



**BEAUMONT-CHERRY VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**  
560 Magnolia Avenue, Beaumont, CA 92223

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

*Meeting held via teleconference pursuant to  
California Government Code Section 54950 et. seq. and under the  
provisions of Assembly Bill 361 and BCVWD Resolution 2022-02*

**Call to Order:** *President Williams opened the meeting at 6:01 p.m.*

*Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Hoffman.*

*Invocation was given by Director Slawson.*

**Announcement of Teleconference Participation**

Director of Finance and Administrative Services Kirene Manini, PhD clarified that this meeting is conducted via teleconference pursuant to California Government Code Section 54953, and under the provisions of AB 361.

**Roll Call:**

Directors present:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez (6:06 p.m.), Slawson, Williams
Directors absent:	None
Staff present:	General Manager Dan Jagers Director of Engineering Mark Swanson Director of Finance and Administrative Services Kirene Manini, PhD Director of Operations James Bean Human Resources Coordinator Sabrina Foley Director of Information Technology Robert Rasha Senior Accountant Sylvia Molina Administrative Assistant Cenica Smith
Legal Counsel	James Markman

Members of the public who registered attendance: Chander Letulle, Fabian Valdez, Jr., Nisha Wade, Larry Smith, Brian Fox.

**Public Comment:** None.

**1. Adjustments to the Agenda:** None.

## 2. Consent Calendar:

*The following Consent Calendar items were approved with one motion:*

- a. Review of the December 2021 Budget Variance Reports
- b. Review of the December 31, 2021 Cash/Investment Balance Report
- c. Review of Check Register for the Month of January 2022
- d. Review of January 2022 Invoices Pending Approval
- e. Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 11, 2022
- f. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2022
- g. Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 25, 2022
- h. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 27, 2022
- i. Resolution 2022-02 Authorizing Public Meetings to be Held via Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e) and Making Findings and Determinations Regarding the Same
- j. Employment and Occupancy Agreements for District Residences

MOVED: Covington	SECONDED: Slawson	APPROVED 5-0
AYES:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

## 3. PUBLIC HEARING NO. 1 - U.S. Census 2020 / Redistricting Possible Realignment of Director Division Boundaries per Water Code 21605 and Elections Code 22000

General Manager Jagers detailed the public hearing process and advised of the availability of draft maps on the District's website. He noted that there are two additional public hearings scheduled.

Dr. Manini provided the Secretary's Report and advised that no public comments had been received.

Mr. Fabian Valdez Jr., of Redistricting Insights, refreshed the Board on the current divisions, presented five map versions as a starting point, and requested feedback. Given the total current population, each division should have 11,968 persons, with an acceptable deviation of 5 percent greater or fewer, he explained, and advised the Board of current division population status.

In response to a comment by General Manager Jagers, Mr. Valdez explained that the divisions on the map are numbered arbitrarily, and can be numbered as chosen by the Board. After the Board determines a final map, Redistricting Insights will produce a deferral report which compares changes of persons from one division to another, with the goal to assure that no voters are disenfranchised. In the case of boundaries drawn that include an elected director in a division represented by another elected director, that director may resign and run for the new seat, or may serve out the term, he explained. Mr. Markman added legal principles: it cannot be a major objective to preserve elected Board members in their current districts.

Director Ramirez asked if there is a recommendation for term limits for the Board members. Mr. Valdez clarified that he was referring to the end of an elected four-year term, and referred to legal counsel. Mr. Markman advised this has nothing to do with term limits, and explained that if two directors are redistricted into one division, one may lose years from their terms of office as they cannot run again in their prior division.

Director Covington recalled the prior presentation in September 2021 and asked if retaining the current boundaries pushed the District out of the 10 percent allowable deviation. Mr. Valdez indicated that if left as is, the total deviation would be around 57 percent. He reviewed the division analysis and explained redistricting concepts.

Director Slawson pointed to current ongoing development. Valdez indicated that the law allows only the use of Census data, not anticipated development, but divisions can be over- or under-populated within the 10 percent deviation. Slawson stated that he believed the numbers should be as close as possible and said he would like to see the boundaries with cleaner lines that do not appear gerrymandered. He also suggested making considerations for areas where building is known to be occurring now or in the future.

Jaggers observed that development in the division 4 shown on the map has been ongoing. Director Slawson indicated his priorities were 1) population numbers, 2) not looking gerrymandered, and 3) consideration toward current or future development.

