by Vice-Chair Miller and carried, the Governing Board appointed Director Mote and Director Walsh to the Replenish Big Bear Advisory Committee.

Ayes: Herrick, Miller, Mote, Walsh, Green
Noes: None
Absent: None
Abstain: None

10.G. Resolution No. R. 06-2023, A Resolution of the Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Agency Changing the Date and Time of Regular Meetings

The Board Secretary explained this item is being brought back to the Governing Board for consideration. Discussion ensued between the Governing Board and staff, with discussion centered on keeping the meetings at a time where members of the public could attend after work.

Upon motion by Vice-Chair Miller, seconded by Director Herrick and carried, the Governing Board tabled this item. Regular meetings of the Governing Board will remain at 5:00 p.m. on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

11. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

11.A. General Manager Comments

None


11.B. Governing Board Member Comments

The Governing Board wished everyone to stay safe, advised the Chamber of Commerce would like a staff member to attend GA-RTAC, and thanked the Board

Secretary for the Replenish Big Bear social media outreach and emails regarding the Project. The Governing Board addressed communication regarding road conditions from Cal-Trans.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Governing Board, Vice-Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

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