



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

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
Wednesday, September 18, 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.*

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**Call to Order:** *President Covington opened the meeting at 6:04 p.m.*

*Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Covington.*

*Invocation was given by Director Slawson.*

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

*Director Ramirez was in attendance via teleconference from a posted location*

**Roll Call:**

Directors present:	Covington, Hoffman, Ramirez, Slawson, Williams
Directors absent:	None
Staff present:	General Manager Dan Jagers Director of Engineering Mark Swanson Director of Information Technology Robert Rasha Director of Operations James Bean Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Sylvia Molina Human Resources Manager Ren Berioso Water Utility Superintendent Julian Herrera Engineering Assistant Evan Ward Engineering Assistant Khalid Sebai Development Services Technician Lilian Tienda Executive Assistant Lynda Kerney
Legal Counsel	James Markman

Members of the public who registered attendance: None.

**Public Comment:** None.

**1. Adjustments to the Agenda**

*General Manager Jagers requested President Covington table Item 11 – two  
Closed Session topics.*

## 2. Reports / Presentations / Information Items

Staff responded to director questions about the following items:

- a. Grant Opportunities: Assistant Director of Finance and Administration Sylvia Molina shared that Townsend Public Affairs provided updates on potential grants, including those related to water infrastructure and cybersecurity. Director Ramirez requested ongoing updates on grants in progress
- b. Legislative Action and Issues Update: Director Williams inquired about the District's advocacy actions regarding Senate Bill 399 and Assembly Bill 2561. General Manager Jagers confirmed that while no letters had been submitted, recommendations would be forthcoming. Director Williams emphasized the importance of completing the CSDA advocacy priority survey to ensure the District's legislative concerns are represented. President Covington highlighted the legislative insights provided by Townsend's report, and noted its depth in covering current issues affecting the district
- d. California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Committee Involvement: Director Williams expressed her interest in serving on the CSDA Legislative and Elections & Bylaws Committees

*The Board directed General Manager Dan Jagers to submit letters of opposition to the following legislation:*

- SB 399 Employer communications: intimidation
- AB 2561 Local public employees: vacant positions
- AB 2182 Public Works
- SB 937 Development related fees
- SB 830 Public Works

*by the following roll-call vote:*

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

*The Board received and filed the following reports:*

- a. Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. Legislative Session Overview
- b. Legislative Action and Issues Update
- c. California Water Supply Conditions and Water Issues
- d. California Special Districts Association Opportunities for Involvement: Committees and Expert Teams
- e. Update: Revenues and Expenses Related to District Residences

*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	

**3. Consent Calendar**

*Consent Calendar items 3a, 3c, 3d and 3e were approved with one motion by the following roll-call vote:*

- a. *Review of the July 2024 Budget Variance Reports*
- c. *Review of Check Register for the Month of July 2024*
- d. *Review of August 2024 Invoices Pending Approval*
- e. *Minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2024*

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

Director Ramirez sought clarification on item 3b (Cash/Investment Balance Report). Assistant Director Molina explained that the \$366,000 reduction was due to lower deposits compared to outgoing payments, and provided updated market and book values for transparency.

*Consent Calendar item 3b Review of the July 31, 2024 Cash/Investment Balance Report was approved by the following roll-call vote:*

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

**4. Resolution 2024-14 Amending the District’s Policies and Procedures Manual Part I and Part III**

a.	Policy 3130	Employee Training, Education, and Conferences
b.	Policy 3175	Disciplinary Actions or Terminations
c.	Policy 5005	Emergency Preparedness
d.	Policy 5020	Environmental Health and Safety Program

Human Resources Manager Ren Berioso presented each policy’s purpose and changes. Legal counsel’s recommendations were incorporated, ensuring compliance with state laws and district standards. Highlights included modernized travel policies under Policy 3130, updated emergency response protocols under Policy 5005, and expanded whistleblower protections under Policy 5020.

*The Board adopted Resolution 2024-14 Amending the District Policies and Procedures Manual Part I and Part III by the following roll-call vote:*

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

**5. Authorize Additional Funds for Design Engineering and Construction Services for the Replacement of Wells 1A and 2A**

General Manager Jagers and Director of Engineering Mark Swanson presented the request for an additional \$54,000, necessary to account for increased engineering and contingency costs since the original 2017 contract with Thomas Harder and Associates. The increase supports the District’s goal of covering inflationary cost adjustments while keeping funds readily available.

*The Board authorized the General Manager to expend an additional \$54,000.00 for the design engineering and construction services for Replacement Well nos. 1A and 2A (CIP Projects W-2750-0001 and W-2750-0005) 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	

**6. Resolution 2024-15 Acceptance of an Easement for District Facilities on behalf of BCVWD for an area located on Highland Springs Avenue**

Director of Engineering Mark Swanson presented the background and necessity for the easement on APN 419-150-026, explaining that recent construction for a Highland Springs Avenue car wash and adjacent development revealed a large, shallow storm drain box that was not initially identified on engineering plans. This discovery required adjustments to the district’s pipeline installation. The district’s pipeline needed to cross under the storm drain box, and after consulting with the Division of Drinking Water, staff determined that a reinforced pipeline encased in a steel sleeve would be necessary to ensure both the district’s facilities and the storm drain were adequately protected. The proposed easement would grant the district access to maintain and repair the pipeline, should issues arise in the future.

