



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting
of the Board of Directors of the Rowland Water District**
September 10, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
3021 Fullerton Road
Rowland Heights, CA 91748

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS

President Szu Pei Lu-Yang
Vice President John Bellah
Director Vanessa Hsu
Director Anthony J. Lima

ABSENT:

Director Robert W. Lewis

OTHERS PRESENT:

Joseph Byrne, Legal Counsel, Best Best & Krieger
Mike Ti, TVMWD
Erin LaCombe, CV Strategies

ROWLAND WATER DISTRICT STAFF

Tom Coleman, General Manager
Dusty Moio, Assistant General Manager
Myra Malner, Director of Finance
Gabriela Palomares, Executive Services Manager
Elisabeth Mendez, Compliance & Safety Manager
Brittnie Gildea, Education & Community Outreach Coordinator
Robert Leamy, Water Systems Supervisor

ADDITION(S) TO THE AGENDA – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None.

1. CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon motion by Director Lima, seconded by Director Bellah, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved as follows:

- 1.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting Held on August 13, 2024
- 1.2 Approval of Minutes of Special Board Meeting held on August 27, 2024
- 1.3 Demands on General Fund Account for August 2024

1.4 Investment Report for July 2024

1.5 Water Purchases for July 2024

1.6 California Reservoir Conditions

(Motion passed 4-0)

2. ACTION ITEMS

2.1 Review and Approve Directors' Meeting Reimbursements for August 2024

Upon motion by Director Lima, seconded by Director Bellah, the Board unanimously approved the Directors' Meeting Reimbursement Report as presented. (Motion passed 4-0)

2.2 Adopt RWD Resolution No. 9-2024, Authorizing an Amendment to the California Public Employee's Retirement System Contract

The Board members were requested to review and consider the adoption of Resolution No. 9-2024, which proposes an amendment to the contract between the Board of Administration of the California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) and Rowland Water District. This Amendment would incorporate §20903, providing eligible employees with an optional retirement benefit of two additional years of service credit. Director of Finance, Myra Malner, outlined that the District is adhering to the required process, which involves passing a resolution of intent, followed by a resolution to authorize the amendment. General Manager, Tom Coleman, further clarified that if the District decides to extend this benefit to an employee in the future, the proposal would first be presented to the Board for approval.

Upon motion by Director Hsu, seconded by Director Lima, the Board unanimously adopted RWD Resolution No. 9-2024, by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: Bellah, Hsu, Lewis, Lima, Lu-Yang

Noes: None

Absent: Lewis

Abstain: None

(Motion passed 4-0)

2.3 Request for Approval of Data Sharing Agreement between Flume Inc. and Rowland Water District

Assistant General Manager Dusty Moision reported on the data-sharing agreement for Board approval. He explained that Flume, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources, is conducting saturation and end-use studies to assess impacts of the 2030 indoor residential water standards. RWD has been invited to participate by providing historical water usage data and facilitate the installation of Flume's water usage monitoring devices District-wide. As part of the study, up to 100 Flume devices will be offered to RWD single-family residential customers at no cost, contingent upon their participation in the study.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Director Hsu, seconded by Director Lima and unanimously carried, to approve the Data Sharing Agreement between Flume Inc. and Rowland Water District. (Motion passed 4-0)

2.4 Review and Approve Reimbursement Agreement Between City of Industry and Rowland Water District for Arenth Road Mainline Relocation Project

General Manager Tom Coleman referred to the draft reimbursement agreement included in the Board packet. He discussed agreement terms, in particular the fulfillment of financial obligations as agreed upon by Rowland Water District and City of Industry representatives.

Upon motion by Director Lima, seconded by Director Hsu, the Board unanimously approved the Reimbursement Agreement between the City of Industry and Rowland Water District for the Arenth Road Mainline Relocation Project. (Motion passed 4-0)

2.5 Review and Approve Streetlight Master License Agreement between County of Los Angeles and Rowland Water District

Following discussion, upon motion by Director Bellah, seconded by Director Lima, the Board unanimously approved the Streetlight Master License Agreement between Rowland Water District and the County of Los Angeles. (Motion passed 4-0)

2.6 Claim for Damages Submitted by Subro Claims, Inc. o/b/o Geico Ins. a/s/o Siqi Zhang

Board members reviewed and discussed the claim for damages submitted on August 9, 2024, by Subro Claims, Inc. on behalf of Geico a/s/o Siqi Zhang included in the Board packet.

