



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

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

*Meeting held in person at 560 Magnolia Ave., Beaumont, CA
pursuant to California Government Code Section 54950 et. seq.*

Call to Order: *President Covington opened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.*

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Williams.

Invocation was given by Director Hoffman.

**Announcement and Verification of Remote Meeting Participation Pursuant to
AB 2449 or GC 54953(b)**

No Board members were attending via teleconference.

Roll Call:

Directors present:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams
Directors absent:	None
Staff present:	General Manager Dan Jiggers Director of Engineering Mark Swanson Director of Operations James Bean Director of Information Technology Robert Rasha Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Sylvia Molina Human Resources Manager Ren Berioso Finance Manager Bill Clayton Customer Service Supervisor Sandra Delgadillo Development Services Technician Lily Tienda Water Utility Superintendent Julian Herrera Water Utility Worker I Joshua Rogers Executive Assistant Lynda Kerney
Legal Counsel	James Markman

Members of the public who registered attendance: Nico; Robert Vestal of the City of Beaumont; Larry Smith of the San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency; and Nyles O'Harra of Yucaipa Valley Water District.

Public Comment: None.

1. Adjustments to the Agenda: None.

2. Reports / Presentations / Information Items

Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Sylvia Molina provided an oral report on item 2a.

The Board received and filed the following report:

- a. Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. Monthly Update*
- by the following roll-call vote:*

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

3. Consent Calendar

Consent Calendar items 3a through 3g were approved with one motion by the following roll-call vote:

- a. Review of the February 2024 Budget Variance Reports*
- b. Review of the February 29, 2024 Cash/Investment Balance Report*
- c. Review of Check Register for the Month of March 2024*
- d. Review of March 2024 Invoices Pending Approval*
- e. Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2024*
- f. Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 13, 2024*
- g. Status of Declared Local Emergencies Related to Fires*
 - i. Impact of the Apple Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-17*
 - ii. Impact of the El Dorado Fire pursuant to Resolution 2020-20*

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

4. Consideration of a Professional Services Agreement with Water Resources Economics, LLC for the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District’s Multi-Year Cost of Service Study, and associated Proposition 218 costs

Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Sylvia Molina reminded that the last multi-year Cost of Services Study was performed in 2019 by Raffelis. Staff prepared a Request for Proposal and received only two responses. Water Resources Economics (WRE) was selected based on scoring, she noted, and emphasized the importance of partnering with a thorough and detail-oriented vendor due to the following challenges the District is facing:

- State mandated “Making Conservation a California Way of Life” with SB606 and AB1668

- State mandated electric fleet requirements under the California Air Resources Board Advanced Clean Fleet Rules
- State mandated Chromium 6 impacts, from Prop 65 and State Water Resources Control Board consideration of 10 MCLs next week
- State Mandated Water Service Inventory requirements from SB 1398, which was amended by SB427 in 2017
- Increased pavement rehabilitation costs within the City
- Recycled water implementation
- New replacement and/or relocation of District pipelines and/or facilities to support the City's CIP items such as the Pennsylvania Grade Separation and Widening project, ADA sidewalk project, and pavement moratorium
- Pass-through charges related to potential increased costs for imported water
- Pass-through charges related to changing Southern California Edison rates for electricity

President Covington added concerns with:

- Lead in the pipelines
- PFAS requirements

Ms. Molina summarized the scope of work and qualifications of WRE. General Manager Dan Jagers acknowledged the unknowns such as the grade separation project and noted that the San Geronio Pass Water Agency is expecting an increase in imported water rates. The pass-through fees cannot be adjusted unless the rate study is in effect, he added, and the District's current rates expire at the beginning of 2025. He provided additional details on anticipated expenses.

In response to President Covington, Mr. Jagers confirmed that the prior rate study included the cost of recycled water as required by the City.

In response to Director Ramirez, Ms. Molina indicated that Raftelis produced the previous study and is continuing to work on the District's Capacity Charges study. Staff considered the potential for consistency in consultants but based on the WRE proposal's inclusion of greater communication, public outreach, and the regional assistance with other agencies, WRE was chosen. Mr. Jagers added that WRE is also working with SGPWA and one of the WRE principals is a past Raftelis employee, so there is some familiarity. As long as they are responsive and show performance, Ramirez said, he was in support.

Director Williams asked about the Prop. 218 compliance costs, and if it would be helpful if CV Strategies was used for some outreach. Ms. Molina indicated that this money was set aside in the budget specifically for the Prop. 218 notices.