*The Board adopted Resolution 2024-15 approving, authorizing and directing staff to accept an Easement for District-owned water facilities once approved by the applicant, M3K Highland by the following roll-call vote:*

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

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

Directors indicated interest in the following events:

DATE	EVENT	COVINGTON	HOFFMAN	RAMIREZ	SLAWSON	WILLIAMS
Sept 19	Beaumont Chamber State of the City dinner	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Sept 25-26	CSDA Virtual Workshop: Finance	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Sept 25	ACWA CLE Workshop: General Counsel Role Part 1		MAYBE	YES		
Sept 26	ACWA webinar: Drinking Water Contaminants	YES	YES	YES		
Oct. 2	ACWA CLE Workshop: General Counsel Role Part 2		MAYBE	YES		
Oct. 3	Institute for Local Government webinar: Brown Act basics			YES	YES	YES
Oct. 4	ACWA Region 9 event			YES	YES	YES
Oct. 4	Riv Co Water Task Force	YES		YES	YES	YES
Oct. 8	CSDA Workshop: Overview of Special District Laws					
Oct. 11	Beaumont Chamber Breakfast	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES
Oct. 30	WEF Annual Water Summit (Sacramento)	NO	NO	NO	MAYBE	MAYBE
Nov 3-6	CSDA Special District Leadership Academy					MAYBE
Dec 3-5	ACWA 2024 Fall Conference			YES	YES	YES

**8. Reports For Discussion and Possible Action**

a. Ad Hoc Committees:

- i. Communications Committee: No report
- ii. Sites Reservoir: General Manager Jaggars reported ongoing permitting activities and environmental compliance matters
- iii. Bogart Park General Manager Jaggars shared that updates would resume post-election, when committee assignments may change.

- iv. Water Re-Use 3x2: The City is preparing a term sheet to define water reuse initiatives, expected to be shared with the district soon.
- b. Directors' Reports:
- i. Beaumont City Council Meeting on September 3, 2024 (Covington, Hoffman, Slawson)
  - ii. San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency Meeting on September 9, 2024 (Slawson)
  - iii. CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase on September 9-12, 2024 (Slawson, Williams)
  - iv. Beaumont Chamber Breakfast on September 13, 2024 (Hoffman, Slawson, Williams)
- c. Directors' General Comments: Directors thanked staff for their efforts and acknowledged upcoming engagements.
- d. General Manager's Report:
- Mr. Jagers reported:
- Well 1A and 2A Replacement Project: Construction start was delayed to avoid interference with city storm drain work. Alternative routing for temporary water flow is under review to mitigate risks during the project.
  - First Amendment Rights audits: Staff will be increasing "Authorized Personnel Only" signage at district facilities to address recent legal guidelines on managing public access.
  - Public Utility Security Concerns: Due to heightened risk warnings from federal agencies, the district is reviewing security protocols to protect utility infrastructure from potential threats, particularly during election cycles.
  - Elm Street Pipeline Project: The pipeline installation on Elm Street is complete, including repaving. Staff reports that the project was cost-effective and came in under budget.
  - 12th and Palm Field Office Renovations: Significant progress has been made on the field office at 12th and Palm, with drywall installation scheduled and office layouts completed for additional workspace.
  - B-Line Project (ARPA Funded): Bids for the B-line project are expected next week. Staff anticipates bringing the bid results to the Board for approval in October, in line with ARPA funding deadlines.
  - Cherry Pipeline Project: This pipeline project is expected to begin soon, pending final permit approval. The pipeline will connect from Dutton to near the Noble Tank and is a key infrastructure enhancement.
  - Encroachment Permits and Paving: The district has initiated payment for encroachment permits, which will allow it to proceed with essential street paving and patching work throughout the service area at significantly reduced rates.
- e. Legal Counsel Report: None.

## 9. Topic List for Future Meetings

	Item requested	Date of request	Requester
A	Update / presentation on the AMR / AMI project	12/14/22	
B	Presentation on the San Bernardino Valley Resource Conservation District	7/13/22	
C	Presentation on solar power opportunities	12/14/22	Ramirez
D	Sites Reservoir update	2/23/23	
E	Report on water theft (October 2024)	3/13/24	Hoffman
F	Operations Center update		

## 10. Announcements

*President Covington pointed out the announcements:*

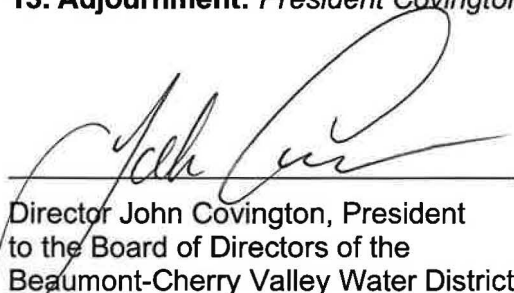
- Personnel Committee meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 5:30 p.m.
- San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance: Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 5 p.m.
- Engineering Workshop: Thursday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m.
- Beaumont Basin Watermaster Committee: Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 11 a.m.
- Finance & Audit Committee meeting: Thursday, Oct. 3 at 3 p.m.
- Regular Board meeting: Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 6 p.m.
- Finance & Audit Committee special meeting: Thursday, Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. (pending)


**11. Closed Session:** *President Covington tabled this item at the request of staff.*

- 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
- b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Paragraph (2) of subdivision (C) of Government Code § 54956.9  
One case concerning claim of Draper 26, LLC for reimbursement of costs of water infrastructure

**12. Report on Action Taken During Closed Session:** *There was no closed session.*

**13. Adjournment:** *President Covington adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.*

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

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