# A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE UPPER SAN GABRIEL VALLEY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT 248 E. FOOTHILL BLVD. ROOM 103, MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA 91016 4:00 P.M. – JUNE 14, 2023

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held in the office of the District, 248 E. Foothill Blvd, Rm. 103, City of Monrovia, County of Los Angeles, State of California, within said Water District, on June 14, 2023 at the hour of 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL DIRECTORS Chavez, Garcia, Santana, and Fellow

PRESENT:

DIRECTORS Treviño

ABSENT:

STAFF Patty Cortez, Assistant General Manager, External Affairs; PRESENT: Steve O'Neill, District Counsel; Steve Johnson, Consulting

Engineer; Evelyn Rodriguez, Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer; Venessa Navarrette, Executive Assistant; Jennifer Aguilar, Water Use Efficiency Analyst; and Katherine Vazquez, Government and Community Affairs

Assistant.

OTHERS PRESENT Lynda Noriega, Tony Zampiello, Kelly Gardner, and Che Venegas.

PRESENTATION OF "WATER IS LIFE"

ART CONTEST WINNERS

Assistant General Manager, Patty Cortez, introduced the "Water is Life" Art

Contest winners and the Board distributed awards to those present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

On motion by Vice President Fellow, seconded by Treasurer Garcia, the agenda

was adopted as presented by the following vote:

AYES: SANTANA, FELLOW, GARCIA AND CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE ABSENT: TREVIÑO

**PUBLIC COMMENT** 

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Next scheduled committee meeting dates are as follows:

- (a) Government Affairs and Community Outreach July 10, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- (b) Administration and Finance July 11, 2023, time to be determined.
- (c) Water Resources and Facility Management July 11, 2023, time to be determined.

CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion by Treasurer Garcia, seconded by Vice President Fellow, the consent calendar was approved by the following vote:

AYES: SANTANA, FELLOW, GARCIA AND CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE ABSENT: TREVIÑO

- (a) Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 24, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.
- (b) List of Demands.
- (c) Financial Reports April 2023
  - 1. Financial Statements
  - 2. Director's Public Outreach

## STATE LEGISLATIVE BILL POSTIONS AB 1423, AB 1567 and SB 867

Vice President Fellow shared that this item came before the Government and Community Affairs Committee without a quorum the prior week which is why there is no recommendation from the committee.

On motion by Vice President Fellow, seconded by Secretary Chavez, the Board of Directors approved the state legislative bill positions AB 1423, AB 1567, and SB 867 by the following vote:

AYES: SANTANA, FELLOW, GARCIA AND CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE ABSENT: TREVIÑO

# APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2023/24 BUDGET.

The Assistant General Manager reported that the budget was presented and discussed at the Administration and Finance Committee and at a producers' meeting prior to bringing this item to the Board for approval.

Steve O'Neill shared some information regarding the Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act, included in the November 2024 ballot, as it relates to water rate adoption and the reasons why Upper District's rate adoption has been postponed.

On motion by Treasurer Garcia, seconded by Vice President Fellow, the Board of Directors approved the Fiscal Year 2023/24 Budget as presented and approved a cost-of-living adjustment for District wages equivalent to 6.70% effective July 1, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: SANTANA, FELLOW, GARCIA AND CHAVEZ

NOES: NONE ABSTAIN: NONE ABSENT: TREVIÑO

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items listed on the agenda for the information of the Board were read and ordered received and filed:

(a) Press Releases and Newspaper Articles.

District Counsel reported on transactional matters including working with staff on the elevator upgrade contract and insurance requirements, rate ordinance, ACWA Region 8 resolution, and employee leave related issues. He requested to bring information at the next meeting regarding Sackett vs. US EPA since that Supreme Court decision provided potential changes to the definitions of WOTUS.

The District Engineer shared that this is an unusual water year. He reported that as of June 9<sup>th</sup>, the key well was at 233.3 ft and has risen approximately 53 ft since January. He reported that there is still approximately 300 CFS coming out of San Gabriel which is unusual for this time of the year. Morris Dam releases is at approximately 700 CFS with plans to reduce the flow the following week, allowing USG-3 to be turned on. He added that the County has a 5-year permit to remove debris from the reservoirs, so they are on a timeline to remove the debris from storage and get to work.