Director Ramirez agreed with Slawson regarding the population range. He offered input and noted it seems like in most scenarios the neighborhoods such as Noble Creek share the same park, entrances and drainage system but are divided.

Staff did not direct the divisional boundary activities, Jaggers assured the Board. The exercise is intended to be as organic as possible for the Board members to determine policy, he said.

Valdez requested feedback and asked if there were any maps that were not acceptable. Director Covington indicated it is premature to determine, as on the maps presented the streets cannot be seen. Valdez indicated he would tidy the boundaries as requested and present more detail at the next meeting. He advised the Board of the location of maps which can be enlarged to see more detail. Jaggers pointed to the location of detailed maps and advised that links are on the website.

In response to President Williams' request to apply division numbers to the correct voting bloc, Mr. Jaggers suggested re-ordering the division numbers to correlate with current alignment. Mr. Valdez indicated that a report can be generated to allocate division numbers by the population.

President Williams opened the Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m. and invited public comment. There was none. The Hearing was closed at 7:15 p.m.

General Manager Jaggers summarized next steps. Mr. Valdez reiterated the changes to be made on the maps.

Director Covington reiterated the existing division boundaries and said he would like to see efforts made to correlate those division boundaries as closely as possible to what they currently are, with the understanding that the threshold of the task must be met. He also concurred with the suggestion that it would be unfair to the voters to move directors out of their respective divisions for which they ran and were elected, and requested that be one of the common goals to accomplish within the redistricting laws.

Covington recommended narrowing the choice of draft maps to three scenarios. He said he would like to see the maps in advance of the Board meeting and to be able to use the mapping tool to look at the streets defining the boundaries. Trying to not reinvent the wheel, he continued, and hit the threshold of the law is what should be the goal; not trying to move directors out of their divisions, which creates a catastrophic mess for the district. Director Hoffman concurred.

President Williams reiterated the maximum of three maps, and suggested limiting to the bottom three (3, 4 and 5) which have the lowest rate of deviation.

Mr. Valdez asked for clarification on retirement of map options 1 and 2. President Williams clarified that there was no Board action taken.

**4. Acceptance of Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA JPIA) President's Special Recognition Awards**

Human Resources Coordinator Sabrina Foley reminded the Board about the District's insurance coverage with ACWA JPIA and explained the District's awards for loss ratio less than 20 percent in workers compensation, and liability and property programs.

Director Covington noted this is not the first time for these awards. President Williams and Director Slawson commended staff.

General Manager Jagers noted that in 2019, the Board emphasized safety for staff, and a conscious effort has been made to progress, including Board commitment of funds to achieve the goals.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

**5. Resolution 2022-03 Rescinding Temporary Regulations Regarding Customer Account Billing and Collections Related to Reinstatement of Service Disconnections Waived during the District Local Emergency under Resolution 2020-09**

General Manager Jagers provided a brief background on the District's compliance with COVID-19 laws including the State's moratorium on water service disconnections. The temporary regulation expired on December 31, 2021 and the District received some grant funding to cover customer arrearages, Jagers continued. Staff has worked to bring those accounts current, and also provided a period of time for those ratepayers to reach out to the District to pay their balance or to make payment arrangements prior to reinstatement of shutoffs.

This resolution rescinds the temporary regulation related to service disconnections as waived during the District local emergency under resolution 2020-09, Jagers explained.

Dr. Manini added that those accounts that qualified for the arrearages program received a letter and if there was a remaining balance, were offered a payment plan option. Should the Board adopt this resolution, the cutoff period would begin March 1.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

Director Ramirez commended the Board for being sensitive to the pandemic and trying to make the right moves on behalf of the ratepayers. It does seem time to consider rescinding the temporary regulation unless there is overwhelming evidence to the contrary, he stated.

*The Board adopted Resolution 2022-03 Rescinding Temporary Regulations Regarding Customer Account Billing and Collections Related to Service Disconnections as Waived during the District Local Emergency under Resolution 2020-09 by the following roll-call vote:*

MOVED: Covington	SECONDED: Slawson	APPROVED 5-0
AYES:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

## **6. Revenues and Expenses Related to District Residences in Relation to the Approved Employment and Occupancy Agreements**

General Manager Jagers briefly reviewed the informational report. He noted that a portion of the activities identified in Table 3 may contain the security deposits retained. This report will be periodically presented to the Board, he noted.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

In response to Director Covington, Mr. Jagers clarified that the totals in Table 1 do not yet include the roof repair at the residences as those funds have not yet been expended. Table 3 shows anticipated expenses of \$89,000 for that work, he noted.

