

BISHOP AREA WASTEWATER AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
*September 22, 2020*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pachucki called the Bishop Area Wastewater Authority Board of Directors Special Meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. in the City Council Chambers, 301 West Line Street, Bishop, California via video conference.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Pachucki

3. ROLL CALL

Present:

Chairman Pachucki  
Vice Chairman Muchovej  
Board Member Stone

Absent:

Board Member Costello

Others Present:

Ron Phillips, Authority Treasurer/Auditor-Controller  
Deston Dishion, Authority Administrator  
Jennifer Krafcheck, Authority Interim Secretary  
Ward Simmons, Legal Counsel  
Michele Rhew, Acting Secretary

4. PUBLIC COMMENT: NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: See modified public comment procedure above. Under California law the Board of Directors is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included in the agenda; however, the Board of Directors may briefly respond to comments or questions received from members of the public. Therefore, the Board of Directors will be provided with all public comments but will not generally discuss the matter or take action on it.

No public comments were received.

5. INTERIM BUDGET DISCUSSION: As part of the process of forming a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) the Bishop Area Wastewater Authority (BAWA) must establish an interim budget within 120 days of signing the agreement. 120 days from the signed agreement date is October 23, 2020.

Chairman Pachucki opened the item and turned it over to Authority Administrator Dishion to review with the Board. Dishion went over the drafted proposed budget that includes line items for legal fees, insurance, professional services, staff time, permitting fees, and future capital projects. Dishion went into detail for each line item explaining how he came up with the budget amounts.

Vice Chairman Muchovej expressed his thoughts regarding uncertainty on costs for irrigation and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) land deals. Muchovej feels costs for those two items should not be included in the preliminary budget. Muchovej agrees joint testing should take place and be a part of the budget as well as adding discharge permits. Dishion shared a recent discussion he had with Lahontan explaining there will now be three discharge permits, one permit for each plant and one permit from BAWA.

Pachucki asked City staff when the time clock will start for the legal fees and if preformation costs are included. Legal Counsel Ward stated that BAWA would start paying bills incurred after becoming an entity. Dishion explained that since the beginning, the District and City have been equally dividing legal costs.

Muchovej asked if there should be a line item for grant writing purposes. The amount of \$5,000 was agreed upon to be appropriate. The Board also discussed joining Inyo-Mono IRWMP Program and Dishion stated he attends the meeting for the City and can attend for BAWA as well.

Additional discussion took place regarding insurance, bylaws, paid-to-date expenditures, and future capital improvement funds.

No public comments were received.

Vice Chairman Muchovej made a motion to accept the proposed preliminary 2020/2021 budget with the modifications discussed for capital improvement and grant writing line items. Board Member Stone seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Ayes: Vice Chairman Muchovej, Board Member Stone, and Chairman Pachucki  
Noes: None

Ward clarified the timeline schedule to approve the preliminary budget.

6. APPROVAL FOR BAWA ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN NATIONAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE APPLICATIONS: Over the past several weeks Walt Pachucki and Deston Dishion have been meeting with Rob Pierce of the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). NRCS offers services such as irrigation design, funds to construct irrigation systems, and creation of "Farm Management Plans".

Chairman Pachucki opened the item and turned it over to Authority Administrator Dishion to review with the Board. Dishion stated that the Board wants to apply for membership with the NRCS and to be part of their 2021/2022 Fiscal Year Budget. Dishion asked for Board approval to be the administrator to sign applications on behalf of BAWA. Discussion followed.

No public comments were received.

Vice Chairman Muchovej made a motion to grant the authority to the Administrator to sign the NRCS application and miscellaneous forms. Board Member Stone seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-0.

Ayes: Vice Chairman Muchovej, Board Member Stone, and Chairman Pachucki  
Noes: None

## 7. STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

Chairman Pachucki asked that an item be added to the next meeting for discussion about the Board's position regarding continuity of leases.

Vice Chairman Muchovej asked Authority Administrator Dishion if wastewater is two words or one word. Dishion explained that the word can be interchangeable as one word or two words. Dishion suggested it be one word in the name of the authority. Pachucki shared that it is seen both ways and when he created the Authority's name it was determined to be one word.

There were no further reports from Staff and the Board.

8. ADJOURNMENT: The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Bishop Area Wastewater Authority will be October 20, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the Bishop City Council Chambers, 301 West Line Street, Bishop.

Chairman Pachucki adjourned the meeting at 9:01 a.m. to the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 20, 2020.

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Chairman Pachucki

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Michele Rhew, Acting Secretary