

Marina Coast Water District

Special Board Meeting/Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Meeting March 11, 2025

Minutes

1. Call to Order:

President Morton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. on March 11, 2025 at 920 2nd Avenue, Suite A, Marina, California; and, via Zoom teleconference.

2. Roll Call:

Board Members Present:

Gail Morton – President Jan Shriner – Vice President Brad Imamura Thomas P. Moore Stacey Smith

Board Members Absent:

None.

Staff Members Present:

Remleh Scherzinger, General Manager
David Hobbs, Assistant District Counsel
Derek Cray, Operations and Maintenance Manager
Mary Lagasca, Director of Administrative Services
Garrett Haertel, District Engineer
Patrick Breen, Water Resources Manager
Teo Espero, Information Technology Administrator
Paula Riso, Executive Assistant/Clerk to the Board

Audience Members:

Andy Sterbenz, Schaaf & Wheeler Consulting Civil Engineers
Josef Polk, Griffith, Masuda & Hobbs
Garren Fisher, MCWD
Stephenie Verduzco, MCWD
Tobias Osborne, MCWD
Matthew Thompson, M1W
Shawna Strecker
Doug Yount, Shea Homes

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3. Pledge of Allegiance:

President Morton led everyone present in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Workshop:

A. Reservation Road Desalination Rehabilitation Discussion:

Mr. Garrett Haertel, District Engineer, introduced this item and stated that Mr. Patrick Breen, Water Resources Manager, and Ms. Mary Lagasca, Director of Administrative Services, will give some background on the District's water supply and demands, and project financials.

Mr. Breen reviewed the allocations allotted to the land use jurisdictions, the projected demand by source, and State planning documents. He added that there have been recent water requests that exceed 160 acre feet per year. Mr. Breen showed how non-groundwater augmentation benefits the Monterey Sub-basin and it reduces deep aquifer demand and seawater intrusion risks in shallower aquifers.

Ms. Lagasca gave an overview of the project funding noting that there are sufficient funds over the next two years to cover the projected cost of \$3.775 million without borrowing or additional debt. She reviewed the 2024 Rate Study and the growth projections, along with the estimated annual operating cost, the cost per acre feet, and estimated rate impact, showing the cost impact is minimal and there is no change to the rates proposed. Ms. Lagasca reviewed the District's financial sustainability and how the recent customer survey showed that 69.8% of customers agree to support modernization of the infrastructure, and 65.8% agree with refurbishing the desal plant.

President Morton recessed the meeting from 7:36 p.m. to 7:42 p.m.

Mr. Haertel reviewed the current status of the plant, the permit history and environmental documents obtained for the plant. He then gave a background of the plant and reviewed the approved documents that are driving the project need. Mr. Haertel discussed the current project work, timeline, and grant funding opportunities. He explained there are also future projects and alternatives in addition to the desalination plant. Discussion followed.

5 Public Comment on Closed Session Items:

There were no comments made.

The Board entered into closed session at 8:53 p.m. to discuss the following item:

6. Closed Session:

A. Pursuant to Government Code 54956.9(d)(2)

Conference with Legal Counsel – Threat of Potential Litigation

One Potential Case

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The Board ended closed session at 9:48 p.m. President Morton reconvened the meeting to open session at 9:49 p.m.

7. Reportable Actions Taken During Closed Session:

President Morton stated that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

8. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items:

No items were requested.

9. Director's Comments:

Director Smith, Director Imamura, Director Moore, Vice President Shriner, and President Morton made comments.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

APPROVED:

Gail Morton, President

ATTEST:

Paula Riso, Deputy Secretary