

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, November 7, 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 November 7, 2024.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mike Stephenson

3. PUBLIC FORUM

President Ludecke wanted to congratulate Director Bradford and Director Lee for their successful campaign run, congrats to you both.

Dan Gulbranson, a resident of Big Bear Valley, hopes Trump doesn't get assassinated before the 20th. He is also concerned about the behavior of the City Manager toward staff and that the Board is not going to the City meetings.

4. REPORTS

A. Jared Cheek, General Manager, reported we had an administrative committee meeting, which will be covered in the agenda. He attended the Candidate Forum; the Chamber did a nice job pulling that together. He also completed a CSDA financial workshop webinar, had some great information over a two-day course. He also attended the State of the City meeting that was held at the zoo last Friday. Counsel was updating the public on capital projects. As far as operations here are concerned, we are going into the winter season, East Ramp will remain open, weather permitting until Nov 30. We have a meeting with our consultant next week to get going on the downstream side of the dam. We also had a kick-off meeting with the new website group, Streamline, to start that transition. Lastly, we also met with VBB about having them assist with our annual Shoreline Clean-Up kickoff event.

Director Rehfuss asked about what we could be doing to bring more people on. Mr. Cheek explained what the VBB offered to help with the event, which would bring in more folks and groups with more marketing through their team.

B. Mike Stephenson, Chief Operating Officer, reported our current release requirements is 1.10 CFS, were looking at 1.12 CFS as of earlier this afternoon. Our new SCADA system is fully

operational. Even if we go out of compliance the program will auto adjust to ensure compliance. We are going to monitor how much water we save since the install with being able to monitor by such precise increments now. President Ludecke asked about temp and evaporation that we have seen this season. Mr. Stephenson explained that it was a direct correlation, more evaporation this year on the same surface, but we experienced more heat and more wind than last year.

C. Vice President Brewster spoke about the admin committee, explained most items were on the agenda, but wanted to talk about the fire contract for water use, we did not want to bill for this. Counsel Lemieux explained that there is no legal agreement that they must pay for utility use. Director Reh fuss comments, this is another great demonstration that we are a great partner to the community, and we want to help this community for the best.

Mr. Cheek explained, as the incident happens, they will now just be sending a contract to use the water, but we do not want to get in the way of them getting water.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on October 3, 2024.

B. Warrant List dated 11/1/2024 in the amount of \$480,865.71.

Discussion:

No comments were made.

With a motion made by Director Reh fuss, and seconded by Director Lee, the consent calendar, was approved unanimously:

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

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

6. BUSINESS

A. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (DIRECTORS LUDECKE & BREWSTER) RECOMMENDS GEI CHANGE ORDER #2 FOR TASK ORDER #7, (SPECIAL USE LAUNCH RAMP & DEEPENING PROJECT) FOR ADDITIONAL SERVICES INCORPORATING ADDITIONAL CULTURAL DETAILS INTO THE ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT BEFORE RECIRCULATING, NOT TO EXCEED \$17,861 FOR FULL BOARD DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

Discussion:

Mr. Cheek started, we work with GEI as our on-call engineer, this change order is specific to our special use launch ramp which would be on the back side of the building. We received a couple comments back from tribal/cultural and environmental groups. This effort will be to recirculate the document which includes the addition of those comments to show they were considered and acknowledged.

Public comment:

Dan Gulbranson, requesting Directors to look at every word, do we have to do an environmental document to remove dirt? President Ludecke confirmed, yes, we do.

With a motion made by Vice President Brewster, and seconded by Director Bradford, the change order for Task Order # 7, Special Use Boat Launch Ramp and Deepening Project, was approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

B. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (DIRECTORS LUDECKE & BREWSTER) RECOMMENDS POLICY 2024-03, SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AND VEHICLE DISPOSAL POLICY, FOR FULL BOARD DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

Discussion:

Mr. Cheek presented a draft formal policy for surplus vehicle and equipment disposal. This outlines a couple of different ways on how we can get rid of this stuff. This establishes going forward what options we have to get rid of this.

Director Rehfuss asked about the \$500 threshold before going to the Board, that seems pretty low for a lot of the stuff we have; should we make it higher? Mr. Cheek said that amount was pretty consistent with many other agencies.

