

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF  
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025**

**1. OPEN SESSION**

President Brewster 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 April 3, 2025.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Craig Brewster

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Daniel Gulbranson asked if everyone knows about the building going up on Switzerland? Claims he is working on it, and we all need to keep an eye on the project, make sure the City is doing everything diligently. There is going to be a re-vote on the healthcare measure, they don't seem to want to give their information up, which is a problem. He is concerned about their methods. We need to standing up to legislature when they are wrong.

**4. REPORTS**

A. Jared Cheek, General Manager, reported he attended our admin committee on 3/26, attended a BBARWA meeting on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. We did our first TMDL sampling using our new TMDL boat. Last Thursday myself and Mike Schermer attended an employment law training class. There was another admin committee meeting on 3/31. The ramps were opened on Tuesday. We have had 5 launches this week, weather has not been great. Staff are doing spring cleaning and functioning over there. Boater safety video update, we have viewed the final draft of the video and we would like to share it today. Director Ludecke has obtained his boater card! This video has not been released yet, but we and the marinas will have access to the video for our use. The Board really liked the video with minor suggestions, but thought it was a very high-quality video. Still waiting on a condensed version for the marinas.

B. Mike Stephenson, Chief Operations Officer, reported about the big storm, but it didn't really produce as much precip as we would hope. We're currently sitting 6'1" down from full, slowing down, no movement today. More snow on the east end than we've seen in the past. Trend of where precip falls when looking at east end and west end has flipped. We are seeing less precip at the dam keepers house, and more at the airport. Looks like 114.7% of average rainfall at the airport compared to the west end which is 97.5% of previous years. The trend seems to be not losing precip, it's just the area that is receiving the rain that is changing. East end has increased in precip compared to the west end. Our release with the new SCADA system is now saving us about 300

GPM with our sideflows. Once again, the new SCADA system is saving us big time water. Lake has gone up one foot this winter, which is below average.

C. Director Ludecke reported on the admin committees which discussed the JPIA nominations, there were four nominees, and four vacant chairs, so all were recommended for nomination for full board, we cleaned up some language in the employee handbook, nothing major. The meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> contained everything the is on the agenda today under business.

## 5. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on March 20, 2025.
- B. Warrant List dated 3/26/2025 in the amount of \$86,948.68.

### Discussion:

No comments were made.

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

AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

## 6. BUSINESS

- A. Administrative Committee (Directors Ludecke & Brewster) recommend the Resolution 2025-02 "Certification of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Special Use Launch Ramp & Deepening Project" be certified/approved by the full Board.

### Discussion:

Mr. Cheek explained that this project has been an ongoing effort since originally in 2005 and has changed in scope over the years. This document is about adding a ramp for emergency services to avoid congestion of public and deepen our channel on the west side of the jetty. There are some hazards with the current set up and sharing the ramp with the public, so this will allow limited use of this ramp for expedited response time. This document has been circulated twice, we received comments during both periods and have incorporated those concerns or issues within this final document.

Mr. Stephenson presented a brief history of this project throughout the years. The original dredge was designed in five different segments because of the limits of lake access, this was put together the same time as the big east end dredge. The -18 feet is our goal dredge depth because through engineering research, the depth and time of allowed use is the biggest benefit. The District started talking about this jetty dredge in 2010, but the lake filled in 2011, and the project went back on the self. In 2018, with the low lake level, we were able to complete a Clean-X on the east side of the jetty, which we were able to remove dirt in the dry down to negative 18 ft. Now with the new ramp for special use, on the east side, we can use the same dredge area as described previously, so we could bring our patrol dock all the way to the back of our office so they would have even quicker response times. This ramp will go directly to our vacant lot and completely out of the way of the public launches.

Director Rehfuss asked if this would interfere with the possibility of building of a new building over there? Mr. Cheek said he would check that. President Brewster asked when project is finished, will it interfere the

Big Bear Marinas customers? Mr. Stephenson responded that it would actually improve it for them because they will have better dock placement for longer periods of time. Vice President Bradford asked about how much sediment has flown into the area, would it fill by any time? Mr. Stephenson answered, it's not a major contributor to the area. The new ramp will include a toe-ditch so we do not experience the erosions we see at the base of the ramp at the east ramp.

Director Ludecke so this will be a certification for this environment document, asked about permit length. Ms. Lamson explained the consultant has a maintenance clause and can keep the document current for many years.

