



Posting Date: 07-30-2021

## NOTICE OF REGULAR BI-MONTHLY MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- MEETING DATE:** 08-03-2021
- TIME:** Meeting begins at **6:00 p.m. (Public)**  
 Closed Session begins at or after **6:01 p.m. (Only Board and Staff)**  
 Open Session begins at or after **7:30 p.m. (Public)**
- LOCATION:** **This meeting will be held virtually, pursuant to the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20.**

To participate online, go to <https://zoom.us/j/97637495667>. You can also participate by phone by calling **1-669-900-6833** and entering the **webinar ID#: 976 3749 5667**.

**PARTICIPATION DURING MEETINGS:** During the public comment periods, the public may comment by clicking the “raise hand” button on the bottom of the Zoom screen; if you are joining by phone and would like to comment, press \*9 and we will call on you as appropriate.

**EMAILED PUBLIC COMMENTS:** You may submit your comments in advance of the meeting by emailing them to [BoardComment@MarinWater.org](mailto:BoardComment@MarinWater.org). All emailed comments received by 3 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be provided to the Board of Directors prior to the meeting. Those emailed comments on approval items received by 3 p.m. will also be summarized by the board secretary at the board meeting. All emails will be posted on our website. (Please do not include personal information in your comment that you do not want published on our website such as phone numbers and home addresses.)

AGENDA ITEMS	RECOMMENDATIONS
<b>Call to Order and Roll Call at 6 p.m.</b>	
<b>Adopt Agenda</b>	<i>Approve</i>
<b>Convene to Closed Session at after 6:01 p.m.</b> (Only the Board of Directors and staff will participate)	
<b>Closed Session Item</b>	
1. Conference with Real Property Negotiations (Government Code §54956.8) Property: APN# 125-020-18 & 125-020-10 Agency negotiator: Ben Horenstein, General Manager Negotiating parties: Terrel Mason, Esq.	

**MARIN WATER BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** LARRY BRAGMAN, JACK GIBSON, CYNTHIA KOEHLER, LARRY RUSSELL, AND MONTY SCHMITT

AGENDA ITEMS	RECOMMENDATIONS
Under Negotiation: Lease price and terms (Approximate time 10 minutes)	
2. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code §54957)  Title: General Manager (Approximate time 30 minutes)	
3. Conference with Real Property Negotiations (Government Code §54956.8)  Property: Lucas Valley Tank Site (APN 165-010-03) & Alto Tank Site (APN 033-101-50) Agency negotiator: Ben Horenstein, General Manager Negotiating parties: Don Shiveley, Project Manager Under negotiation: Terms & Price (Approximate time 30 minutes)	
<b>Convene to Open Session at or after 7:30 p.m.</b>	
<b>Closed Session Report Out</b>	
<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <p>Members of the public may comment on any items not listed on the agenda during this time. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, and time limits may be reduced by the board president to accommodate the number of speakers and ensure that the meeting is conducted in an efficient manner.</p>	
<p><b>Directors' and General Manager's Announcements</b></p>	
<p><b>Consent Calendar (7:35 p.m. – Time Approximate)</b></p> <p>All matters listed on the consent calendar are considered to be routine and will be enacted by a single action of the Board, unless specific items are removed from the consent calendar by the Board during adoption of the agenda for separate discussion and action.</p>	
4. Minutes of the Board of Directors' Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of July 20, 2021	<i>Approve</i>
<p><b>Regular Calendar (7:37 p.m. – Time Approximate)</b></p>	

<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS</b>
5. Drought Update (Approximate time 45 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
6. Consideration for Additional Landscape Restrictions on New Restrictions and Other Policies for Increasing Water Efficiency (Approximate time 45 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
7. Request to Fill Water Conservation Specialist III Position (Approximate time 5 minutes)	<i>Approve</i>
8. Purchase of Substitute Coagulant Chemical (Approximate time 10 minutes)	<i>Approve</i>
9. Future Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items (Approximate time 5 minutes)	<i>Information</i>
<b>Adjournment (9:30 p.m. – Time Approximate)</b>	

**ADA NOTICE AND HEARING IMPAIRED PROVISIONS:**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and California Law, it is Marin Water’s policy to offer its public programs, services, and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including those with disabilities. If you are disabled and require a copy of a public hearing notice, an agenda, and/or agenda packet in an appropriate alternative format, or if you require other accommodations, please contact Board Secretary Terrie Gillen at 415.945.1448, at least two days in advance of the meeting. Advance notification will enable the Marin Water to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.

