

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, June 6, 2024**

1. OPEN SESSION

President Ludecke opened the regularly scheduled Board meeting at 1:00 PM at the Big Bear Municipal Water District located at 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 on Thursday June 6, 2024.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Ludecke, President
Bob Rehfuß, Director
Craig Brewster, Vice President
Mark Lee, Director
Tom Bradford, Director

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice President Brewster

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No comments from public in attendance.

4. REPORTS

A. Interim General Manager, Brittany Lamson, introduced Travis Scott, Monique Rangel and John Jackson from Visit Big Bear (VBB) as they delivered a check towards fish donations! Monique from VBB explained that the stocking has been great for the Fishin' for \$50K because people are leaving with fish. The District is beyond grateful for their \$50,000 donation! This will be the third year in a row the VBB organization has graciously donated this money to the District and the community for fish stocking.

Director Bradford asked if this has shown an increase in peoples stays, Monique explained they have some data, but current year data would be available maybe two weeks after the event, but they have sold out the last couple years which is 700 entrants so it's pretty huge.

Ms. Lamson thanked VBB for this donation again. She continued, one of our ramp attendants caught a zebra mussel boat on Monday which is a great catch, so we have that boat impounded, and will complete a training on how to properly acid wash the boat for our maintenance crew and a couple other WIT III level certificate holders within the District. These were zebra mussels, and it was a great find. Director Rehfuß had a couple questions about the WID system and how quickly the surrounding lakes will be notified about this boat. Mr. Stephenson explained that once the inspection was complete, that day, it goes into the tablet and would be available instantly to other organizations using the system. Lastly, the Annual Carp Round-Up is next weekend and we hope to see you there!

B. Chief Operations Officer, Mike Stephenson, reported the lake level 4.12", we are starting to see it go down. Our release got ramped up because there is less precipitation so that needs to be

adjusted. However, we are still seeing some side flows. This is why our new system is so important, we will be able to monitor in the office and it will have a much better internal system that all talks together and will be more accurate than ever before.

C. Director Rehfuss spoke about the Ad Hoc Committee meeting with Mayor Melnick and Counselman Herrick from the City about the relationships between all the agencies locally and the continued cooperation from everyone. President Ludecke spoke the Administrative committee meeting which was just a status update for possible new GM set for the agenda next meeting.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on May 16, 2024.
- B. Minutes of a Special Meeting on May 22, 2024.
- C. Warrant list dated 5/31/2024 in the amount of \$101,709.21.
- D. Policy 2024-01 "District Vehicle Use Policy".

Discussion:

President Ludecke wanted to pull item D for discussion in item 8.

With a motion made by Vice President Brewster, and seconded by Director Bradford, the consent calendar, with the removal of item D to be moved to business item 8 was approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

6. BUSINESS

A. Board will have a recommendation regarding Resolution 2024-03 FY 25 Compensation Scales Exhibit A (Full-Time Employees) and Exhibit B (Seasonal Employees).

Discussion:

Ms. Lamson explained that the COLA ended up being 3.5% so the scales you see are elevated by that, these are not instant raises, just increases to earning potential if a merit increase is warranted based on our annual review system. Director Rehfuss asked what last years was, Ms. Lamson said 5%, but actual COLA was just over 7%, but we are capped at 5% per our admin code.

With a motion made by Vice President Brewster, and seconded by Director Rehfuss, Resolution 2024-03 FY 25 Compensation Scales Exhibit A (Full-Time Employees) and Exhibit B (Seasonal Employees) were approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

B. Board will have a recommendation regarding the season long (June – August) invasive species control tournament/ incentive program outline.

Discussion:

Ms. Lamson explained the program would run Monday – Friday 7am-3:30pm, MWD staff would need to be present during the count and on the weekend, a patroller would have to be present during 12-1 and 4-5 to count. Anything outside of these hours would not be eligible. Director Reh fuss and Ludecke were concerned that this would be taking away a patroller for lake safety, which is true, but we would not be able to count on weekends if those staff were not utilized. We need to keep all the counts at the main office. Director Bradford asked about a bin at the east ramp and having the ramp attendants counting, but Ms. Lamson explained that the smell and amount of public at the ramps, it would not be a good idea. All our carp hunters know the bin is in the back of our shop and transporting of the disposal bin is another issue. It does not make sense at this time. Director Reh fuss wants to keep track of staff time and prizes and see if its worth it next year, he is concerned about the amount of staff time this program will take for the amount of increase in fish we see. We would like to start this after the week after carp tournament, Vice President Brewster thinks we should wait until the Monday after the carp to start anything.

Loren Hafen in favor of the carp program, what about bringing back the cost per tail, thinks it a great idea. He also asked about if marinas could offer awards for those who bring in fish. Since they are a private business, you could offer what they want.

With a motion made by Director Reh fuss, and seconded by Director Lee, season long (June – August) invasive species control tournament/ incentive program, “Countin’ Carp” outline was approved unanimously:

AYES: Ludecke, Reh fuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

C. Second Draft Budget FY 2024-25 Review & Discussion.

Discussion:

Ms. Lamson discussed the small changes that were made to the budget since the last meeting. all managers were added to the second page, our organizational chart was updated to reflect a more accurate flow which includes an Assistant GM position, previously Office Manager/ Board Sec/ Executive Asst. President Ludecke agreed it’s much easier to understand than the previous one. The CalPERS employer funded portion was updated. Boat permit fee revenue was increased to \$600,000 only because quagga fee is no longer separated out, it’s just one line item now. Removed language which discussed hatchery operations. Updated the Bear Valley Dam Repair to update the dam resurfacing language and where we are now. The Fish Fund description had a typo, it said, ‘Fish Fun’ instead of ‘Fish Fund’, so that was corrected. The compensation plan resolutions which were approved today will also be updated with the new resolutions. No further comments or requests from the Board were made.

No vote needed, review and information only.

8. Items removed from Consent Calendar

President Ludecke asked to address this prior to the closed session, Board agreed.

President Ludecke wanted to pull the policy for a minor change, would like to see it as an Employee Vehicle Use Policy instead of 'District' vehicle use policy because the GM will have other terms and conditions outlined in a contract that might differ from the general policy as a contract employee. Also, removing GM language from the policy. Lastly, clarify the line which states who take a vehicle home. Add "those assigned to..." to on that first page, last paragraph. Director Rehfuss asked why we are implementing a rule that we changed last year? President Ludecke explained the policy is to have our manager take cars home because they are all on call all the time which the previous one did not allow so they ended up using their personal vehicles too much for work.

With a motion made by Director Rehfuss, and seconded by Vice President Brewster, the Vehicle Policy, which changes outlined previous, was approved unanimously:

AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

7. CLOSED SESSION

A. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Discussion of employee pursuant to government code 54957(b): Title: General Manager

President Ludecke asked for public comment before going into closed session. Loren Hafen explained the new Tiki Tour Boat was launched over at Gray's Marina and will be operating this year. Tours will be approximately 15- 20 people and should be a great time.

Closed session began at 2:19PM.

Reconvened to open session at 3:55.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

10. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

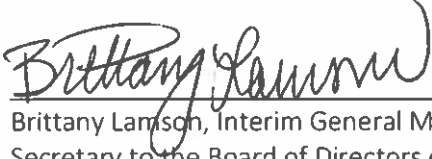
None.

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:57 PM.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Date: June 20, 2024
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
Time: 1:00 PM



Brittany Lamson, Interim General Manager
Secretary to the Board of Directors of
Big Bear Municipal Water District

[SEAL]

