

MINUTES OF THE  
JOINT MEETING OF THE  
HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND THE  
HPUD CFD NO. 2005-1 BOARD  
1078 Dogwood Rd., Suite 104  
Heber, CA, 92249

Thursday, October 16, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING 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 6:11 pm by Director Garcia-Ruiz.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Directors present at roll call: Diahna Garcia-Ruiz, Sergio Escobedo and Eduardo Valdez-Belmonte. Also present were General Manager, Laura G. Fischer; Office Manager, Rafaela M. Sanchez and General Counsel, Martin A. Gonzalez. President Lizarraga and Director Sandoval were absent.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Motion to Approve the Agenda and move Agenda Item 9A before Agenda Item 6 was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

**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.*

Ms. Felicia Whiting and Mr. Rajesh Nellore representatives from Infratech Industries Inc. attended the meeting and gave a power point presentation on floating solar panels for the generation of power. The General Manager will report back on a recommendation at the December meeting.

**9. NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action**

- A. Discussion and Related Action to Donate to the Cancer Resource Center of the Desert – Teresa Estrada

Motion to Donate \$400.00 to the Cancer Resource Center of the Desert was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

**6. CLOSED SESSION:**

Motion to go into Closed Session at 6:42 pm was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

The meeting was called back to Open Session at 7:42 pm.

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

No Action was taken.

- B. Government Code Section 54957.6 Negotiations with Natural Resources Technical Association

No Action was taken. Direction was given to Staff.

- C. Government Code Section 54956.8 Property Negotiations APN # 054-6002-001  
No Action was taken.

**7. 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 September 18, 2014 and special meeting on October 7, 2014  
B. Current Demands for September 2014

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a correction on the September 18, 2014 minutes was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

**8. REPORTS:**

- A. Operations Report for September 2014  
B. President and Director's Comments  
C. General Manager's Report

The General Manager reported that Director Garcia-Ruiz was the only Board Member that showed interest in attending the MANA 2014 Las Primeras Awards Gala & Fundraiser event. The General Manager also gave an update on the web page.

**9. NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action**

- B. Discussion and Related Action to Authorize the General Manager to Solicit Proposals for a Water and Sewer Rate Study – General Manager

Motion to Authorize the General Manager to Solicit Proposals for a Water and Sewer Rate Study was made by Director Escobedo, seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

- C. Information Only Regarding FY 2014-15 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Budget Review – Finance Manager

General Manager Laura Fischer reported on the overall financial review of all funds.

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion Related Action Regarding Medical Insurance Coverage For Employees – General Manager

Motion to Table this item to the next board meeting was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

- B. Information Only Regarding Update on the Correll Estates Retention Basin – General Manager

It is anticipated that The Holt Group will have the construction documents ready for the County to review by November 10<sup>th</sup>. After the County reviews and approves the documents we can go out to bid and can expect to begin construction by March 2015.

- C. Review Draft HPUD Policies – General Manager

No Action was taken.

**11. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday @ 8:30 am 940 W Main St., El Centro  
B. CSDA Special District Leadership Academy Conference November 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> in Garden Grove

General Manager, Laura Fischer reported that Director Valdez-Belmonte signed up to attend the CSDA Special District Leadership Academy Conference on November 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> in Garden Grove.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo. Motion approved by a vote of 3/0.

*Minutes for the Regular Meeting for October 16, 2014 were prepared by Rafaela M. Sanchez – Office Manager*

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

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

Monday, October 27, 2014 @ 6:00 p.m.

**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

<i>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.</i>
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**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 Lizarraga.

**2. ROLL CALL:**

Directors present at roll call: Sergio Escobedo, Eduardo Valdez-Belmonte and Margie Lizarraga. Also present was General Manager, Laura G. Fischer; General Counsel Steve Walker was not present. Director Tony Sandoval arrived at 6:08 pm and Director Garcia-Ruiz arrived at 6:50 pm during Closed Session.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Margie Lizarraga.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Approval of Agenda was made by Director Valdez-Belmonte, seconded by Director Escobedo.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: S. Escobedo, E. Valdez-Belmonte, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT:

**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.*

Christian Aguilar, an employee with HPUD and the representative of the NRTA Bargaining Unit, spoke to the Board requesting they consider the SDRMA Gold insurance plan with HPUD paying 100%. He said that the District is very generous with their benefit program and that is why we have employees who stay with the District for many year and who work very hard. He stated that the employees were willing to give up the Platinum Plan for the Gold Plan in order to save the District money, but requested that HPUD purchase the Gold plan.

Rachel Carrillo, and employee with HPUD, addressed the Board saying that making a change from Platinum to Silver would be a big change in insurance benefits and a large

increase in expenses for employees. She also stated that there was not a lot of time or notice of a change so employees haven't been able to budget for the additional expenses of the higher deductibles and co-pays. She requested that the Board purchase the SDRMA Gold plan for the employees.

Eduardo Gonzalez, an employee with HPUD and representative of the NRTA Bargaining Unit, stated that the employees appreciate the benefits they receive and ask the Board to consider the hard work the employees do for the District and to purchase the Gold plan.

With no additional public comment, a motion was made to go into Closed Session at 6:15 pm by Director Valdez-Belmonte and seconded by director Escobedo.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

AYES: S. Escobedo, E. Valdez-Belmonte, T. Sandoval, M. Lizarraga

NOES: None

ABSENT:

**6. CLOSED SESSION:**

- A. Government Code Section 54957.6 Negotiations with Natural Resources Technical Association.

The meeting was called back to Open Session at 7:02pm.  
No reportable action was taken.

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Discussion Related Action Regarding Medical Insurance Coverage For Employees – General Manager

A motion was made by Director Sandoval as follows: HPUD will pay 100% of the SDRMA Gold Plan for all employees; that HPUD will offer, to all eligible employees, the option to “buy back” health insurance benefit at 50% of the cost of the SDRMA Gold Plan for the Employee only; and that these insurance benefits and “buy back” option will be in effect through the term of the NRTA Memorandum of Understanding, which is June 30, 2016. The motion was seconded by Director Valdez-Belmonte.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT:

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 pm was made by Director Sandoval, seconded by Director Escobedo.

Motion approved by Roll Call:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT:

*Minutes for the Special Meeting for October 27, 2014 were prepared by Laura Fischer, General Manager.*

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