



**LESJWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 24, 2023**

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Dale Welty, Chair, City of Canyon Lake
Robert Magee, Vice Chair, City of Lake Elsinore
Andy Morris, Secretary-Treasurer, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Brenda Dennstedt, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside [arrived at 4:05]

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None.

**ALTERNATE DIRECTORS
PRESENT; NON-VOTING**

None.

STAFF PRESENT

Edina Goode, Jeff Mosher, Mark Norton, Rachel Gray, Rick Whetsel,
Zyanya Ramirez

OTHERS PRESENT

Liselle DeGrave, DeGrave Communications, Parag Kalaria,
EVMWD, Cory Gorham, City of Canyon Lake, Nicole Dailey, City of
Canyon Lake, T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA

The Special Board of Directors meeting of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority (LESJWA) was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chair Welty on behalf of the Lake Elsinore & San Jacinto Watersheds Authority, 31315 Chaney Street, Lake Elsinore, CA 92530.

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. ROLL CALL

An oral roll call was duly noted and recorded by the Clerk of the Board.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ray Stinnett, a member of the public, stated for the record that Mark Norton is a very good man. There were no other public comments.

4. ITEMS TO BE ADDED OR DELETED

There were no items to be added or deleted.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

B. TREASURER'S REPORT: JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

C. TMDL TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 15, 2023 | MARCH 28, 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

D. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT JANUARY 23, 2023 AND MARCH 27, 2023

Recommendation: Approve as posted.

MOVED, to approve the Consent Calendar as posted.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Dennstedt/Morris |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | Spiegel |

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **FUNDING AGREEMENT AMENDMENT #2 WITH RCFC&WCD (LES#2023.03)**

Director Spiegel arrived at the commencement of Agenda Item 6.A.

Mark Norton stated that in 2015 and 2017, LESJWA and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFC&WCD) executed a funding agreement with amendments so that RCFC&WCD will provide LESJWA with \$20,000 per fiscal year to assist with as much of the MS4 compliance activities associated with the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake (LE/CL) TMDL compliance. The parties request to amend the agreement to extend the term period for an additional five (5) years to address NPDES MS4 Permit requirements for Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore.

The Board was very appreciative of RCFC&WCD's contributions.

MOVED, to approve Funding Agreement Amendment #2 with RCFC&WCD which authorizes support for the implementation and administration of watershed programs for Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake through the end of FY 2027-28.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Morris/Dennstedt |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | Spiegel |

B. **LESJWA ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (LES#2023.04)**

At the February 16, 2023 LESJWA Board meeting, staff was instructed to present three (3) administrative support options for LESJWA, including one option involving SAWPA. There was expressed interest that the other two (2) potential administration entities for LESJWA be the City of Lake Elsinore and the County of Riverside.

Staff contacted both entities; they were provided with resources to examine the budgetary costs and the feasibility of either entity taking over the role of authority administrator. Both entities indicated that they support SAWPA as the administrative authority for LESJWA due to its institutional knowledge and cost efficiency. SAWPA's General Manager, Jeff Mosher, indicated that SAWPA is well suited to continue this role.

Vice Chair Magee expressed his disappointment with the approach and the lack of formal interaction with both entities. Furthermore, he perceived that Lake Elsinore was not receiving as much care as Canyon Lake. He added that there is a need for a lake expert in Lake Elsinore to manage the Lake's water clarity and toxin levels.

Chair Welty validated his concerns and added SAWPA's experience with multi-beneficial watershed-wide collaborations and water expertise is what LESJWA needs to combat these issues. He emphasized the importance of engaging in comprehensive discussion on this topic, particularly with regard to pursuing additional funding. He highlighted that financial considerations often play a significant role in addressing these matters.

Director Dennstedt emphasized the equitable allocation of efforts towards assisting both lakes. She reported that the search for funding is underway, and projects aimed at finding solutions for both lakes are currently in progress. She also noted that specific steps and milestones must be met to ensure successful outcomes for these initiatives.

MOVED, to approve continuing support of LESJWA administration using SAWPA staff for the next two budget cycles (four fiscal years); and if desired, direct staff to prepare an agreement between SAWPA and LESJWA for SAWPA's role as the JPA administrator for approval at a future Board meeting.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Dennstedt/Morris |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Morris, Spiegel, Welty |
| Nays: | Magee |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

C. LESJWA FYE 2024 AND 2025 BUDGET (LES#2023.05)

Mark Norton presented the FYE 2024 and 2025 LESJWA Budget, which listed existing projects, studies, and administrative costs associated with operating LESJWA and implementing TMDL projects. Vice Chair Magee stated for the record that several years back the Board waived their stipends to use those funds for water quality control program.

It was noted that the Lake Elsinore Aeration Systems is currently functioning properly, but the designed useful life is approaching its end, and will require attention soon. Additionally, two of the three island wells are no longer operational, and the third one is also nearing the end of its serviceable life.

