

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

Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 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 6:21 pm by President Garcia-Ruiz

2. ROLL CALL:

Director's present at roll call: S. Escobedo, D. Garcia-Ruiz, and P. Tabarez, Jr. Also present General Manager Laura Fischer, Board Secretary Raquel Carrillo, Finance Manager Graciela Lopez, and General Counsel Steve Walker. Excused absent were Director T. Sandoval and Director M. Nolasco, Jr.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Garcia-Ruiz.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

General Manager asked if Item 9-A could be moved in front of Item 7-A due to the amount of residents that came for Item 9-A. Motion to approve the Agenda with Item 9-A moved before 7-A, was made by Director Tabarez, Jr., seconded by Director Escobedo.

Motion approve by Roll Call: 3/0

AYES: S. Escobedo, D. Garcia-Ruiz, P. Tabarez, Jr.

ABSENT: T. Sandoval, M. Nolasco, Jr.

5. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS/COMMENT:

Jose Jauregui from 1163 N Harmony Way approached the Board with concerns regarding trash, weeds in the empty lots near his home in Heber Meadows Subdivision. Also, he complained about the how dark it is at Jiggs Johnson park without lights. Mr. Jauregui requested a Town Hall meeting with Mr. Plancarte, County Supervisor for Heber, so residents can show up to meeting and express their concerns with Mr. Plancarte. Another Heber resident Raul Miramontes mentioned that Jiggs Park having no light makes it difficult for his kids to walk to park or stay longer. Direction was given to Staff to contact Mr. Plancarte and share the resident's concerns.

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.

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. Approve Minutes for the regular meeting of April 20, 2017, and the Special Meeting of May 10, 2017.
- B. Approve Current Demands for April 2017.
- C. Approve Sponsorship of the following:

Imperial County Library Heber Location – Summer Programs \$500.

Southwest High School HOSA: Future Health Professionals attending the 2017 HOSA International Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida in the amount of \$500.

The Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as presented was made by Director Escobedo, seconded by Director Garcia-Ruiz.

Motion approved by Roll Call: 3/0

AYES: S. Escobedo, D. Garcia-Ruiz, P. Tabarez, Jr.

ABSENT: T. Sandoval, M. Nolasco, Jr.

9. OLD BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Information Only Regarding Water and Wastewater Rate Increase – General Manager

Item was moved ahead of Item 7-A for discussion. General Manager mentioned to the Board that all requirements of Prop 218 were met, and that the HPUD Board of Directors has already adopted Ordinance 2017-3 and 2017-4 establishing water and sewer rates. Ms. Fischer shared an opinion letter from the District counsel, which verified compliance with Prop 218.

Ms. Fischer stated that she met with Mr. Equihua and that he did not present the challenges to previous verifications in the amount necessary to validate the protest vote. Mr. Equihua approached the Board and mentioned that some of the signatures were still incorrect and there was still some discrepancy on how the votes were counted. There was a lot of discussion and concerns from the public.

Although the President of the Board asked the public to speak from the podium and that they need to state their name and address, the public in attendance spoke out loud from their seats, and shouted at the Board and staff. The meeting quickly was so out of order that the Board President could not restore order. The President asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm was made by Director Escobedo, seconded by Director Tabarez.

Motion approved by Roll Call: 3/0

AYES: S. Escobedo, D. Garcia-Ruiz, and P. Tabarez, Jr.

ABSENT: T. Sandoval, M. Nolasco, Jr.