## **7. Grant Activity Quarterly Update**

General Manager Jagers advised that the Automatic Meter Read / Advanced Metering Infrastructure project is ongoing. A slowdown has been experienced due to the inability to obtain parts in a timely fashion, but as of December 31, 2021 the project is approximately 68 percent complete.

A future report will include the Master Drainage Plan Line 16 project reimbursement, he said.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

Director Covington asked if the District had applied for any of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding. Mr. Jagers indicated that it is being pursued and there may be opportunities for the District. Mr. Swanson added detail regarding funding opportunities and District project fit.

In response to Covington, Mr. Jagers replied that the previously engaged grant writing contract expired in October and reminded that the Request for Proposal (RFP) has been released. He assured the Board that staff is being proactive. Covington pointed out that Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act money is already rolling out via Federal departments, and requested staff peruse the funding opportunities.

Mr. Jagers pointed out that the San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) members are working collaboratively to communicate opportunities.

Director Covington advised that there is also money coming from the Department of Water Resources related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for plan implementation, and suggested the SGPWA investigate opportunities that would benefit the District.

Mr. Chander Letulle director of the SGPWA thanked Director Covington and assured that he will be sharing grant information with the SGPWA general manager. He advised there will be a lot of applications for the funding.

#### **8. Selection of Consultant for the Design and Engineering Services for the “B” Line Pipeline Replacement Project**

Director of Engineering Mark Swanson explained the location of the existing pipeline and noted staff's recommendation for consultant Cozad & Fox, Inc. The 3,000 lineal feet of 10” riveted steel pipeline frequently requires repair, and the Apple Fire exacerbated the issue, he advised.

Staff proposed to replace it with new pipeline in a new alignment in the road centerline for minimum impact, Swanson explained. He detailed the RFP procedure and scoring, and reminded the Board that four proposal packages were received in January. The Capital Improvement Plan budget includes \$2.1 million for consulting and construction, he noted.

General Manager Jagers advised that staff has reassessed the project as it was described several years ago. He described additional considerations for value-engineering on the sizing of the pipeline.

Jagers also noted that the Noble Tank project is substantially complete from a consultant level. Staff is working on securing the encroachment permits through Riverside County in order to bid the project.

President Williams invited public comment. Mr. Brian Fox of Cozad & Fox advised the Board that his staff has reviewed the project including looking at Edgar Canyon and the road, and it appears to be a straightforward project. They will try to get the pipeline into the access road while avoiding the tree canopies and roots, and pointed out there are few utilities there and mostly no paved road.

Director Slawson asked about sizing of the pipeline. Mr. Swanson indicated that the 20" lines had been replaced within the last 20 to 25 years and are in relatively good condition and had been envisioned back then. Today's demands with fire flow and other requirements, may warrant a 12" or 14" line, but staff must finish the analysis. Jagers added that previously there may not have been significant analysis regarding the needs of the community.

Jagers also explained that part of the design process will include consideration of other materials.

Director Covington concurred with Slawson's concerns about differences in pipeline sizes and noted it makes more sense to install what might be a little beyond the maximum demand out of the canyon as well as what can be pushed back up, to try to stay under 10 cfs. He recommended use of ductile iron as opposed to high density polyethylene (HDPE).

Mr. Jagers identified that this was the line broken by firefighting equipment during the Apple Fire in the fall of 2020.

*The Board authorized the General Manager to negotiate the final project engineering scope of services and subsequent execution of a Professional Services Agreement with Cozad & Fox, Inc., for design and engineering services for the "B" Line Pipeline Replacement Project in a not to exceed amount of \$132,000.00 (\$119,984.00 for services and 10 percent approximate contingency of \$12,016.00) by the following roll-call vote:*

MOVED: Ramirez	SECONDED: Slawson	APPROVED 5-0
AYES:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams	
NOES:	None	
ABSTAIN:	None	
ABSENT:	None	

#### **9. Riverside Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Call for Nominations for a Special District Member**

General Manager Jagers briefed the Board on the LAFCO process. He noted that Director Hoffman had indicated interest in the past. Director Hoffman pointed out that his BCVWD elected term ends December, 2022.

Director Covington nominated Director David Hoffman. Director Ramirez seconded the nomination, and Director Hoffman accepted the nomination.

General Manager Jagers directed staff to prepare the nomination form and submit it to LAFCO.