INFORMATION PACKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE CIVIC CENTER LIBRARY, CORTE MADERA LIBRARY, FAIRFAX LIBRARY, MILL VALLEY LIBRARY, MARIN WATER OFFICE, AND ON THE MARIN WATER WEBSITE (MARINWATER.ORG)

**FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS:**

- ❖ Tuesday, August 17, 2021  
Board of Directors’ Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting  
7:30 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesday, August 18, 2021  
Communications & Water Efficiency Committee/Board of Directors (Communications & Water Efficiency) Meeting  
9:30 a.m.
- ❖ Monday, August 30, 2021  
Board of Directors’ Special Meeting (10-Year Financial Plan Workshop 4)  
8:00 a.m.

  
 Board Secretary



## Approval Item

**TITLE**

Minutes of the Board of Directors’ Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of July 20, 2021

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approve the adoption of the minutes.

**SUMMARY**

On July 20, 2021, the board held its regular bi-monthly meeting. The minutes of this meeting are attached.

**DISCUSSION**

None

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

1. Minutes of the Board of Directors’ Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of July 20, 2021

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Communications & Public Affairs Department		
	<p><b>Terrie Gillen</b> Board Secretary</p>	<p><b>Ben Horenstein</b> General Manager</p>

**MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, July 20, 2021**

**Via teleconference**

(In accordance with Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20)

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Larry Bragman, John C. Gibson, Larry Russell, Monty Schmitt, and Cynthia Koehler

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Board President Koehler called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

On motion made by Director Bragman and seconded by Director Gibson, the board adopted the agenda. The following roll call vote was made.

Ayes: Directors Bragman, Gibson, Russell, Schmitt, and Koehler

Noes: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was one public comment.

**DIRECTORS' AND GENERAL MANAGER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Koehler announced she attended a recent U.S. Water Alliance meeting to share our agency's drought efforts.

**CONSENT CALENDAR (ITEMS 1-2)**

**Item 1 Minutes of the Board of Directors' Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of July 6, 2021**

**Item 2 General Manager's Report for June 2021**

There was no public comment.

On motion made by Director Gibson and seconded by Director Russell, the board adopted Consent Calendar. The following roll call vote was made.

Ayes: Directors Bragman, Gibson, Russell, Schmitt, and Koehler  
Noes: None

**REGULAR CALENDAR (ITEM 3)**

**Item 3 Drought Update**

Water Quality Manager Lucy Croy, Communications & Public Affairs Director Jeanne Mariani-Belding, Water Efficiency Manager Carrie Pollard, and Operations Manager Paul Sellier provided PowerPoint presentations to the board. Throughout the presentation, the directors and staff conversed on this item.

There were three (3) public comments.

This was an informational item, so the board did not take any formal action.

**PUBLIC HEARING (ITEM 4)**

**Item 4 Adoption of Ordinance No. 453 Setting Forth Restrictions on Potable Water Landscape Installations for New Water Service Connections**

Director of Engineering Mike Ban presented this item. Next, President Koehler opened the public hearing, and the board provided comments and asked questions.

Afterwards, the Board of Directors heard from seven (7) members of the public. President Koehler closed the public hearing, and the board deliberated the proposed ordinance.

On motion made by Director Russell and seconded by Director Gibson, the board adopted Ordinance No. 453. The following roll call vote was made.

Ayes: Directors Bragman, Gibson, Russell, and Schmitt  
Noes: None  
Abstain: Director Koehler

**REGULAR CALENDAR (ITEMS 5-6)**

**Item 5 Smith Saddle Tanks Rehabilitation Project**

Engineering Division Manager Crystal Yezman introduced this item. Next, the board heard a summary and proposed rehabilitation alternatives of the project from Design Engineering Manager I Alex Anaya and Don Barraza, with Kennedy Jenks. Discussion ensued during and after the presentation.

