

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting

Thermalito Water and Sewer District
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
April 16, 2024 – 2:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Koch at 2:00 pm

1.1 Flag Salute

Manager Boucher led the flag salute.

1.2 Roll Call

Present were President Koch, Vice President Hatley Directors Taggart, Wristen and Clark. Also present were Attorney McClure, Office Manager Padilla, Engineer Heindell and Manager Boucher.

2. PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Michael Whipple was present to speak on Agenda Item 5.1.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

3.1 Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on March 19, 2024

3.2 Financial Statement – Delayed

3.3 Water Warrants – Check Number 20898-20956 Total \$585,403.85

Water LAIF Deposit - \$15,720.97

Water LAIF Withdrawal - \$230,000.00

Sewer Warrants – Check Number 7466-7472 Total \$278,866.28

Sewer LAIF Deposit - \$20,279.03

Health Reimb Account – Check Number 2997-2999 Total \$326.95

3.4 Superintendent's Monthly Report of Maintenance and Operations and Solar Power Generation for March 2024

It was moved by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Taggart to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried.

4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS

5.1 Statewide Community Infrastructure Program

Michael Whipple from Development Financial Advisory stated that he works with home builders and land developers to assist with project feasibility, specifically related to infrastructure financing. He reviewed over two new programs that are being offered throughout the state.

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- The Statewide Community Infrastructure Program (SCIP) is a tax-exempt financing program offered through the California Statewide Communities Development Authority (CSCDA) which can be used by developers to finance public infrastructure, facilities and impact fees. Any City/County Special District can participate in SCIP to which provides local agencies the means to offer competitive financing to all developers as a turnkey solution.
- Bond Opportunities for Land Development (BOLD) is a financing program offered by the California Municipal Financing Authority (CMFA) that allows for the financing of public infrastructure and impact fees for development projects. Any public agency can participate in the BOLD program, which offers low-cost, tax-exempt financing for development projects.

The programs would be available to use as an economic development tool to finance those types of public improvements that are being created by the project. He mentioned that there is no cost to the District. The request would be that the District become a member of these two JPA's and adopt the programs. The Board mentioned that they will discuss this item and will be in contact. No action was taken.

5.2 Switching from BMO to Golden Valley Bank

Office Manager Padilla mentioned that the District currently maintains accounts at BMO Bank. Golden Valley Bank has contacted the District to see if they can be of service. Office Manager Padilla has met with the representatives at Golden Valley Bank and has found that a more beneficial banking relationship can be achieved at the Oroville branch of Golden Valley Bank. Motion made by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously carried to approve Resolution 01-24 Authorizing and Directing transfer of Accounts between Financial Institutions. Roll call was taken.

5.3 Proposal for Drafting Services

Engineer Heindel presented a Proposal for Drafting Services in the amount not to exceed \$7,500.00 from W. Gilbert Engineering. He mentioned that W. Gilbert Engineering would be using the existing CAD files and as-built plans supplied by TWSD to prepare CAD files showing the locations of the existing water and sewer facilities. Motion made by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Taggart and unanimously carried to approve the Proposal for Drafting Services by W. Gilbert Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00.

6. WATER BUSINESS

6.1 Water Loss Audit Validation Proposal

Engineer Heindell presented a proposal from Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers in an amount not to exceed \$9,100.00 for the validation of the Thermalito Water and Sewer District Water Audits from 2019–2023. He mentioned that urban water suppliers with 3,000 service connections or that supply greater than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually are required to submit a Validated Water Audit to DWR on an annual basis. He mentioned that in the future, the water audit can be completed by an in-house utility worker and validated by an in-house certified validator. Motion made by Director Taggart, seconded by Director Hatley and unanimously carried to approve the proposal submitted by Luhdorff & Scalmanini in an amount not to exceed \$9,100.00 and that funds to cover the cost will be pulled from the LAIF Reserve Account.

7. ATTORNEY REPORT

The State Board issued two alternatives in their environmental document. One is called the unimpaired flows, and the other alternative is the voluntary agreement. The voluntary agreement that has been shrouded in secrecy for four years or so was finally made public to the State Board. No decision by the State Board will be made until next year at the earliest.

Vina GSA has adopted a flat rate Prop218 charge for their GSA. The Cattlemen's Association challenged that flat fee. Basically, if it's dry pasture, it's not proportional to charge the same per acre feet that a guy who's pumping groundwater to grow walnuts. That litigation has been filed. It's progressing to what's called the demur stage. So that is the public agency has taken the position that even if you accept all the things that cattlemen are saying are true, as a matter of law, they can't prevail. That's really being driven by some big landowners, guys that own 30,000 acres, they're paying the Cattlemen's Association to be the name on the complaint, but no decision yet.

8. SEWER BUSINESS

8.1 SC-OR Report

Commissioner Koch reviewed the March 26, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Sewerage Commission – Oroville Region.

- The new primary sewage pump station should have been tested and turned over to SC-OR.
- The Board approved the agreement between Butte County and SC-OR regarding the funding for Phase I of the upgrade.

- Roof replacement for the main control building has been approved. Original bid came in at \$230,000, Went with All Covered Roofing which came in at \$126,000.
- SC-OR is working with TWSD on receiving two of the vessels.

9. **WYANDOTTE CREEK GSA**

9.1 **Wyandotte Creek GSA Report**

Engineer Heindell mentioned that the Subrecipient Agreement for the grant funding between DWR and the Wyandotte Creek GSA have been approved. He mentioned that when the District originally applied for the grant funding, the cut-off date was January 1, 2022. He mentioned that the District was funded in the second round of grant funding which had a cut-off date of October 1, 2022. Cost incurred for the Treatment Plant Expansion Project started in July 2022. There are negotiations to see if DWR is going to be able to reimburse the cost from July to October 2022. He mentioned that he has requested a variance.

10. **MANAGER REPORT**

Nelson & 4th Street Pipeline Replacement Project: Engineer Heindell reported that he and crew members, Ryan, Joel and Austin started working with the contractors doing project work in two different locations. They started around 7:30pm Thursday and finished around 11:00am Friday. He mentioned that there have been a few mishaps with wrong parts being sent and material that did not show up and had to be tracked down. The project is moving forward and hopefully will be completed by May 1st.

11. **HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

None

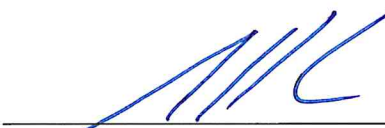
12. **BOARD COMMENTS**

None

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm.


Secretary of the Board


President of the Board