Following discussion, upon motion by Director Hsu, seconded by Director Bellah, the Board unanimously rejected the claim for damages and directed staff to send a formal notice of rejection to Subro Claims, Inc. on behalf of Geico a/s/o Siqi Zhang. (Motion passed 4-0)

3. PUBLIC RELATIONS

3.1 Communications Outreach (CV Strategies)

Ms. Erin LaCombe reported that CV Strategies, in addition to preparing the District's annual report, has issued a series of press releases to communicate important District updates.

3.2 Education Update

Brittnie Gildea presented a report to the Board on recent community and education engagement initiatives. She announced the upcoming campaign encouraging customers to register for the new bill payment portal, Invoice Cloud, with an incentive of a free succulent plant for those who sign up. Gildea also highlighted PWAG CET activities, noting that she and other members of the Administrative Committee will speak at the WaterSmart conference in Las Vegas, where they will showcase CET's regional programs. On the educational front, the Mini Solar Challenge and Splash Cash Programs have been promoted to schools and educators. A more detailed overview of school programs and employee initiatives is available in the Community and Education Outreach Update included in the Board packet.

4. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, OR EVENTS (INCLUDING ITEMS THAT MAY HAVE ARISEN AFTER THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA)

4.1 Board members were informed of ACWA & JPIA Fall Conference scheduled for December 2-5, 2024.

4.2 Board members were informed of TVMWD's Leadership Breakfast scheduled for October 31, 2024.

5. LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION – None.

6. REVIEW OF CORRESPONDENCE

▪ Board members received a 'Notice of No Election' from the Los Angeles County Election

Coordination Unit, advising that the incumbents for Divisions 1 (Vanessa Hsu) and 2 (Anthony J. Lima) ran uncontested. Therefore, the Board of Supervisors shall reappoint the Directors to office during an upcoming regular or special Board meeting.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Joint Powers Insurance Authority – Board President Lu-Yang reported on ACWA/JPIA Personnel committee matters.

7.2 Three Valleys Municipal Water District – Director Bellah and Lima reported on TVMWD September 4, 2024, Board meeting activities.

7.3 Association of California Water Agencies – General Manager Coleman reported on the ACWA Executive Edge Leadership Forum that both he and Assistant General Manager Moio attended.

7.4 Puente Basin Water Agency (PBWA) – None.

7.5 Project Ad-Hoc Committee – None.

7.6 Regional Chamber of Commerce – None.

7.7 P-W-R Joint Waterline Commission – None.

7.8 Rowland Heights Community Coordinating Council (RHCCC) – None.

7.9 Local Agency Formation Commission – Board members received a written report drafted by Director Lewis that included updates on LAFCO and ACWA business matters of interest to the District.

8. OTHER REPORTS, INFORMATION ITEMS AND COMMENTS

8.1 Finance Report

Director of Finance, Myra Malner, presented a year-to-date Financial Dashboard containing comparative graphs of Revenue and Expense by Category and Consumption by Class through July 2024. Following her report, she answered questions posed by Board members.

8.2 Operations Report

The Board was provided with the field operations tasks completed during August 2024 (as listed below):

- Water Samples - 203
- Site Inspections – 64
- Service Orders Completed - 343
- Meters Replaced - 1
- Modules Replaced - 34
- Dig Alerts - 336
- Service Lines Replaced - 4
- System Valves Replaced - 0
- Air Releases Inspections - 0
- Recycled Water Inspections – 9

8.3 Projects Update – Assistant General Manager Dusty Moisio provided an update on the mainline replacement project along Yorbita Road. Moisio highlighted key aspects of the project, explaining that Rowland Water District's field operations team replaced 300 feet of 4-inch mainline with an 8-inch line, installed three new valves, and added a fire hydrant. The project also extended the water main to serve a new property.

8.4 Personnel Report – General Manager Coleman reported on the District’s open recruitment for PWAG Administrative Assistant Part-Time position.

9. ATTORNEY’S REPORT – None.

10. CLOSED SESSION

A Closed Session was not held in connection with the item listed below:

a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator - [§54956.8]

Property: Portion of Property Located at
Anaheim & Puente Road
City of Industry
District Negotiator: Tom Coleman, General Manager
Negotiating Parties: City of Industry
Under Negotiation: Price and Terms

11. Closed Session Announcements: It was reported that no reportable action was taken as closed session was not held.

General Manager’s and Directors’ Comments – General Manager Coleman briefed the Board on upcoming Board meeting topics.

Future Agenda Item(s) – None.

Late Business – None.

A motion was made by Director Hsu to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

SZU PEI LU-YANG
Board President

Attest: _____
TOM COLEMAN
Board Secretary