There was one (1) public comment.

Since this was an Informational Item, the board did not take any formal action.

**Item 6            Future Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items**

Director Bragman proposed that the board would hear from staff about utilizing purple piping in upcoming infrastructure projects.

The board secretary also announced upcoming meetings and mentioned that a Board Retreat date had yet to be confirmed.

No further action was taken by the board.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the regular bi-monthly Board of Directors' meeting of July 20, 2021, adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Board Secretary



## Informational Item

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**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager

**ITEM:** Drought Update

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### **SUMMARY**

Staff continue efforts responding to the historic drought conditions through conservation outreach and engagement with the community, optimizing existing water supply, and planning for emergency drought water supply. At the meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, staff will provide the Board an update on our drought response efforts.

### **DISCUSSION**

In response to drought conditions and historically low reservoir storage levels, the Board declared a water shortage emergency on April 20, 2021, and adopted mandatory water use restrictions targeting an overall 40% reduction in water use to extend current water supplies. Recognizing that the District's typical water use nearly doubles during the summer months as compared to the winter largely due to outdoor irrigation, the Board adopted in May mandatory conservation measures limiting sprinkler irrigation to two days per week. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 452 to further restrict irrigation to limit sprinkler irrigation to one day per week, as assigned by the District. At the July 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the Board adopted Ordinance No. 453 requiring new connections to defer potable water irrigated landscape installation until after the conclusion of the Water Shortage Emergency.

### **Water Supply:**

- As of July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the District had 32,787 acre-feet of reservoir water storage, which is 41% of capacity and 38% below average for this date.
- As of July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Lake Sonoma had 123,725 acre-feet of water which is 50.5% of capacity and approximately 56% of historical average for this time of year.
- Due to the dry conditions and lower than normal reservoir levels, Sonoma Water has reduced allocations to their retail customers, including MMWD, beginning in July. From July through September MMWD will be restricted to 4-MGD with a slight increase in October to 4.6-MGD. Staff expects that reduced allocations may continue through the drought.



- As a result of this drought, the district reservoirs are projected to be as low as 20,000 acre-feet on December 1, 2021. Were conservation efforts to achieve a 40% reduction in demand through December, reservoir storage is projected to be near 25,000 acre-feet.

#### **Operational Initiatives and Water Supply Projects:**

- Utilize Soulajule Reservoir – Soulajule reservoir is a reserve reservoir and last utilized during the drought of the early 1990s. Pumping was initiated in early May, and approximately 1313 AF of water from Soulajule Reservoir has been transferred to Nicasio Reservoir this year.
- Recycled Water - Staff have completed installing a residential recycled water pick-up station in the parking lot off Armory Drive near the Marin County Civic Center where County residents will be able to fill containers with recycled water to be used for watering their gardens. Staff is expecting to receive the conditional approval from the SFRWQCB to begin operating the fill station very soon. Staff have also requested and are waiting for authorization for residential customers, that may wish to obtain larger quantities of recycled water, to use the services of a commercial hauler to deliver recycled water for approved uses such as irrigation.
- Kastania Pump Station Rehabilitation Design – Project components are moving ahead as expected to rehabilitate Kastania Pump Station and improve the operational efficiency of the District's imported supply through the North Marin Aqueduct. Final design of the Kastania Pump Station Rehabilitation Project is underway and completion of the civil/mechanical portion is anticipated to occur in August. Construction is expected to commence in September and be completed in December 2021. District staff is actively meeting with representatives from the Sonoma County Water Agency and the North Marin Water District to facilitate design of the facility and acquisition of the facility. Staff presented on the proposed agreement for transfer of ownership of the Kastania Pump Station from Sonoma County Water Agency to Marin Water as an informational item at the July 16<sup>th</sup> Operations Committee meeting and the board will be considering approval of the transfer of ownership agreement at the August 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
- Environmental Releases - Staff is proceeding with a technical study to better understand how to optimize flows in Lagunitas Creek to protect salmonid migration and instream habitat while reducing the volume of water released during severe drought conditions. An update of the study was provided at the Watershed Committee meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup> and another detailed discussion of the project is planned for the Operations Committee meeting in August. Engagement with stakeholders will continue to be central to this effort as the study progresses over the coming months.

