

**Linden County Water District
Public Hearing and
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2025**

Directors Present: President Lawrence Knapp, Director Myron Blanton, Director Elaine Reed and Director Douglas E. Smith

Board Secretary Barbara Kascht, General Manager John Villierme and Operations Supervisor Joe Chaves were also in attendance

Directors Absent: Vice President Steven M. Lagorio

Public Comment: Christopher Fredricksen spoke to clarify an incident, which had already been resolved.

Agenda Items:

1. Closed Session as Provided by the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54957, Personnel Matters.

President Larry Knapp announced the following was decided in Closed Session: Joe Chaves will be offered the position of General Manager, which will become effective as soon as John Villierme steps down from that position and Chaves will thereafter assume Step A, General Manager's salary schedule. John Villierme, upon the effective day of his retirement, will be offered the opportunity to work part time at his current hourly wage. Barbara Kascht will receive an annual Cost Of Living Allowance of 3% on July 1, 2025 and Brayden Fredricksen will be offered the position of Operator 1, if he is qualified. (General Manager John Villierme confirmed he is qualified.) According to the step increases, in 90 days, Fredricksen will be making \$23.00 an hour. After one year, as Operator 1, he will be making \$24.00 an hour. Myron Blanton moved to approve the personnel matters, seconded by Elaine Reed. **AYES:** 4 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 1 Motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. County Funds Interest Rate. Barbara Kascht presented information on the interest rate earned on District funds held at San Joaquin County. The annualized yield was 4.47% as of December 31, 2024.

3. OLD BUSINESS

a. Front & Ione Street Water Main Replacement Project. General Manager John Villierme reported that project increases and decreases came out about the same and it was decided to call it even. Payment will be made to Campbell Construction for everything except the retention. Slurry will be done at a later time, depending on the weather. Villierme to confirm actual date.

- b. Sustainable Groundwater Management.** Director Myron Blanton advised there was no meeting held in March.
- c. Water Loss.** General Manager John Villierme and Operations Supervisor Joe Chaves have determined that the booster pumps and well pump meter are right in line with each other, so they do not feel there is a meter problem. Down to about 10% water loss, which is normal. Unmetered fire lines at the school, walnut factory and R&B, as well as fire department usage and District flushing could account for the 10%. All known leaks have been repaired.
- d. District Succession Planning.** President Larry Knapp asked Joe Chaves to give his answer regarding the General Manager position by the next Board meeting.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

Doug Smith moved to approve the consent calendar as follows:

- a. Minutes – February 20, 2025
- b. Warrant Listing
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Operations Reports
- e. Compliance Log
- f. Correspondence
- g. Water Usage Reports

seconded by Myron Blanton. **AYES:** 4 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 1 Motion carried.

5. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.