

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2021
DISTRICT OFFICE

ROLL CALL:

Meeting called to order at 5:03 P.M by Board President Rodriguez. Those in attendance: Board President Rodriguez, Director Peranick, Director Mackey, Director Baroni, Michael Slater, Jason Franklin and JoAnn Vierra. Also in attendance: Amanda Castro/Interim Board Member applicant, and Robert Bagdasarian/ Interim Board Member applicant.

CONSENT CALENDAR: NONE

PUBLIC ADDRESS: NONE

PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

6.1 Interim Board Member Applicants were introduced. The Board proposed, and both applicants agreed, that the applicants would step out to allow the Board some discussion, after which time each applicant would address the Board and answer questions. Ms. Castro was called in first, and stated that she's currently interning with LAFCO & plans to remain there through Fall 2021. She stated that her long-term goal is to obtain employment on the Planning Commission with the City of Fresno & that she is currently in her final year of study at Fresno State University. In addition, she stated that she has lived in the District for 2 years as a tenant and is interested in water conservation methods and equitability when it comes to the issue of rates. Ms. Castro stepped out & Mr. Bagdasarian appeared before the Board. He stated that he had been a Pharmacist & is familiar with microbiology & understands the dynamics of clean water. He is the owner of the Kern River Winery, which is considered a small water district, and he is responsible for water testing & operations. He has served on other boards i.e., State Center Community College, Sanger Unified School District, UOP/Stockton, CA. He owns rental properties and is familiar with water meter operations. Regarding future sustainability, he states that he believes Fresno will need to follow the plan that was adopted recently in Temecula, CA, where landscaping is being changed to drought-tolerant plants & trees. He belongs to a farm coalition that's charged with not reducing the water table, and toward that end he has installed drip irrigation to reduce water consumption & hybrid grass that uses less water. He farms sustainably. Regarding equality vs. equity when it comes to water use, Mr. Bagdasarian stated that while equality is nice, the customers who are using more water should be paying for that usage. He stipulated that a gradual rate increase would be more beneficial than a huge increase at once. Ms. Castro was called back in to the office.

Director Peranick motioned to nominate Robert Bagdasarian to fill the vacant seat; Director Mackey seconded. Voting commenced, as follows:

Director Peranick: Yes

Director Rodriguez: No

Director Baroni: No

Director Mackey: No

Director Baroni motioned to nominate Amanda Castro to fill the vacant seat; Director Mackey seconded.

Voting commenced, as follows:

Director Baroni: Yes

Director Mackey: Yes

Director Peranick: No

Director Rodriguez: Yes

Amanda Castro was then nominated to fill the vacant seat on the Board, by a vote of 3-1 in favor.

Director Mackey motioned to accept Resolution 2021-1 appointing Amanda Castro to fill the vacant position on the Board of Directors. Director Peranick seconded the motion. Vote was as follows:

Director Mackey: Yes

Director Peranick: Yes

Director Baroni: Yes

Director Rodriguez: Yes

Resolution 2021-1 was passed, with 4 in favor, none opposed & none absent.

The Board thanked Mr. Bagdasarian for his time, and he departed the meeting.

Board Secretary, JoAnn Vierra, administered the Oath of Office to Amanda Castro.

DEFERRED BUSINESS: NONE

MANAGER’S REPORT: NONE

ENGINEER’S REPORT: NONE

ATTORNEY’S REPORT: NONE

DIRECTOR’S REPORTS: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: 6:15 p.m.

APPROVED BY :

DAVID RODRIGUEZ
BOARD PRESIDENT

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

JOANN VIERRA
DISTRICT SECRETARY