**Emergency Drought Projects:**

- Staff is exploring the feasibility of emergency water supply projects that can deliver the quantity of water needed to serve our customers in the event that reservoir levels are not replenished by the end of the year. At the Operations Committee meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>, staff presented an update on recent efforts to evaluate the feasibility of a temporary desalination plant as well as the availability of water transfers to increase existing water supplies. Staff will present additional information as part of the drought update at the August 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.

**Water Efficiency:**

- Water Waste reports have increased since the mandatory conservation actions were adopted and enhanced:
  - February: 5 reports
  - March: 13 reports
  - April: 104 reports
  - May: 203 reports
  - June: 253 reports
- At the July 16<sup>th</sup> Operations Committee meeting the Board discussed goals for the Drought Response programs. The Drought Response programs continue to have high participation and engagement from the community through the end of June and continuing into July. Staff will provide current participation levels compared to the goals discussed.

**Drought Public Outreach Highlights:**

- New postcard mailer to all residents was developed and sent out separately from the billing detailing the updated water-use restrictions as of July 6<sup>th</sup> and includes helpful conservation tips and rebate information
- Launched a Super Savers campaign highlighting customer stories and efforts to save water that is posted and circulating on social media, Marin Water website, and digital ads
- Staff is planning the next Drought Drive Up Event, targeting August 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The advertising campaign with drought messaging continues to run online, at transit shelters, and on bus backs throughout the service area. Phase 2 concept development is underway, focusing on the severe/historic drought with calls to continue saving water.
- Since April, staff has completed more than 45 presentations to stakeholders in the community (city and town councils, homeowner groups, chambers, rotaries, and businesses) regarding the drought and informing customers of Marin Water's available conservation programs and incentives.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

As previously shared with the Board, the combined loss in revenue and unbudgeted expenses due to the drought is projected at \$20.5M over the next five months due to mandatory conservation efforts. The District's reserves, along with tight expenditure controls, is anticipated to address the deficit.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

None



**Item Number:** 06  
**Meeting Date:** 08-03-2021  
**Meeting:** Board of Directors

## Informational Item

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**DATE:** 08-03-2021

**TO:** Board of Directors

**THROUGH:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager

**FROM:** Crystal Yezman, Director of Engineering

**ITEM:** Consideration for Additional Landscape Restrictions on New Connections and Other Policies for Increasing Water Efficiency

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### **SUMMARY**

At the July 20, 2021 Board of Directors meeting, staff was requested to bring back to the Board considerations for further discussion as they relate to additional landscape restrictions on new connections.

### **DISCUSSION**

On July 20, 2021 the Board conducted a public hearing and passed Ordinance No. 453, amending Chapter 13.04 entitled "Comprehensive Drought Water Conservation and Enforcement Measures" of Title 13 of the Marin Municipal Water District Code entitled "Water Service Conditions and Water Conservation Measures" adding potable water landscape restrictions for new water service connections.

The Board requested that staff bring back for discussion the proposal to amend Ordinance No. 453 to remove the allowance within section 13.04.020(3) that landscaping with potable water be authorized for new water service connections after termination of the Water Shortage Emergency.

Staff will present considerations for discussion as they relate to continuing to restrict potable water irrigation for new water service connection after termination of the Water Shortage Emergency along with additional policies that could be enacted to increase both short and longer term water efficiency.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

