MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, July 16, 2026

1. OPEN SESSION

President Bradford 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 July 16, 2026.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Tom Bradford, President

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Sonia Ibarra, resident of Big Bear Lake, announced her candidacy for Big Bear Lake City Council District 2. Ibarra stated that she is a retired educator, a member of rotary club, and the owner of a nonprofit organization. She announced that she will be hosting a campaign event next week.

4. REPORTS

A. General Manager Jared Cheek reported that staff have been attending professional development and training opportunities since the last time we met. Staff renewed a notary license. The Marina Vehicle Technician attended Volvo Outdrive School in VA, where he completed a week-long program focused on hands-on training and networking. Mr. Cheek noted the value of having in-house expertise in repairing Volvo outdrives, which cost approximately $12,000 to replace. He said that currently, 6 District boats are equipped with this type of outdrive so there is value in having in-house repair. Finance staff attended California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO) training, and staff also participated in County of San Bernardino ROV election training. In addition, Mr. Cheek himself attended the CSDA General Manager Leadership Summit.

Mr. Cheek reported that staff hosted a booth at Outdoor Adventure Days in the Village which was hosted by Friends of Big Bear Valley (FOBBV). Staff also hosted a Lake Appreciation Cleanup on Sunday. Staff have identified ideas to increase community involvement next year. Vice President Ludecke commented that staff's performance in the promotional video for the event was great.

Mr. Cheek reported that the July 4th holiday event was largely successful, with support and coordination from County Fire, the Sheriff's Department, and CDFW personnel on the lake. Launch counts for July 4, 2025, totaling 459 launches, compared to 439 launches this year. Seasonal launch counts for 2025 totaled 4,684 launches, compared to 3,802 launches this year. He noted that the reason for the difference is unclear, it was discussed that economic conditions may be a factor.

B. Vice President Ludecke reported that the Budget & Finance Committee met for its monthly financial review. He notes that the Committee will conduct its Q4 review at its next meeting. VP Ludecke said an exciting update was that the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) determined that the downhill dam concrete repairs qualify as a maintenance project rather than requiring a new application.

General Manager Jared Cheek explained that the Board had previously approved an $85,000 fee associated with the original DSOD application process. Because DSOD classified the work as maintenance, the project is expected to cost less than originally anticipated. Mr. Cheek said that there is significance in the price difference and the time difference for getting the application approved.

President Bradford reported that the Operations Committee met and one item is included on the meeting agenda, the special event application under Business Item 6B. He also reported that the Committee discussed the possibility of developing a policy or ordinance to make the lake more accessible for nighttime users. He expressed appreciation for ramp staff, who are currently on duty until 30 minutes after sunset. He said that boaters who wish to remain on the lake after dark currently do not have an option to obtain the required banding for after-hours retrieval. The Committee discussed a potential process to address this issue and directed staff to further evaluate the concept and bring recommendations back to a future board meeting for consideration.

General Manager Jared Cheek clarified that the discussion was conceptual in nature and that the Committee's action was limited to providing direction to staff for further review.

C. June Carp Raffle – Ryder Dyberg won the youth raffle and Matthew Sugar won the adult raffle.

D. General Manager Jared Cheek reported that the District hosted its inaugural Lakeshore Cleanup Day in recognition of Lake Appreciation Month. The event was organized in house and partnered with Visit Big Bear and Care For Big Bear for promotion through social media outreach. Mr. Cheek stated that the lakeshore was in good condition following the holiday weekend.

Mr. Cheek reported that five local marinas participated in the event and offered boat rentals in support of the program. He thanked the participating marinas Big Bear Marina, Captain Johns Marina, Holloways Marina, Pine Knot Marina, and Pleasure Point Marina for their partnership and support. The District appreciates their collaboration and community involvement that helped make the event successful.

Director Peterson commented that while volunteering himself, he found more trash along the walking path than on the lakeshore itself. Vice President Ludecke asked who is responsible for maintaining the walking path, and it was confirmed that the U.S. Forest Service maintains the path.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

PUBLIC FORUM
None.

A. Minutes of a Regular Meeting on June 18, 2026.
B. Warrant List dated 07/08/2026 in the amount of $2,498,027.90.

Discussion: Ludecke commented that the warrant list is large but in lieu

With a motion made by Vice President Ludecke and seconded by Director Brewster, the consent calendar was approved unanimously:
AYES: Bradford, Brewster, Lee, Ludecke, Peterson
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

6. BUSINESS

A. POSSIBLE AWARD FOR AUDITING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH NIGRO & NIGRO PC NOT TO EXCEED $26,400 FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026.

PUBLIC FORUM
None.

DISCUSSION

a. General Manager Jared Cheek explained that the annual audit is a required part of the District's financial reporting process. He said that the District has utilized different audit firms over the years and that the proposed vendor has worked well with staff. Mr. Cheek reported that the audit services quote includes auditing services for both the Public Facilities Corporation and the District's financial statements, as well as the preparation of tax filings.

   Vice President Ludecke asked about the legal time limit for using the same auditor. Mr. Cheek explained that his understanding is that the same auditor may be used for a maximum of five years, although a firm may continue to provide services with a different lead auditor. He would confirm the specific requirements.

With a motion made by Vice President Ludecke and seconded by Director Peterson, the motion to award a Not to Exceed Auditing Services Contract to Nigro & Nigro PC in the amount of $26,400 was passed:
AYES: Bradford, Brewster, Lee, Ludecke, Peterson
NO: -
ABSTAIN: -

B. POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING OPERATIONS COMMITTEE (DIRECTORS LEE AND BRADFORD) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FULL BOARD'S APPROVAL REGARDING ACBS SPECIAL EVENT APPLICATION.

PUBLIC FORUM
None.

DISCUSSION

a. General Manager Jared Cheek reported that the application is for the 42nd Annual Antique Wooden Boat Show. He said that the event will include an additional day on Thursday and that Craig Peterson is now serving as the event organizer. Other than those changes, no modifications were made to the application.

   Vice President Ludecke asked whether Director Peterson had a conflict of interest related to the item. Legal counsel advised that, pursuant to Government Code Section 1091, Peterson is the applicant but does not receive any financial benefit from the event. Counsel recommended that Peterson refrain from participating in discussion of the item and abstain from voting.

   Mr. Cheek said that special event applications of this nature are typically approved administratively by staff however with the event changes, it has come forward to the board.

   Director Peterson confirmed that he has no financial interest or financial gain associated with the event.

With a motion made by Vice President Ludecke and seconded by Director Lee, the motion to approve the ACBS Special Event was passed:
AYES: Bradford, Brewster, Lee, Ludecke
NO: -
ABSTAIN: Peterson

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR
None.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS
General Manager Jared Cheek announced that he will be out of the office next week.

9. DIRECTOR COMMENTS
Vice President Ludecke commented that interacting with ramp staff is always a positive experience and joyful. He stated that staff are friendly, professional, and know how to effectively work with the public. VP Ludecke commended both ramp staff and Lake Patrol for their efforts in educating lake users while doing their jobs. He said that the positive culture and professionalism demonstrated by staff comes from the top down and thanks the District team for their work.

President Bradford announced that he will be absent from the next Board meeting August 6.

10. CLOSED SESSION
None.

11. ADJOURN
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:31 PM.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:

Date: 08/06/2026
Location: 40524 Lakeview Drive
Big Bear Lake, CA 92315
Time: 1:00 PM

Elsa Donoho, Office Manager
Secretary to the Board of
Big Bear Municipal Water District

[SEAL]