#### **10. Consideration of Attendance at Upcoming Events and Authorization of Reimbursement and Per Diem**

General Manager Jagers reviewed new events. Directors indicated interest in attending the following:

**11. Continued Review of Anticipated California Drought Conditions, District Urban Water Management Plan Drought Restrictions and BCVWD Resolution 2014-05 Regarding Issuance of Will-Serve Letters and Other Drought Response**

General Manager Jagers commented on the dry January and indicated that as the warmer months approach there will be more information for discussion. He said he will be discussing water deliveries for 2022 and sharing knowledge about maintenance activities for the SGPWA ponds.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

**12. Status of Local Emergency regarding the Impact of the Respiratory Illness Pandemic COVID-19 pursuant to Resolution 2020-07**

Mr. Jagers reported that COVID-19 case numbers have fallen significantly and target level staffing at the office this week is 50 percent. The doors have been re-opened to the public. Staffing will increase as numbers continue to trend downward.

The Governor today signed a 2022 order to provide employees of any employer of 25 or larger to provide 40 hours of sick leave for COVID-related activities, retroactive to the first of the year, Jagers advised. Mr. Markman added that it is effective immediately and further explained the details.

Director Covington advised that he is ready to return to in-person Board meetings. Mr. Jagers added that the mask mandate expires next week, and supported the hybrid meeting approach starting with the Engineering Workshop on Feb. 24.

Via consensus, the Board directed staff to resume in-person meetings starting with the Special Meeting slated for February 23, 2022.

President Williams invited public comment. There was none.

**13. Status of Declared Local Emergencies related to Fires**

**a. Impact of the Apple Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-17**

**b. Impact of the El Dorado Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-20**

Mr. Jagers advised that staff has some assessment to do on the pipeline that became exposed during the mud and debris flow events during December. He advised that discussion will be brought regarding obtaining some consulting work in collaboration with Riverside County Flood Control and Riverside County Transportation for recommendations on how to best protect the line.

The work will continue as it rains, Jagers said.



#### **14. Reports For Discussion**

a. Ad Hoc Committees:

Communications Committee: The February Communications Committee meeting was suspended until next week.

Sites Reservoir Committee: Mr. Jagers said he had reached out to Mr. Eckhart regarding an update to the Board on the Sites Reservoir.

Water Re-Use 2x2: Mr. Jagers reported that he had a lengthy conversation with Beaumont City Manager Todd Parton, who indicated that work had progressed on master planning and committee meetings may resume in March.

b. Directors' Reports:

President Williams reported attending the following:

- CSDA Virtual Workshop on Board Member Best Practices on Feb. 2 and 3

c. Directors' General Comments: None.

d. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Jagers reported that maintenance activities are continuing. The roof of the Highland Springs booster station was rebuilt, the structure has been painted, and security lights have been added. Further report and photos will be shared at the Engineering Workshop.

Further RFPs are being developed for various activities to robustly move projects forward, he said.

Jagers reiterated the near-term push to pursue grant opportunities and focus on the classification and compensation studies.

e. Legal Counsel Report:

Mr. James Markman advised that the DWR and State Water Contractors are having a briefing on Sites Reservoir at 3:30 p.m. on March 2.

#### **15. Action List for Future Meetings:**

- Water supply for BCVWD and the region
- Matrix for delivery of recycled water
- Legal Counsel report on changes in Proposition 218
- Legal update on drought conditions in the west
- Maintenance costs at 800-hp well sites

## 16. Announcements

*President Williams read the following announcements:*

- Personnel Committee Meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
- District offices will be closed Monday, Feb. 21, 2022 in observance of Presidents Day
- Special Board Meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
- Engineering Workshop: Thursday, Feb. 24, 2022 at 6 p.m.
- Collaborative Agencies Meeting: Wednesday, Mar. 2, 2022 at 5 p.m.
- Finance and Audit Committee Meeting: Thursday, Mar. 3, 2022 at 3 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, Mar. 9, 2022 at 6 p.m.


President Williams advised that she will not attend the Finance and Audit Committee meeting on March 3. Director Covington will attend as the alternate.


General Manager Jagers highlighted the Special Meeting on February 23 and the Ad Hoc Communications Committee on February 16.

## 17. Adjournment

*President Williams adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.*

ATTEST:

  
Director Lona Williams, President  
to the Board of Directors of the  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

  
Director David Hoffman, Secretary  
to the Board of Directors of the  
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District