The Board authorized the General Manager to execute a Professional Services Agreement with Water Resources Economics, LLC. (WRE) for the Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District 2024 Multi-Year Cost of Service Study (Rate Study) in an amount not to exceed \$107,340 with 10 percent contingency of \$10,734 for a total not to exceed amount of \$118,074, and authorized and appropriated funds in the amount of \$118,074 for completion of the Rate Study by WRE, and appropriated additional budgeted funds of \$25,000 for District costs associated with

Proposition 218 compliance for a total of \$143,074 by the following roll-call vote:

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

5. Resolution 2024-06 Amending the District's Policies and Procedures Manual
a. Policy 2015 Harassment
b. Policy 3151 Personal Vehicle Usage
c. Policy 3170 Smoke Free Workplace and Tobacco Use
d. Policy 3220 Recruitment, Selection and Onboarding

Human Resources Manager Ren Berioso presented the policy revisions as recommended by the Personnel Committee. President Covington explained that the Personnel Committee had vetted the policies, and legal counsel had reviewed them.

a. Policy 2015 Harassment

Mr. Berioso explained that most changes to Policy 2015 were related to compliance with new law.

b. Policy 3151 Personal Vehicle Usage

This policy replaces Section 38. Mr. Berioso pointed to the added sections on safety and reimbursable expenses.

c. Policy 3170 Smoke Free Workplace and Tobacco Use

Part I Sections 40 and 41 are combined into a single policy to avoid redundancy, Mr. Berioso advised. It clarifies that the District will support smoking cessation.

d. Policy 3220 Recruitment, Selection, and Onboarding

Mr. Berioso identified the replacement of Section 51 with the revised policy, focused on improved processes, guidelines of the California Fair Chance Act, and Senate Bill 700 (cannabis use).

Director Williams expressed concern for BCVWD worker safety and asked for clarification on SB 700 requirements, and Mr. Berioso responded with additional detail and an example of reasonable suspicion. Director of Operations James Bean explained the District is concerned with the presence of cannabis in any form, as the District is under the federal Department of Transportation safety sensitive program, which dictates compliance and provides zero tolerance. Director Slawson commented on the process, and Mr. Berioso explained pre-employment testing. Mr. Jagers added he believed the law would be further refined.

President Covington invited public comment. There was none.

The Board adopted Resolution 2024-06: Amending the District's Policies and Procedures Manual Revising Policy 2015 Harassment, and Replacing Part I Section 38 Personal Vehicle Usage, Section 40 Tobacco Use, Section 41 Smoke Free Workplace, and Section 51 Recruitment / Selection and On-Boarding with Policy Nos. 3151, 3170 and 3220 by the following roll-call vote:

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

6. Consideration of Attendance at Upcoming Events and Authorization of Reimbursement and Per Diem

Directors indicated interest in the following events:

- California Special Districts Association (CSDA) webinar: Initiative 1935 Could Retroactively Invalidate Your Revenue on Apr. 22 – Williams, Hoffman, Slawson, Ramirez
- Association of California Water Agencies / California Data Collaborative virtual event: Budget Based Water Rates on Apr. 25 – Williams
- Association of California Water Agencies Spring Conference May 7-9 – Williams (maybe), Ramirez (already registered), Covington, Slawson
- Beaumont Chamber of Commerce Breakfast on May 10 – Hoffman, Slawson, Williams
- Building Industry Association of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties – Inland Empire Economic Update on May 16, 2024 – Slawson, Williams
- CSDA Virtual Workshop: Overview of Special District Laws on June 5 and 6 – Williams (maybe), Ramirez
- CSDA webinar: Demystifying LAFCOs on Aug. 13 – Williams (already registered), Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson

7. Reports For Discussion and Possible Action

a. Ad Hoc Committees:

Communications Committee: No report

Sites Reservoir: Mr. Jagers reported there has been a lot of movement on the project. Metropolitan Water District is moving toward refining agreements.

Bogart Park: Mr. Jagers advised that he met with the Beaumont Recreation and Park District General Manager at the Noble Tank site regarding planned work. He also looked at the kiosk area and asked for information. Park elements were discussed including the proposed equestrian trail. He advised the BCVRPD GM that project is not within the purview of the District at this time, but further discussion may be upcoming

regarding the Bogart Park lease agreement. Covington recommended the lease agreement come back to a work session to refamiliarize the Board with milestones that were agreed upon in 2017-18, along with an update about what has been constructed. The 99-year park lease expires in approximately 2032, but the County exited the agreement more quickly than expected, Jagers noted, and recommended a meeting of the Ad Hoc Bogart Park Committee.