1. Ordinance No. 453

# MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

## ORDINANCE NO. 453

### AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 13.04 ENTITLED “ COMPREHENSIVE DROUGHT WATER CONSERVATION AND ENFORCEMENT MEASURES” OF TITLE 13 OF THE MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT CODE ENTITLED “WATER SERVICE CONDITIONS AND WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES” ADDING POTABLE WATER LANDSCAPE INSTALLATION RESTRICTIONS FOR NEW WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MARIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1. Purpose:** Due to the current drought conditions and low storage reservoir levels existing in the service area of the Marin Municipal Water District (District), the Board of Directors (Board) declared a water shortage emergency on April 20, 2021 pursuant to Water Code sections 350, et seq. and 71640, et seq. as set forth in Board Resolution No. 8630 and subsequently adopted Ordinance Nos. 449, 450 and 452 instituting mandatory water conservation measures for all District customers. The purpose of this ordinance is to add restrictions on potable water landscape installation for new water service connections within the District’s service area. The adoption of these additional measures is aimed at reducing increased water demand to preserve the District’s limited water supply due to the current drought. This action is necessary to preserve the remaining water supply given the uncertainty of future supply conditions due to drought.

**SECTION 2. Section 13.04.020(3) of the Marin Municipal Water District Code entitled “Drought water waste prohibitions” is hereby deleted and replaced to read as follows:**

13.04.020(3) The following are prohibited for all new water service connections:

- (A) Single pass cooling systems for air conditioning or other cooling system applications unless required for health or safety reasons.
- (B) Non-recirculating systems for conveyer carwash applications.
- (C) The use of potable water for the installation of any new landscaping until after the termination of the current Water Shortage Emergency. For purposes of this subsection (C), “new water service connection” shall mean and include new, additional, expanded or increased-in-size potable water service connections, meters, and service lines approved as of July 21, 2021. During the Water Shortage Emergency, applications for new water service connections will be approved only if the Applicant acknowledges in writing that either (i) the proposed project does not include any new landscaping that will be irrigated using potable water, or (ii) no new landscaping that will be irrigated with potable water will be installed in connection with the proposed project until after the termination of the Water Shortage Emergency. For purposes of this subsection, landscaping shall include fountains and ponds.

**SECTION 3. Findings of Necessity:** The Board of Directors, after considering all of the information and testimony presented at its July 20, 2021 public hearing regarding this ordinance, finds as follows:

I. Historic and Current Water Supply Overview

- A. Water is a finite and precious resource.
- B. The District's water supply currently remains limited to water captured in its seven reservoirs; water transported from the Russian River via the North Marin aqueduct; and recycled water produced at the Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Plant (for a variety of non-potable purposes). About 73% of the District's water supply comes from its reservoirs, 25% from the Russian River through the North Marin aqueduct and 2% from recycled water. Although options to increase the District's water supply are being evaluated, the implementation of any preferred alternative will not be immediate.
- C. Based upon rainfall patterns for the District, very little rainfall occurs from May to October each year. In recent years, the overall summer peak-period has found water use averages about twice winter use.
- D. As of July 7, 2021, the District's water storage level is 34,550 acre feet, which is 43.42% of average for this time of year. As a result of this drought, the District reservoirs are projected to be as low as 25,000 acre-feet on December 1, 2021 in the absence of above average rainfall and runoff, which is less than one year of water supply based on recent demand.
- E. The water conservation program already adopted by this Board is necessary to conserve additional water for beneficial use and to preserve the District's water supply.

II. New Water Service Connections.

- A. On April 20, 2021, pursuant to Board Resolution No. 8630, the District declared a water shortage emergency pursuant to Water Code sections 350, et seq. and 71460, et seq.
- B. Based upon projected demand and current storage levels, the District must preserve its remaining water supply to assure sufficient supply in the coming months given the uncertainty of future weather and water storage.
- C. Article X Section 2 of the California Constitution declares that the general welfare requires that water resources be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable and that the waste, unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and that conservation of such waters is to be exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people and the public welfare.

- D. California Water Code section 356 authorizes water suppliers, and the Board finds it necessary, to restrict applications for new water service connections during a water shortage emergency to conserve supplies for the greatest public benefit.
- E. California Water Code section 71640 authorizes the District to restrict the use of water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and prohibit the wastage of District water or the use of District water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as the District determines to be necessary. The District may also prohibit use of District water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential.
- F. Pursuant to Water Code section 353 when the Board declares the existence of an emergency condition of water shortage within its service area, it shall thereupon adopt such regulations and restrictions on the delivery of water and the consumption within said area of water supplied for public use as will in the sound discretion of such governing body conserve the water supply for the greatest public benefit with particular regard to domestic use, sanitation, and fire protection.

