

MEETING OF THE  
HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
1078 Dogwood Rd., Suite 104  
Heber, CA, 92249

Thursday, May 15, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

*The District recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to those individuals with disabilities. Please contact the District (760-482-2440) two working days prior to the meeting with any special requests for reasonable accommodation.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Heber Public Utility District was held at the District's meeting room and called to order at 6:04 pm by President Margie Lizarraga.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Directors present at roll call: T. Sandoval, E. Valdez-Belmonte, D. Garcia-Ruiz, and M. Lizarraga. Director S. Escobedo was absent. Also present were General Manager, Laura G. Fischer; Office Manager, Rafaela M. Sanchez; Finance Manager, Graciela Lopez and General Counsel, Martin A. Gonzalez.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Margie Lizarraga.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The Motion to Approve the Agenda and move Agenda Item 8J before 8A was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Garcia-Ruiz.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

**5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/COMMENT:**

*The Board may set time limits on the amount of time any speaker can use to address the Board. Members of the public are allowed to make comments about anything not listed on the agenda. If the comments concern an agenda item, they must wait until that item is up for discussion. If you wish to address the Board, please fill out a "Request to Speak Form" and hand it to the Clerk of the Board and when recognized by the President of the Board, go to the podium and address the Board. The Board can't take action on any item not on the agenda.*

Rick Macken introduced himself as a candidate for Imperial County Sheriff. Mr. Macken was asked about the SAL program in Heber and he responded that it is great for Heber and sees the need for the program to be expanded. Mr. Macken indicated that he would work closely with HPUD to assure that the needs of the community are being met.

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:** Any item on the Consent Agenda may be removed and placed under New Business at the request of any Board Member or member of the Public.

A. Approval of Minutes for the regular meeting on April 17, 2014

B. Current Demands for April 2014

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Director E. Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director T. Sandoval.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

## 7. **REPORTS:**

- A. Operations Report for April 2014
- B. President and Director's Comments  
Director Valdez-Belmonte reported that the drum line would like to perform at movie night event. Staff will contact the music director to arrange for the students to perform at the event.
- C. General Manager's Report  
Information was provided to the Board.

## 8. **NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action**

- J. Request for Donation to Southwest High School HOSA - Future Health Professionals Request Submitted by Ms. Maria Alcaraz – General Manager

Motion to Approve a Donation in the amount of \$600.00 to Southwest High School HOSA – Future Health Professionals; to have the donation go specifically for Christian Alcaraz, Gilbert Delgado and Anel Nuñez; and if the students have met their financial goal, it is requested that the remaining funds be distributed to the individual students for their meal expenses; was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Garcia-Ruiz.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

- A. Presentation from White Nelson Diehl Evans LLP – Finance Manager  
General Manager introduced Mr. Harvey Schroeder a partner with White Nelson Diehl Evans LLP who provided a power point presentation on providing financial auditing services to HPUD. No action was taken.
- B. Information Only Review Draft FY 2014-15 Budget – Finance Manager  
Finance Manager Graciela Lopez gave a power point presentation on the proposed budget for the water fund for FY 2014-15. The review of the remaining funds will be presented at the Special Meeting on May 29<sup>th</sup>.
- C. Information Only Regarding the Creation of a Non-Profit Organization to Provide Community Activities and Recreation for Heber – Director Valdez-Belmonte

Director Valdez-Belmonte gave a power point presentation regarding the benefits of creating a non-profit organization to provide community activities and recreation for our community. The ladies that attend the aerobic classes at the old HPUD office were in attendance and asked if the Board would consider making modifications to the building and tear down some walls to make it easier for them to hold their classes. Staff indicated that the building is in need of a lot of repairs and no direction was given or action was taken.

- D. Authorize a Modification to the FY 2013-14 Budget Staff Levels; Reducing Two Utility Maintenance Worker Position and Increasing One Additional Water Wastewater Operator In Training Position – General Manager

Motion to Authorize a Modification to the FY 2013-14 Budget Staff Levels, Reducing Two Utility Maintenance Worker position and Increasing One Additional Water Wastewater Operator In Training Position was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

- E. Information Only Regarding CR&R Trash Contract Rate Increase of 1.1% for FY 2014-15 – General Manager

No action was taken. General Manager Laura Fischer will set up a meeting with CR&R to discuss rate increase and will ask if the proposed trash contract rate increase of 1.1% for FY 2014-15 can be waived.

- F. Adopt Resolution Number 2014-4 Supporting The Active Transportation Grant Application Being Submitted by the Imperial County Transportation Commission For The Purpose of Securing \$800,000 in Funding for Much Needed Curb and Sidewalk Improvements to SR-86 in Heber – General Manager

Motion to Adopt Resolution Number 2014-4 Supporting The Active Transportation Grant Application Being Submitted by the Imperial County Transportation Commission For The Purpose of Securing \$800,000 in Funding for Much Needed Curb and Sidewalk Improvements to SR-86 in Heber was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

- G. Discussion and Related Action to Request Appointment of HPUD Board of Directors Member to the LAFCO Board – General Manager

Motion to Request Appointment of HPUD Board of Directors Member to the LAFCO Board was made by Director Garcia-Ruiz, seconded by Director Sandoval.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

- H. Discussion and Related Action Regarding a Request For Additional Water Service Connections at Magnolia Gate Subdivision – General Manager

HPUD will not provide additional water services to this development until General Manager Laura Fischer meets with Jurg Heuberger to discuss this matter and get clarification if HPUD is in a position to provide services outside of our approved Service Area.

- I. Discussion and Related Action Regarding Kennedy's Market Expansion Plans – General Manager

Staff was unaware that Kennedy's Market was expanding and contacted the County Planning/Building Department and put them under notice that HPUD must be notified if any building or development is planned in our Service Area to make sure that all of our requirements are met. There are specific requirements that new expansion/developments need to adhere to on the recently adopted FOG Ordinance. No action was taken.

## 9. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion and Related Action Regarding Authorization to Include the Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Treatment Process Project in an Application for Prop 84 Drought Funds Through the Imperial Regional Water Management Plan – General Manager

Motion to Authorize to Include the Wastewater Treatment Plant Tertiary Treatment Process Project in an Application for Prop 84 Drought Funds Through the Imperial Regional Water Management Plan was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte.

Motion passed by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

- B. Discussion and Related Action Regarding Adoption of Heber Public Utility District Policies – General Manager

No action was taken. A binder with the proposed District policies was given to the Board and meetings will be set up in the coming months for review and adoption of the policies.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday @ 8:30 am 940 W Main St., El Centro
- B. CSDA Special Districts Legislative Days – May 20 & 21 in Sacramento
- C. CRWA's Academy of Water Education & National Rural Water Association Utility Management Certification Program – August 5-7 in Sacramento
- D. California Special Districts Association General Manager Leadership Summit – June 22-24 in North Lake Tahoe

General Manager reported that she would like to attend CRWA's Academy of Water Education & National Rural Water Association Utility Management Certification Program and the CSDA General Manager Leadership Summit.

**11. CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion to go into Closed Session at 8:36 pm was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

Conference with Legal Counsel - Potential Litigation  
Government Code Section 54956.9 (b)

The meeting was called back to Open Session at 8:59 pm. No reportable action was taken.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Sandoval.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, D. Garcia-Ruiz, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT: S. Escobedo

*Minutes for the Regular Meeting for May 15, 2014 were prepared by Rafaela M. Sanchez – Office Manager*

*Heber Public Utility District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*