

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE ANTELOPE VALLEY STATE WATER CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, DECEMBER 14, 2023.**

*A regular meeting of the Commissioners of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association was held Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 6450 West Avenue N, Palmdale, CA 93551, at 2856 Owens Way, Rosamond, CA 93560, and via teleconference. Chair Parris called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**1) Pledge of Allegiance.**

At the request of Chair Parris, Commissioner Thibault led the pledge of allegiance.

**2) Roll Call.**

**Attendance:**

Robert Parris, Chair  
Kathy Mac Laren-Gomez, V. Chr.  
Don Wilson, Secretary  
Leo Thibault, Treasurer  
Barbara Hogan, Commissioner  
Keith Dyas, Commissioner

**Others Present:**

Peter Thompson II, General Manager  
Dennis Hoffmeyer, Controller  
Tom Barnes, Resources Manager  
Matthew Knudson, AVEK General Manager  
James Chaisson, LCID General Manager  
Scott Kellerman, PWD Board Director  
Angel Fitzpatrick, Administrative Technician  
Vickie Rausch, AVRCD  
0 members of the public

**3) Adoption of Agenda.**

It was moved by Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez, seconded by Commissioner Hogan, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to adopt the agenda, as written:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault – aye  
Commissioner Wilson – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**4) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.**

There were no public comments.

**5) Presentation on Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District (AVRCD) Lawn Reduction Program. (Vickie Rausch, AVRCD, Outreach Coordinator)**

Ms. Rausch, AVRCD Outreach Coordinator, provided a detailed presentation on the AVRCD Lawn Reduction Program, including background information and program details on district boundaries, eligibility, and the rebate terms for participants.

**6) Consideration and Possible Action on Minutes of Regular Meeting Held October 12, 2023.**

It was moved by Commissioner Dyas, seconded by Commissioner MacLaren-Gomez, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 12, 2023, as written:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault – aye  
Commissioner Wilson – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**7) Payment of Bills.**

It was moved by Commissioner Thibault, seconded by Commissioner Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to approve payment and ratification of payment of the bills received from AVEK in the amount of \$987.55 for staff services, from Woodard and Curran in the amount of \$5,287.50 for professional services through November 24, 2023 related to the IRWM Plan Update and Funding, from ACWA/JPIA in the amount of \$2,182.00 for the 2023-2024 Policy Year Liability Deposit Premium, from ACWA in the amount of \$3,060.00 for the 2024 Annual Membership Dues, and payment to AVEK in the amount of \$8,790.00 for pass-through funds received from the Department of Water Resources on behalf of the AV IRWMP Group for Prop. 1 Grant Project Funding:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault – aye  
Commissioner Wilson – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**8) Presentation on Process, Timing, and Cost Estimate for Developing the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project. (General Manager Thompson II)**

General Manager Thompson II provided a detailed presentation on the development, cost estimate, and timeline of the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project, including the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the member agencies, the CEQA permitting, the installation and approval of Littlerock Creek Irrigation District's SWP turnout meter, the submission and approval of the Watermaster Storage Agreement, and the hardening of conveyance to the Creek.

**9) Consideration and Possible Action on Authorizing Staff to Work with the Member Agencies to Draft a MOU for the Development of the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project. (General Manager Thompson II)**

It was moved by Commissioner MacLaren-Gomez, seconded by Commissioner Thibault, and unanimously carried by all members of the Board of Commissioners present at the meeting on the following roll call vote to authorize staff to work with the member agencies to draft a MOU for the development of the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project:

Chair Parris – aye  
Commissioner Mac Laren-Gomez – aye  
Commissioner Thibault – aye  
Commissioner Wilson – aye  
Commissioner Dyas – aye  
Commissioner Hogan – aye

**10) Report of Resources Manager.**

**a) Antelope Valley Fair Conservation Garden.**

Resources Manager Barnes provided an update on the Antelope Valley Fair Conservation Garden sponsorship, including the approval of the amended funding contract in August 2023 and the anticipated approval of the amended documents by the AV Fair Association.

**b) Emergency Response Agreement.**

He then provided a brief update on the Antelope Valley Mutual Water Companies' participation in the Mutual Response Agreement (MRA).

**11) Report of Controller.**

**a) Update on Revenue, Expenses, and Change in Net Position.**

Controller Hoffmeyer provided an overview of the Association's revenue, expenses, and change in net position for the month ending November 30, 2023.

**12) Report of General Manager.**

**a) Status Updates:**

**1) Antelope Valley Watermaster Meetings.**

General Manager Thompson II reported that the Watermaster Board approved the 2024 budget and corresponding \$9.50/AF Administrative Assessment; that the Board approved the USGS Groundwater Monitoring Program Cost Sharing Agreement for 2023/2024; that the Hallmark Group declined to accept a single-year agreement for providing administrative services to the Watermaster; that the Watermaster Board granted consent for the Watermaster attorney to develop a MOU for AVEK to provide interim administrative services to the Watermaster in 2024; and that Association staff provided the Watermaster with the Replacement Water Plan.

**2) Watermaster Engineer's Use of the USGS Program.**

He then reported that the data provided through the USGS Monitoring Program provides the Watermaster Engineer with essential data used to maintain an accurate and consistent understanding of the basin including the understanding of groundwater levels and water quality, the need for data to complete material injury analysis for

various applications, the annual report, and the creation and maintenance of the Groundwater Model.

**3) Antelope Valley and Fremont Basin IRWMP Stakeholder Meetings.**

He then reported that the IRWMP Group anticipates receiving the Prop 1 Round 1 ninth quarterly invoice in January 2024; that staff is working on the AVIRWM cost share MOU for 2024-2026; and that LA County Waterworks District 40 and AVEK are working on a culvert plan for potential grant funding.

**4) ACWA/JPIA Certificate of Recognition.**

He then reported that staff received a certificate from ACWA/JPIA regarding special recognition of the Association for achieving a low ratio of "Paid Claims and Case Reserves" to "Deposit Premiums" in the Liability Program for the period of 10/01/2019 – 09/30/2022.

**5) Future Agenda Items.**

He then stated that the future agenda items will include "Presentation on Resilience Center at AV Fairgrounds," "Consideration and Possible Action on Election of Officers," "Consideration and Possible Action on Reallocating Remaining Big Rock Project Funds for Use in the Development of the Littlerock Creek Recharge Project" and updates on grant opportunities, Voluntary Agreements, and the Delta Conveyance Project.

**13) Reports of Commissioners.**

There were no reports of Commissioners.

**14) Report of Attorney.**

No attorney was present at the meeting.

**15) Commission Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.**

There were no requests for future agenda items.

**16) Consideration and Possible Action on Scheduling the Next Association Meeting February 13, 2024.**

After a brief discussion, it was determined that the next regular meeting of the Association will be held February 8, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

**17) Adjournment.**

With no further business to come before the Commissioners, the regular meeting of the Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association Commissioners was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

  
Secretary