**SECTION 4. Environmental Determination:** This project has been reviewed for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and based upon the above findings and purposes of this ordinance, qualifies for an exemption pursuant to Section 21080(b)(4) of the Public Resources Code in that the Board of Directors find that these measures are necessary to preserve water supply to prevent or mitigate a water supply emergency.

**SECTION 5. Severability:** If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, portion or part of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such section shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this code. The Board of Directors hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, part or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections subsections, clauses, phrases, parts or portions be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

**SECTION 6. Effective Date:** Pursuant to Water Code section 376, this ordinance shall be effective on the day of its adoption. Within 10 days of adoption, this ordinance, or a summary hereof, shall be published in the Marin Independent Journal pursuant to Section 6061 of the Government Code.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 20th day of July, 2021, by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

**AYES:** Directors Larry Bragman, John Gibson, Larry L. Russell, and Monty Schmitt

**NOES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Director Cynthia Koehler

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Koehler  
President, Board of Directors

**ATTEST:**



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**Terrie Gillen**  
**Secretary, Board of Directors**





## Approval Item

**TITLE**

Approval to fill two Water Conservation Specialist III positions

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the General Manager to recruit and hire two Water Conservation Specialist III in the Engineering Division.

**SUMMARY**

Staff is requesting authorization for the General Manager to recruit and hire two permanent Water Conservation Specialist III positions. The District is anticipating a vacancy due to a retirement in the department. The retirement will leave a vacancy in Water Conservation Specialist Supervisor position which will be converted to a Water Conservation Specialist III. We are also requesting the second Water Conservation Specialist III as staff seeks to structure the unit with two advanced journey level positions to meet the business needs of the department through the conversion of an existing Water Conservation Specialist I/II

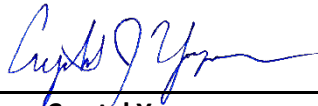
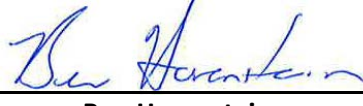
Staff is requesting authorization for the General Manager to recruit and hire two permanent Water Conservation Specialist III and any other subsequent positions that may become vacant as a direct result of this recruitment without an increase in FTEs.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Salary and benefits for each of these positions are included in the Engineering Division’s budget for FY 2022. The total annual salary with benefits for the Water Conservation Specialist III position ranges from \$133,877 to \$162,437. The savings from converting the Supervisor position to Water Conservation Specialist III will be used to reclassify the I/II position to a III with a net annual savings of approximately \$12,000 per year. Filling these positions will not increase the total number of FTEs in the Engineering Division.

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

None

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Engineering	 Crystal Yezman Engineering Director	 Ben Horenstein General Manager

## Approval Item

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**TITLE**

Purchase of Substitute Coagulant Chemical

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute an agreement for the purchase of Ferric Sulfate in an amount not to exceed \$454,622.

**SUMMARY**

Market uncertainty in the chemical sector has resulted in a shortage of Ferric Chloride, the chemical the District uses as a primary coagulant to remove particles in the untreated lake water. The District’s current supplier, Thatcher Chemical Company, has declared an inability to meet supply pursuant to the recently executed contract for Ferric Chloride due to challenges with their supply chain. Staff has identified Ferric Sulfate as an alternate coagulant and has confirmed that suppliers can meet our demand for the coming year.

**DISCUSSION**

The shortage of Ferric Chloride is driven by the shortage of chlorine which is used in the production of Ferric Chloride. There is no indication as to when the chlorine shortage will be resolved and supply uncertainty for the Ferric Chloride is expected to continue into the foreseeable future. If the District were to run out of coagulant it would not be possible to produce drinking water that meets the regulatory standards. In order to continue to reliably produce high quality drinking water staff is planning to substitute with an alternate coagulant. A recent coagulant study performed by staff indicated that Ferric Sulfate performed comparably to Ferric Chloride. Staff have identified vendors for Ferric Sulfate and confirmed that the product is available in the quantities that are needed. Staff have reached out to vendors to obtain availability and pricing for Ferric Sulfate with the following results:

Company	Quantity (dry tons)	Unit Price	Total Estimated Cost
Kemira	833	\$534	\$454,622*
Thatcher	833	\$646	\$538,118
Pennco	833	Unable to Quote	
Chemtrade	833	Unable to Quote	

\*Includes pilot vehicle for BTTP deliveries (\$9,800).

