

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 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 17, 2025.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Daniel Gulbranson

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Daniel Gulbranson, resident of Big Bear Valley, brought a grand jury complaint that was filed with the County. Claims the hospital election is going to be coming up, by mail, looking into the cost. Told the Board about a current lawsuit that is filed by Jack Greenburg, he was a code enforcement officer with the City. He encouraged the Board and public to read these documents.

Larry Cooke, a resident of Big Bear Valley, handed out a letter that was written in 2014 and requested the Board digest the topics within. Just here to hand out the letter. Please read, it's something that has always really bothered me about this facilities layout and about more management of the lake shore.

4. REPORTS

A. Jared Cheek, General Manager, reported we've had a couple of great couple weeks. The sand has been removed from the residents that had the illegal fill on the Northshore. Took one afternoon and the work was done. He had a positive conversation with the homeowner and Mile High Equipment did a great job. The Admin committee met about the new fire dock land use agreement. He attended a two-day training at Valley District, it was really nice, classroom style training about their organization and future goals and another tour of the water infrastructure. Informative about our local water systems, recharge basins, and FIRO weather operations at Seven Oaks Dam. He also attended a tour of the Valley conservation water basins with Bear Valley Mutual and the Water Conservation District down in Redlands. Reviewing each site and individual group's interests, all related to our watermaster accounting. Last weekend we had some good weather, we had about 50 launches last week.

B. Mike Stephenson, Chief Operations Officer, reported on golden mussels and shared they hit the delta waterways about six months ago and are moving very rapidly. We already have a very robust program, so we did not have to change our current inspection program like many other lakes did.

However, they are out competing the quagga mussel, near Stockton. Since they were found in the Delta, 30 locations are already infested with this new mussel.

President Brewster asked if this meant they will eliminate the quagga mussel? Mr. Stephenson explained, yes, but the way they do this is growing over them and suffocating them, which is not a good thing even though it's eliminating them. They cause the same damages and cause it quicker than the quagga mussel. This is turning out to be more of a problem than originally thought. The State Water Projects water comes from there and the conveyances are all connected. Director Ludecke asked, potentially anywhere they pump, could have a potential risk of infestation? Mr. Stephenson responded, yes, it could.

Vice President Bradford asked if this mussel was only in our state? Mr. Stephenson confirmed, as of now. Director Rehfuss asked if there was a difference going east to west or west to east which how the mussel travels? Vice President Bradford asked if it will live out of water for longer? Mr. Stephenson explained direction does not matter, the difference in lifespan is we have enough calcium in the water to make them thrive. The Golden Mussel on needs 25% of the calcium of a quagga mussel to reproduce. The Delta is the problem right now, Valley District could have to take water from these areas. We can still use our current inspection system because it was done so well during its origination. The State Water Project is spending \$3.3M on early detection and prevention.

Director Rehfuss asked how we get this out to the public to cause heightened awareness? Vice President Bradford said it just seems like a matter of time at this point before we get it. Director Rehfuss asked what the backup plan is if we do get them? Mr. Stephenson explained we have plans, but there is nothing really that will irradiate the issue. It's literally draining the body of water and waiting 6 months. Then there is always a chance of them getting reintroduced. Unless in very small pond, they cannot be irradiated successfully. Director Rehfuss continued, once it's here, it just gets managed, not irradiated. Mr. Stephenson confirmed.

Mr. Stephenson closed with lake level data, lake is down 6'1", so we stopped rising, we are now evaporating.

C. President Brewster explained there was an admin committee meeting, this item is on the agenda to be discussed further.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on April 3, 2025.
- B. Warrant List dated 4/11/2025 in the amount of \$17,257.01.

Discussion:

No comments were made.

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

AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

6. BUSINESS

A. Administrative Committee (Directors Ludecke & Brewster) recommend the proposed Fire Dock Land Use Agreement for full Board approval.

Discussion:

President Brewster explained the proposed fire dock land use contract is basically the same contract we had before, our previous contract was only a one-year term which expired this spring. Two-year term was suggested so they can establish a longer term agreement in the future, this was just a quick agreement to work on something longer term. Mr. Cheek continued, this is basically the same contract, with the change of the GM name and updated President's name, term date and construction terms have been removed. President Brewster asked if we had any issues with the agreement last year; Mr. Cheek confirmed, after the building process was done, no.

Director Rehfuss asked if everything work out well – director toward the Fire Department's representatives attending the meeting. Director Ludecke asked how many times it was used last year? The Fire Department representative responded, one to two times on holiday weekends, we use it for rescue, fire suppression, it has ice breaking capability. President Brewster asked if there were any reports of disabled boats tied on the fire dock? Director Rehfuss wanted clarification because previously the reason for the dock here was to keep the boat in the water all winter, has that changed? The Fire representative explained they we were worried about the damage to the dock, so that's why we moved it. Director Rehfuss continued, so now it's just during peak season? They confirmed. Director Ludecke explained it was the Board's understanding that you might be building a new fire station that is lakefront so you would have direct access to this boat? The Fire representative confirmed, it's still in the plans, but does require forest service and feasibility study. Director Ludecke concluded, so about another 5-10 years before that would happen.

Director Rehfuss is fine with the two- year terms, but he is concerned about the lack of communication from the fire department, we need to see improvements here. The dock was getting pulled in and taken out without any of our knowledge. Is there a plan to make sure the communication happened before events take place? Fire agreed. They are currently working on a plan for a five-year contract that way we did not have to keep coming back, but with the need to place the dock, we wanted to get this one approved and a longer-term agreement will now be proposed to the County.

With a motion made by Director Ludecke, and seconded by Director Lee, the Fire Dock Land Use Agreement for a two- year term was approved unanimously:

AYES: Ludecke, Rehfuss, Brewster, Lee, Bradford

NO: -

ABSTAIN: -

B. New boom-line installation update/presentation. (Information Only)

Discussion:

President Brewster commented the new boom looks nice. Mr. Cheek explained the maintenance crew build, assembled, and placed all in the same day. Our old boom sustained damage from a previous storm. This one has an opening for our maintenance crew to go through with the new gate which makes it much easier to open. This is a very well built. Director Ludecke commented, you do not realize how large this is until you see it in person. Mr. Cheek continued, we have a couple extra pieces to adjust with the lake level as needed.

Mr. Cooper a member of the public, asked if we have signs that say no mooring? Mr. Cheek explained they are preprinted on the boom in big bold lettering.

Information Only – No Vote

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR

N/A

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Cheek said he will be in Training Mon – Thurs next week at a CSDA Conference with Director Ludecke.

9. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Vice President Bradford shared he had been launching at the public ramps, once again the staff over there has been great. Malayna is very helpful and great. They did not know I was a board member, and she was great and it's great to see public service folks as good as what we are offering.

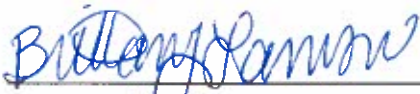
Director Reh fuss thanked the public for being here and looking forward to the continued communication.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 PM.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Date: May 1, 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]