Water Re-Use 3x2: Director Slawson reported that the meeting which included only elected officials was productive with understanding that all want what is best for Beaumont and its residents. Another meeting will take place on April 18, followed by a meeting to include staff. The City has hired a consultant as an expert on their side.

b. Directors' Reports:

- ACWA: Groundwater State Committee Meeting on March 14, 2024 (Williams)
- Ethics AB 1234 Training on March 21, 2024 (Covington)
- San Gorgonio Pass Water Alliance Meeting on March 27, 2024 (Slawson)
- Riverside County Water Task Force Meeting on March 29, 2024 (Slawson)
- San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Meeting on April 1, 2024 (Slawson)

c. Directors' General Comments: None.

d. General Manager's Report:

Mr. Jagers reported:

- The SGPWA 2024 water supply portfolio:
 - Available water supply anticipated for this year is 22,900 af
 - SGPWA is targeting delivery of 20,000 af this year
- By the end of 2024, BCVWD water supply in storage will probably be at a balance of three to four years
- Met with City Manager Elizabeth Gibbs and Director of Public Works Robert Vesal about the Well 1A and 2A flushing and encroachment project, indicating the application would be resubmitted. It appears there is a concept that allows for the agencies to mutually support each other but had been waiting for schedule information from the well drilling contractor. It appears that Well 1A can be done, but 2A will require some logistics to be refined
- The 3040 pressure zone pipeline (Noble Tank pipeline) project, an ARPA-funded project, is out to bid, but funding is of concern
- Draft documents for the B Line project are assembled, and the tank will be done next
- The City's blanket encroachment permit agreement is on the GM's desk. Legal counsel Markman has returned and will make sure that it is sent back with the best clarity to move it forward

- Notice was received from the City about an element of encroachment permits related to standard trench pavement drawing was not completed. Jagers requested a meeting with the City. It sounds like it can be worked though during the blanket encroachment permit activity. The District is addressing the issue. There have been 182 encroachment permits over the last three years and the estimated repair totals approximately \$1.1 billion
 - Mr. Vestal addressed the Board at the invitation of President Covington. He said the City is here to work with District staff and realizes that the previous requirements may be a little overbearing or could be overbearing on this scale
 - Mr. Jagers noted that the District has been working with the City regarding the fire station and some near-term construction activities
 - Thanked Ms. Gibbs and Mr. Vestal for having a receptive mindset to the District's concerns
 - President Covington commented that all are serving the same customers and expectations are to find resolution at the staff level; moving forward recognizing and serving both parties' interests. Customers expect a working relationship between the public agencies. The resolution must be of benefit to the citizens of Beaumont

e. Legal Counsel Report: Mr. Markman indicated he is well and happy to be back.

8. Topic List for Future Meetings:

- Update / Presentation on the AMR/AMI project
- Presentation on the San Bernardino Valley Resource Conservation District
- Presentation on solar power opportunities
- Sites Reservoir update
- Revision of policies related to expenses and travel
- Engineering and Operations Center

9. Announcements

President Covington pointed out the announcements:

- Personnel Committee meeting: Tuesday, Apr. 16 at 5:30 p.m.
- Beaumont Basin Watermaster special meeting: Wednesday, Apr. 17 at 11 a.m.
- Engineering Workshop: Thursday, Apr. 25 at 6 p.m.
- Collaborative Agencies Committee: Wednesday, May 1 at 5 p.m.
- Finance & Audit Committee meeting: Thursday, May 2 at 3 p.m.
- Regular Board meeting: Wednesday, May 8 at 6 p.m.
- San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance: Wednesday, May 22 at 5 p.m.

President Covington advised he would not attend the April 25 Engineering Workshop.

10. Recess to Closed Session

President Covington announced the following item and adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 7:40 p.m.

- a. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.8
Property: APNs 408-080-009, 408-080-010, 408-080,011, 480-080-012
Agency Negotiator: Dan Jagers, General Manager
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

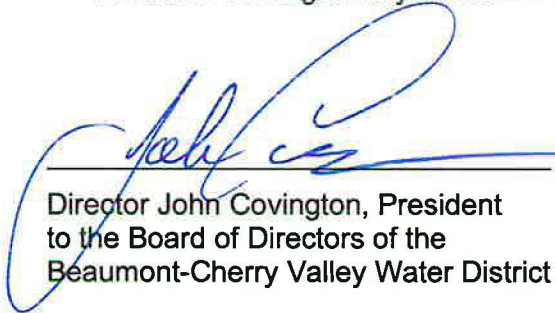
Reconvened in Open Session at 7:58 p.m.

11. Report on Action Taken During Closed Session

President Covington announced that no reportable action was taken.

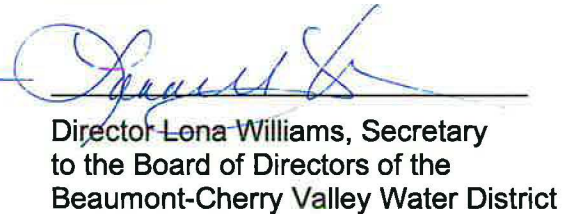
12. Adjournment

President Covington adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.



Director John Covington, President
to the Board of Directors of the
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District

ATTEST:



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