Based on the lower unit cost of Ferric Sulfate compared to Ferric Chloride, changing coagulants to Ferric Sulfate will result in a savings of approximately twenty-six percent. The total amount of savings will depend on the volume of water produced and the amount of Ferric Sulfate needed but could exceed \$100,000 annually. The lowest price is available from Kemira and staff are

familiar with Kemira who has, in the past, successfully supplied the District with coagulant that meets all standards and specifications.

### **Specifications and Standards**

In addition to the District's own requirements, standards published by the American Water Works Association are included in the purchase contract for product requirements. Also, since 1994, California has required that all drinking water "direct additive" products be certified by a testing organization that is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The two major testing organizations are the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF International) and Underwriter's Laboratory (UL). These organizations provide independent quality control oversight to the producers of drinking water treatment chemicals.

### **Removal of Particulate Matter (Coagulation/Flocculation/Sedimentation)**

All surface waters contain naturally-occurring suspended and dissolved matter such as clays, decayed organic matter, metal oxides, and minerals like silica. These particles are too small to be removed by gravity settling alone, partly due to the negative charge of the particles which helps keep them in suspension. The District adds a coagulant, ferric chloride, which acts to disrupt the natural particle charge so that dissolved matter comes out of solution to form particles and these particles and as well as suspended solids are attracted to each other to form larger particles. Flocculation is the process of applying mixing energy to the water containing the small particles to promote particles coming into contact with each other thereby enabling the formation of larger particle groups (called flocs). The floc particle groups are heavy enough to settle and be removed through sedimentation from the drinking water. Each of these processes (coagulation, flocculation and sedimentation) takes place in the large circular clarifiers at District treatment plants.

Use of a coagulant such as Ferric chloride or Ferric Sulfate enables the District to continue meeting the stringent regulations limiting total organic carbon (TOC), a surrogate parameter for the precursors of disinfection by-products. The use of ferric chloride has significantly reduced TOC and lowered disinfection by-products in treated water and puts the District in good position to continue to meet regulations and reduce health concerns about disinfection by-products. Studies indicate that Ferric Sulfate will perform comparably in this respect to Ferric Chloride.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The purchase of water treatment chemicals is essential to the production of safe drinking water and the cost of water treatment chemicals is included in the proposed budget for FY 2021/22. The substitution of Ferric Sulfate may generate significant savings over Ferric Chloride. The total anticipated cost for the supply and delivery of Ferric Sulfate for the remainder for the fiscal year is \$454,622.

### **ATTACHMENT(S)**

None


DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Operations	Insert SLT signature  Paul Sellier Operations Director	 Ben Horenstein General Manager




## Informational Item

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**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Terrie Gillen, Board Secretary 

**THROUGH:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager 

**DIVISION NAME:** Communications & Public Affairs Department

**ITEM:** Future Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

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### SUMMARY

Review of the upcoming Board of Directors and Committee meetings.

### DISCUSSION

Below are the upcoming meetings of the Board of Directors and/or Committees:

- Tuesday, August 17, 2021  
Board of Directors' Regular Bi-Monthly Meeting  
6:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 18, 2021  
Communications & Water Efficiency Committee/Board of Directors (Communications & Water Efficiency) Meeting  
9:30 a.m.
- Friday, August 20, 2021  
Operations Committee/Board of Directors (Operations) Meeting  
9:30 a.m.
- Monday, August 30, 2021  
Board of Directors' Special Meeting (10-Year Financial Plan Workshop 4)  
8:00 a.m.
- Friday, October 15, 2021 (TENTATIVE)  
Board Retreat  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### FISCAL IMPACT

None

### ATTACHMENT(S)

None