

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, January 18, 2024**

1. OPEN SESSION

President Ludecke opened the regularly scheduled Board meeting at 1:00 PM at the Big Bear Municipal Water District located at 40524 Lakeview Drive, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 on Thursday January 18, 2024.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Steve Ludecke, President
Bob Rehfuß, Director
Craig Brewster, Vice President
Mark Lee, Director
Tom Bradford, Director

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tom Bradford

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No comments for the members in the public in attendance.

4. REPORTS

A. Interim General Manager, Brittany Lamson, reported we are back in full swing, getting ready to open our seasonal job applications so we can start hiring in March. We are working on multiple annual reports from environmental to operations summary, including State to Federal submissions. GEI, our on-call engineer, is moving forward with our Programmatic EIR for lake wide maintenance/dredging. The second project is the dredging of the west side of the jetty behind the office where we would like to put a first responders' ramp which would only be open to the district and other first responding agencies. This would avoid any congestion with the public launch and the marina. Next week I will be meeting with the group from Valley District, going on a tour of their new groundwater recharge basins and also walking the path of where the water travels from seven oaks dam and all the diversions we talk about during our watermaster meetings.

B. Chief Operating Officer, Mike Stephenson, reported that we are hoping for rain, looks small, but we certainly didn't think we would be 8' down from full now from last year so you never know. Lake has dropped continuously this winter and have not seen anything coming into January. Might get a couple inches of percip this weekend but might be less. Currently at 8'4" from full, keeps us using the East Public Launch ramp next season. Watermaster was interesting this week, they cannot move water from the Santa Ana creek, the furthest conversion. Mutual cannot get any water that they need. They must purchase water, and they can't use lake water. This is because of the powerhouse being down since 2019. We offered to fix the latest damaged pipe and they would not allow a third party to come out and repair. Mutual is worrying about how they are going to get water, they can request water, but ultimately they wouldn't see half of it, they could request the water if they can get the facility going.

Director Rehfuß asked if it would result in a change in the judgment if it didn't get fixed? Mr. Stephenson responded, yes, that is where we are at right now, it would have to change the judgment on how the distribution is to be done. The district has not changed anything to provide their water, but the situation down the mountain has changed since Seven Oaks Dam was built. Director Rehfuß is concerned that the money expense might be directly back to the MWD? Our water spills first, which is why we manage the water so closely, so we release and avoid spilling and we get credits for that. Valley will be getting the water if it were to overtop right now. Lastly, there is new classification for life jackets, based on offshore requirements.

Director Brewster asked about the fire dock. Ms. Lamson responded that the agreement has been reviewed by legal, I did request that since the boat was not going to be launched this winter that the builder not place the dock until after April 1 to be sensitive to the eagle closure. It will work out because we will open our east ramp first with this lake level, so the builder can set the dock at the west before the facility is open to the public.

C. No committees met since the last Board meeting.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on December 21, 2024.
- B. Warrant list dated 1/11/2024 in the amount of \$58,475.48

Discussion:

No comments were made.

With a motion made by Director Rehfuß, and seconded by Director Brewster, the consent calendar was approved unanimously:

AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuß, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO:

ABSTAIN:

6. BUSINESS

N/A

7. CLOSED SESSION:

President Ludecke adjourned to closed session at 1:38 PM. Before closing he asked if there were any comments from the public regarding the closed session items. Being none, the open session was adjourned to closed session.

The Board reconvened to open session at 2:53 PM and legal counsel reported, the first item in closed session was public employee appointment, Discussion of employee pursuant to government code 54957(b): Title: General Manager, which had no reportable action. The second closed session item was Conference with Legal Counsel Anticipated Litigation. Significant potential exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(b): One case, which did not have any reportable action. This concluded Counsels report.

8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

N/A

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

10. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Director Reh fuss is glad Mr. Stephenson is taking the time to dive into the Watermaster in depth of what is going on with the situation regarding the Edison powerhouse, Mutual and water distribution and how it will affect the District. It is important stuff for us to be informed about.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55PM .

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Date: February 1, 2024
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
Time: 1:00 PM



Brittany Lamson, Interim General Manager
Secretary to the Board of Directors of
Big Bear Municipal Water District

[SEAL]