Daniel Gulbranson asked where the permit come from, is it the City? Mr. Stephenson explained it does not, it's the State, Army Corp and fish and wildlife, that group is who would review and grant the permit.

With a motion made by Director Ludecke, and seconded by Director Bradford, Resolution 2025-02 "Certification of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Special Use Launch Ramp & Deepening Project" was approved unanimously, and the document was certified:  
AYES: Ludecke, Reh fuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford  
NO: -  
ABSTAIN: -

**B. Administrative Committee (Director Ludecke & Brewster) will have a recommendation for awarding the West Ramp Parking Lot Repair project to the lowest responsible bidder.**

**Discussion:**

President Brewster explained we sent this RFP for work out to 10 different contractors, advertised in the paper and online. Romans was the lowest responsible bidder. Mr. Cheek explained it was a tough process because of the weather we received but we got two out-of-town bids and two in town bids so that's great.

Dan Gulbranson asked what the next lowest bid was? Mr. Cheek responded, it was S. Christensen Engineering at \$168,894.86.

With a motion made by Vice President Bradford, and seconded by Director Reh fuss, the award for the West Ramp Parking Lot Repair project went to Romans Construction as the lowest responsible bidder, not to exceed \$146, 572, was approved unanimously:  
AYES: Ludecke, Reh fuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford  
NO: -  
ABSTAIN: -

**C. Invasive Species Management Program (INFORMATION ONLY).**

**Discussion:**

Mr. Cheek had a presentation to discuss invasive species in our lake, specifically carp in our lake. This management plan is to promote the health of the lake, this is an issue that happens across the county, not specific to our lake. Carp are invasive to our lake, they do not have any natural predators, besides

birds, but it's not major. We have shock boats, tournaments, and fishermen that assist with the removal process. Carp mix up the bottom of the lake and it causes an increase in nutrient in the water column.

We do have our bin out in the back which is a huge benefit for the public and they do not have to find a disposal site for their catch unless they are hunting prior to the bin being out or after the bin is removed for the season. This small table shows carp removed over the last five years. In 2023 we saw a big jump, which is correlated with the lake level, they have more places to hang out, making them easier to hunt. Majority of our collection is our carp hunters. When looking at the future of removal, we ordered the new boat, not supposed to be here until 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Director Ludecke asked about electro fishing this year. President Brewster asked about the old boat and using it. Mr. Cheek explained we are going to use the old one until the new one gets here. Director Ludecke asked what the price per pound would be for the electro fishing, Mr. Cheek responded, he did not have the number at this moment, there is a lot more involved when calculating that number. We have an extended version of counting carp this year, so hoping that will ramp up those efforts as well.

NO VOTE, INFORMATION ONLY.

**D. Administrative Committee (Directors Ludecke & Brewster) recommend approval of Resolution 2025-03 "Concurring in Nomination to the Executive Committee" of AWCA JPIA of Brent Hastey, Milford Harrison, Melody Henriques-McDonald, and Randall James Reed" for the four vacant seats available.**

**Discussion:**

President Brewster and Director Ludecke touched on this during committee reports, but this will be a resolution which will formally nominate four candidates for the AWCA JPIA executive committee.

With a motion made by Director Ludecke, and seconded by Director Reh fuss, Resolution 2025-03 "Concurring in Nomination to the Executive Committee" of AWCA JPIA of Brent Hastey, Milford Harrison, Melody Henriques-McDonald, and Randall James Reed" for the four vacant seats available, was approved unanimously:

AYES: Ludecke, Reh fuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

Counsel Lemieux asked for public comment on the closed session item, being none, we will adjourn to closed session at 2:01PM.

The Board reconvened to open session at 2:15PM, Counsel Lemieux reported out of closed session, the Board met during closed session, Conference with Legal Counsel on an existing litigation, case no.: CIVSB2134647, the Board took no reportable action.

**7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR**

N/A

**8. CLOSED SESSION:**

**A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION:**

Case No.: CIVSB2134647

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Cheek announced Director Ludecke announced he got his boater card.

**10. DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

Director Ludecke got his boater card! Also, the boater video is very nice, well done.

**11. ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 PM.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Date: April 17, 2025  
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive  
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315  
Time: 1:00 PM



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

[SEAL]