MOVED, to approve the FYE 2024 and 2025 LESJWA budget and invoice each LESJWA member agency and RCFC&WCD at the start of the new fiscal year based on contribution levels as reflected in the budget.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Magee/Dennstedt |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Spiegel, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

D. LESJWA BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE/WORKPLAN/STRATEGIC PLAN OPTIONS (LES#2023.06)

This item was requested by the Board of Directors at the February 17, 2023, LESJWA Board meeting. It was noted that the LESJWA Business Plan was drafted nearly nine (9) years ago, and it was suggested that a work plan be created to provide focus and direction for the LESJWA Board. It was the consensus of the Board to have staff meet with each Director

individually to gather their perspectives on strategic priorities for the updated version of the LESJWA Business Plan.

Director Dennstedt highlighted that LESJWA's actions are constrained by new regulations and unfunded mandates. She proposed discussing LESJWA's stance on certain legislation to mitigate the impacts of unfunded mandates by the State.

MOVED, to discuss options on whether to update the LESJWA Business Plan to reflect strategic priorities or possibly develop a new workplan that provides focus and direction for the LESJWA Board; and direct staff to update the 2014 LESJWA Business Plan and include strategic priorities reflecting feedback of LESJWA Board members, LE/CL TMDL Task Force consultants and staff.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Magee/Dennstedt |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Spiegel, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

E. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH CONSULTANT SUPPORT (LES#2023.07)

Mark Norton provided an overview of DeGrave Communications' outreach efforts since 2020 and indicated that the three (3) year task order with DeGrave Communications Inc. would be coming to an end on June 30, 2023.

The LESJWA Education and Outreach Committee has determined that DeGrave Communications, Inc. has met the needs of LESJWA and recommend the sole source award be made to continue with DeGrave Communications Inc. and reduce administrative costs of issuing a new Request for Proposals.

Liselle DeGrave, President of Degrave Communications, presented a PowerPoint summarizing their work and upcoming events for LESJWA's education and outreach. The Board of Directors asked that a Twitter and Instagram account be included in the proposal. Ms. DeGrave agreed to reach out to the LESJWA Education and Outreach Committee to strategically reallocate resources to stay within the budget proposed to be able to incorporate Twitter and Instagram to LESJWA's outreach efforts. She added that both platforms are considered effective communication tools when addressing management concerns, especially in emergencies.

Vice Chair Magee asked that DeGrave Communications be more present at Lake Elsinore events.

MOVED, to approve the General Services Agreement and Task Order No. DEGR477-06 with DeGrave Communications, Inc. for an amount not-to-exceed \$87,900 for the LESJWA Education and Outreach for Fiscal Years 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Magee/Morris |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Spiegel, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

F. REGULATORY AND FACILITATOR SUPPORT FOR LAKE ELSINORE AND CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE (LES#2023.08)

Mark Norton provided a verbal report... Tess Dunham has been the regulatory and facilitator support for the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force since August 2019. Her current Task Order will be expiring and the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force (Task Force) is recommending a new task order which reflects continued support by Ms. Dunham for the next two (2) fiscal years.

Mr. Norton presented Ms. Dunham's cost estimates for the FY 2023-24 and 2024-25. The work for updating the TMDL and preparing for the Basin Plan Amendment will take place in 2023-24, which explains the cost decrease in 2024-25 as there will be no allocation for those tasks during that fiscal year.

MOVED, to approve the General Services Agreement and Task Order KSC160-03 with Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP in the amount not-to-exceed \$ 136,000 (\$74,000 for FY 2023-24 and \$62,000 for FY 2024-25) to continue to provide strategic and regulatory support for the Lake Elsinore & Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Magee/Morris |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Spiegel Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

G. ADOPT RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF MARK R. NORTON

Rachel Gray provided a verbal report commending Mark Norton for his 30-plus years of service within the watershed and region. Ms. Gray provided a list of accomplishments and projects that have had a positive contribution to LESJWA.

The Directors thanked Mr. Norton for his years of leadership and dedication and wished him well as he begins his next chapter of retirement. Mr. Norton thanked the board.

MOVED, to adopt Resolution No. 2023-01 recognizing Mark R. Norton who is retiring as Special Projects Manager of SAWPA and Authority Administrator of LESJWA, concluding a career in public service spanning more than 32 years.

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| Result: | Adopted by Roll Call Vote |
| Motion/Second: | Dennstedt/Morris |
| Ayes: | Dennstedt, Magee, Morris, Speigel, Welty |
| Nays: | None |
| Abstentions: | None |
| Absent: | None |

7. ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

There were no Administrator's comments.

8. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

There were no Director's comments.

9. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

10. ADJOURNMENT

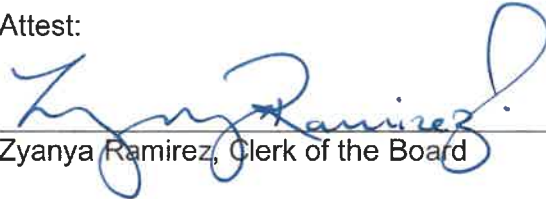
There being no further business for review, Chair Dale Welty adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

**Approved at a Regular Meeting of the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority
Board of Directors on Thursday, August 17, 2023.**



Dale Welty, Chair

Attest:



Zyanya Ramirez, Clerk of the Board