



## **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT | SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Trabuco Canyon Water District (TCWD or District) conducted on September 15, 2022, was called to order by President Chadd at 7:02 p.m. in the Board Room at the District Administrative Facility located at 32003 Dove Canyon Drive, Trabuco Canyon, California. Mr. Michael Perea, District Board Secretary, transcribed the minutes thereof.

### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

President Don Chadd  
Vice President Stephen Dopudja  
Director Glenn Acosta  
Director Edward Mandich  
Director Michael Safranski

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fernando Paludi, General Manager  
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager  
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant  
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer  
Lisa Marie Sangi, Executive Assistant

### **DISTRICT CONSULTANTS PRESENT**

Claire Collins, General Legal Counsel – Hanson Bridgett LLP

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Mandich led the Board of Directors, District staff, and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **ITEMS TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED**

None

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION & ORAL COMMUNICATION**

None

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Director Acosta reported on his attendance at the Urban Water Institute Conference in San Diego, and he commented on a presentation related to the impacts of Colorado River water allocations.

Director Safranski reported on his attendance at the City Rancho Santa Margarita Counsel meeting, and he commended Mr. Paludi on his presentation on the District's drought response efforts including rebates.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES | SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

Director Mandich reported on his attendance at the following events:

- City of Rancho Santa Margarita City Council Meeting which included a public hearing on the City’s housing element report.
- RSM Chamber of Commerce State of the City event which included a presentation by Mayor Anne Figueroa and was attended by local elected officials, including U.S. Representative Young Kim.
- Director Mandich reported that he will not attend the upcoming South County Integrated Regional Watershed Management (IRWM) Executive Committee meeting.

Director Dopudja reported on his attendance at the Urban Water Institute Conference and the State of the City event.

**REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Paludi reported on the following matters:

- Urban Water Institute Conference in San Diego as a moderator on the Human Resources panel and he provided highlights on current Human Resource matters.
- Reminded the Board of Directors of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and Orange County Water District (OCWD) Orange County Water Summit the following day at the Disney Grand California Hotel.
- The IRWM Executive Committee is scheduled to vote on proposed grant funding projects, including the District’s Dove & Tick Creek pump station expansion project, on September 27, 2022.
- Commended District staff on the implementation of the new digital requisition system.

**REPORT FROM THE ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Perea reported on the following matters:

- Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Department have completed and installed the upgraded Dove Lake Barge Pump this week which will increase the production of recycled water.
- Acknowledged the birthdays of District employees Mr. Blake Smith, Wastewater Operations Chief Plant Operator, and Mr. Chris Holbrook, Customer Service Field Technician II.

Ms. Collins indicated a clerical error on the agenda for Item 5 that the attached meeting recap was for the August 29, 2022 meeting.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Acosta and seconded by Director Safranski to approve the amended Consent Calendar.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

President Chadd indicated that all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one motion unless a Board member or staff member requests a separate action on a specific item.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Safranski and seconded by Director Dopudja to approve the Consent Calendar.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES | SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**ITEM 6: RATIFICATION OF DIRECTORS' FEES AND EXPENSES, AND TENTATIVE FUTURE MEETINGS/ ATTENDANCE**

---

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration, and he reported this matter was reviewed with the Finance/Audit Committee.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Safranski to approve of the Directors' Fees and Expenses Report.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**ITEM 7: 2022 BIENNIAL REVIEW OF TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT'S CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE**

---

Mr. Perea presented this matter for Board consideration, and he reported this matter was required to be reviewed by the Board of Directors every two years. Mr. Perea reported that District staff has reviewed the current adopted conflict of interest code approved in 2020 with General Counsel, and that there are no recommended changes to the code. Mr. Perea added that the deadline for reporting that the District has made no changes is October 3, 2022. Discussion occurred concerning AB 1234 training requirements; Mr. Perea explained that training is due by the end of this year, and he requested copies of the completed training certificates.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Mandich to make no changes to the current District Conflict of Interest Code.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**ITEM 8: SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY WASTEWATER AUTHORITY (SOCWA) JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT (JPA) DISCUSSION UPDATE**

---

Mr. Paludi provided an update on this matter for Board consideration, and he mentioned that DDB Engineering has provided an analysis of the potential costs to the District to manage its own recycled water permit with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board. Mr. Paludi reported that the District may choose to contract with SOCWA to continue participation the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP). Discussion occurred concerning certain costs associated with continued membership in SOCWA. Mr. Paludi indicated that he has conveyed to SOCWA staff that this proposed action is purely a business decision.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Dopudja and seconded by Director Acosta to direct the General Manager to (1) negotiate with SOCWA for the District's withdrawal from the JPA, and (2) negotiate with DDB Consultants to pursue an independent recycled water permit and Salt and Nutrient Management Plan.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**ITEM 9: ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY (OCFA) INTEREST IN DISTRICT PROPERTY**

---

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Board consideration, and he mentioned that this matter was discussed with the District Properties Committee. Mr. Paludi provided a brief overview of the proposed Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) facility and the ongoing discussions with OCFA on this matter. Discussion occurred concerning the potential for negotiating a letter of intent and the feasibility of constructing this type of facility on the District's property. The Board of Directors, through President Chadd, directed the General Manager to negotiate with OCFA on the preparation of letter of intent for the acquisition of property for this type of facility, to update the City of

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES | SEPTEMBER 15, 2022**

RSM, and to schedule a Special Board Meeting when this matter is completed and prepared for Board consideration.

**Action:** A motion was made by Director Acosta and seconded by Director Mandich to authorize the authorize the General Manager to negotiate a Letter of Intent with Orange County Fire Authority to evaluate the feasibility of locating a wildland resource facility on District property.  
The motion was approved by a vote of 5 - 0.

**LEGISLATIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER MATTERS**

**ITEM 10: DROUGHT UPDATE**

---

Mr. Paludi provided highlights of the Power point presentation that he had given at the City of Rancho Santa Margarita Council meeting on the impacts of the Statewide drought impacts on local water resources, and the District's responses to the drought.

**Action:** No action was taken

**ITEM 11: LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL AND LEGISLATIVE MATTER(S)**

---

No comments were received.

**Action:** No action was taken

**GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT**

Ms. Collins provided updates on current legislation that has been forwarded to the Governor.

**OTHER INFORMATION/MATTERS**

Mr. Paludi mentioned that District staff proposes changing the start time of the Regular Board Meeting to an earlier time than 7:00 p.m. Discussion occurred concerning Director availability to attend an earlier meeting time. The Board of Directors, through President Chadd, directed District staff to agendize this matter for Board consideration at the October 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting.

Director Acosta suggested changing the time of the Finance/Audit Committee Meeting to 7:00 a.m. Mr. Perea indicated that the time of standing committee meetings is established at the pleasure of the Committee.

**ADDITIONAL DIRECTORS' COMMENTS**

No comments were received.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Chadd adjourned the September 15, 2022, Regular Board Meeting at 8:01 p.m.