President Ludecke asked about the items that are already ready to go now; like the two dump trucks and older dodge truck? Mr. Cheek said we will have to bring back a list and you guys approve

With a motion made by Director Bradford, and seconded by Director Lee, Policy 2024-03 "Surplus Equipment and Vehicle Disposal Policy, was approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

C. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (DIRECTORS LUDECKE & BREWSTER) RECOMMENDS ENTERING INTO A LAND USE AGREEMENT WITH MOUNTAIN TRANSIT FOR A NEW BUS STOP STRUCTURE TO BE BUILT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY ALONG LAKEVIEW DRIVE FOR FULL BOARD DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

Discussion:

Mr. Cheek explained the District was approached by Sandy Benson, the General Manager of Mountain Transit, about an existing bus stop on the street. There is no bus stop sign, but that is a spot. They would like to build a nice shelter style stop near our sign, but we think it's best to move it down the street closer to our property line to the west. Sandy said if there are any issues, they will remove the structure. Everything is done under Mountain Transit.

The Board would like to make sure Counsel reviews a formalized contract before moving forward, after that they are fine with it.

Public Comment:

Dan Gulbranson, that's a dangerous corner, is there going to be a cut out for the bus? Thinks we should give them more property to include a turnout to keep people safe.

Jeff Cooper, a resident of the Valley, asked if the ground is stable enough to hold that, knowing that there were some issues on our back vacant lot? Mr. Stephenson confirmed yes, and it will be part of their construction approval.

Mr. Stephenson continued; free transportation is a gift to this Valley.

With a motion made by Director Bradford, and seconded by Director Rehfuss, the new Mountain Transit bus stop structure on Lakeview Dr pending formal agreement review, was approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

D. THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE (DIRECTORS LUDECKE & BREWSTER) RECOMMENDS LOOKING INTO A REFUND WITH SPECTRUM REGARDING THE HARDWIRED INTERNET CONNECTION AND CONSTRUCTION AT THE EAST LAUNCH RAMP FACILITIES FOR FULL BOARD DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

Discussion:

Mr. Cheek explained that last October we entered into an agreement with Spectrum to get a hardline for internet at our East Ramp to improve our permit sale system. To get this, we paid them 47K to get the line in. We have continuously checked in and the project has been pushed out every two months. Including last month. They have had our money for a year now, with no progress. We would like you all to consider a refund for this effort.

President Ludecke asked if you (Jared) have called and asked the steps for the refund? Mr. Cheek responded, this is still on the books now, we are also looking into an alternative service.

Director Rehfuss asked about using something more remote that does not require to "batch" live, but once it comes into Wi-Fi again. Ms. Lamson responded that was an upgrade we implemented this year, which was a huge help with the speed of sales. However, we are still in need of livestream for our security cameras.

Public comment:

Dan Gulbranson said Spectrum is a pain. He has a Frontier hard line and it's not good either. It's a real problem. Suggests Counsel send a letter to the company.

With a motion made by Director Bradford, and seconded by Director Lee, the refund request from Spectrum in the full amount for unfinished work, was approved unanimously:
AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

N/A

8. CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation - Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b): One Case.

COUNSEL COMMENT: Just a reminder, the Attorney General of California put in to order in 1995 that a government body can prohibit a member of the public from commenting to something outside the body of the government jurisdiction.

Mr. Gulbranson stated that the City just cost this Valley \$75K in their last lawsuit, so let's not have another one of this here.

With no other comments, President Ludecke closed the regular session into closed session at 1:57PM.

REPORT: Counsel Lemieux reported that the board met on one item, Anticipated Litigation – Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to § 54956.9(b): One Case and there was no reportable action.

President Ludecke reconvened to open session at 2:17PM

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Ludecke asked for any announcements, Mr. Cheek stated the office would be closed for Veteran's Day on Monday.

Ms. Lamson wanted to make this comment while Mr. Gulbranson was still in the room, but the comment is still important. She wanted to thank Mr. Gulbranson for his concern on inappropriate comments that were made to her, but to say this Board has done nothing about it, is not right or accurate; this Board has had my back with whatever action I felt appropriate to take against the incident that happened many months ago. The appropriate people were notified of the incident, the Board stood behind me and supported me, so to say they are not doing anything about it, is not true. They did act when the incident was relevant, and I want to say thank you for your continued support.

10. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Vice President Brewster wanted to follow up on the VBB lake education video and would like to bring that up at the marina task force meeting next week. Lastly, he wanted us to reach out to more home-schooled groups that were not aware of the KOOL kid's event. Ms. Lamson agreed but would need their contact information for next year.

Director Bradford wanted to thank all the people that voted in the Valley, and he is happy to be here serving. Thanks to the board and support.

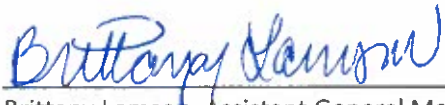
Director Lee echoed those remarks, same thanks for the support and couldn't believe how many votes came in.

11. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Date: November 21, 2024
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
Time: 1:00 PM



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

[SEAL]