Vice President Fellow and Steve Johnson discussed how the debris are taken to a debris basin further into the mountain.

Secretary Chavez asked if the key well is going to stay high due to the increased water replenishment. Steve Johnson explained that during a typical year, basin levels go down by 10 to 12 feet over the summer months but that this is not a

#### ATTORNEY'S REPORT

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

typical year. He stated that the reduction might only be five feet from July to October rather than ten. Secretary Chavez and the District Engineer discussed how the spreading grounds have a slower percolation rate when full.

President Santana asked if the plan to deliver 140 thousand AF of water this calendar year is still possible. Steve Johnson shared that it is most likely not possible and that they are projecting about 110 thousand AF to be more reasonable.

President Santana asked about the PFAS and PFOAS levels in the area and if they are rising. Steve Johnson and Tony Zampiello explained that the results show more PFAS, but that is because it was not tested for in the past. Mr. Zampiello added that PFAS levels seem higher but only because it was not something on the quality sheets before now. Steve Johnson also explained that there are treatment methods in the works.

A written report was also provided in the Board's agenda packet.

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Assistant General Manager shared that at the next meeting, the Board will hear from Eric Batman of Los Angeles County Public Works and the strategic plan will be presented for adoption. She explained that Upper District has been working with Metropolitan on the Climate Adaptation Plan and expressed that the Pure Water project is a priority for the District. She also shared that they have been working with Metropolitan on advocacy for legislation and funding for recycled water, infrastructure, and non-functional turf. The Assistant General Manager shared the proposed summer meeting schedule with the Board which included moving committee meetings from the first week of July to the second week, cancelling the July 26th meeting, going dark for all of August, and moving the Government and Community Affairs Committee meeting from September 4th to September 11th.

President Santana asked if all the water resources bond would go towards Pure Water. The Assistant General Manager clarified that the funding is across the state and might not be for Pure Water alone.

President Santana asked what might have led to the change in the Friedman bill removing Multi-Family from the NFT requirements. The Assistant General Manager shared that it was most likely related to constantly asking.

A written report was also provided in the Board's agenda packet.

Vice President Fellow shared Metropolitan's contribution to the change in Friedman's bill related to NFT. He stated that Metropolitan released the results of its public survey which showed the main concerns were supply, quality, and climate change. He shared there was support for conservation even after a wet year and that most people think the rates are too high. He added that most people do not know what Metropolitan is or what it does. He shared that Metropolitan is hoping to be able to work on reaching the youth to address the issues that came up in the survey regarding tap water.

Vice President Fellow shared that water levels in Lake Mead and Lake Powell are rising. He and the District Engineer discussed how the above normal rainfall in the area resulted in the water levels rising.

President Santana stated that a good way to encourage young people to drink tap water is to provide more refillable water bottles. She suggested providing them to the art contest participants.

#### METROPOLITAN REPORT

Treasurer Garcia shared that refillable bottles and water fill stations are very popular right now and would be good connections to make with tap water.

Secretary Chavez mentioned that the District used to give away flat water bottles and fill stations. He asked if the District was still providing water bottle filling stations. The Assistant General Manager shared that the program was stopped last year after saturating the area over a two-year cycle. She shared that staff would look into options to provide more units and would definitely be providing more refillable bottles at summer events.

Vice President Fellow stated Upper District is definitely ahead of other agencies when it comes to these types of items.

A written report was also provided in the Board's agenda packet.

### WATER QUALITY AUTHORITY REPORT

A summary report was provided in the Board's agenda packet.

WATERMASTER REPORT

A summary report was also provided in the Board's agenda packet.

#### AB 1234 COMPLIANCE REPORT

A summary report was provided in the Board's agenda packet.

**DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS** 

Treasurer Garcia shared that she loved the art contest and is happy to hear that Metropolitan is working to educate young people about the safety of their tap water.

Vice President Fellow extended his thanks to the General Manager, Tom Love, for the bike ride the previous Saturday and his role in informing the public during the stops.

President Santana shared that water quality is definitely something that needs to be discussed more and might be affecting how people view their tap water.

#### **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Vice President Fellow requested that the Board discuss succession planning from the Strategic Plan at a meeting in September.

#### ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

President Santana asked if there were other business to come before the Board. There being none, the meeting was adjourned to a regular meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on June 28, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. at 248 E. Foothill Blvd. Room 103, Monrovia, CA 91016.

**ATTEST** 

PRESIDENT

**SECRETARY** 

**SEAL** 

Demands numbered 21990 through 22049 on the General Fund Account of the Upper District at Citizens Business Bank, in the amount of \$334,732.15 and demands numbered 1110 through 1115 on the Water Fund Account at the same bank in the amount of \$835,695.37.

21990	Municipal Water District	Inv. 02/09/23UDREI, MWDOC Water Policy Forum & Dinner Sponsorship ( <i>Previously Paid 05/11/23</i> )	\$ 850.00
21991	Aaron Hussey	Art Contest Winner - 4th Place Grades 9-12	100.00
21992	Aaron Read & Associates, LLC	Inv. 212777, State and Legislative Advocacy Services, May 2023 (Board approved 10/12/22)	10,000.00
21993	Accent Computer Solutions, Inc	Inv. 157580, IT Management Support, April 2023       353.47         Inv. 157935, IT Management Support, June 2023       2,789.36         (Board approved 02/09/22)       (80.0000)	_ 3,142.83
21994	ACWA/JPIA	Inv. 0699404, Health Insurance Premium - June 2023	26,098.45
21995	Aleshire & Wynder, LLP	Professional Services, April 2023       4,267.00         Inv. 75553, Retainer       4,267.00         Inv. 75554, Transactional Fees       157.60         Inv. 75555, Transactional Fees       1,548.60         (Board approved 04/13/22)       60	_ 5,973.20
21996	Alice Kim	Art Contest Winner - 5th Place Grades 6-8	25.00
21997	Angela Shih	Art Contest Winner - 1st Place Grades 9-12	250.00
21998	Anthony Ordonez	Art Contest Winner - 5th Place Grades 3-5	25.00
21999	Ariana Duarte	Art Contest Winner - 2nd Place Grades 6-8	100.00
22000	Best Best & Krieger, LLP	Inv. 963639, Federal Legislative Advocacy Services through 03/31/23 7,500.00 Inv. 966133, Federal Legislative Advocacy Services through 04/30/23 7,500.00 (Board approved 10/12/22)	15,000.00
22001	Bulletin Displays, LLC	Inv. 34646, Digital Display "Water Conservation" Ad	4,500.00
22002	Caitlyn Xu	Art Contest Winner - 2nd Place Grades K-2	100.00
22003	Caroline Chen	Art Contest Winner - 5th Place Grades K-2	25.00
22004	City of Monrovia	Inv. 2301694, MAA Funding - Drought Marketing Materials	4,522.80
22005	Concentra	Inv. 77911095, Employee Medical	311.00
22006	Downtown El Monte Business Association	Inv. 10/22/22UDREI, Dia De Los Muertos Replacement Check	500.00
22007	Discovery Cube	Inv. 1712-A, Sustainable Watershed Education Program	5,680.00
22008	Dyana Wang	Art Contest Winner - 1st Place Grades 3-5	150.00
22009	EcoTech Services, Inc.	Inv. 2674, Landscaping Maintenance - June 2023900.00Inv. 2635, Landscaping Maintenance - May 2023900.00	1,800.00
22010	Emma Zhong	Art Contest Winner - 3rd Place Grades K-2	75.00
22011	Fiona Chau	Art Contest Winner - 1st Place Grades 6-8	150.00
22012	G3LA, LLC	Inv. 1125, Birds & Pollinators Webinar - April 2023       2,000.00         Inv. 1126, Where Our Water Comes From - May 2023       2,000.00         (Board approved 03/08/23)	_ 4,000.00
22013	Image Property Services, LLC	Inv. MCS-7745, Detailed Cleaning, February 2023         220.00           Inv. MCS-8682, Janitorial Services, May 2023         1,338.14	1,558.14
22014	Jocelin Huang	Art Contest Winner - 1st Place Grades K-2	150.00
22015	Joely Cheng	Art Contest Winner - 4th Place Grades K-2	50.00
22016	Joey C. Soto	Inv. 2023-UD-GA-APR-103, Grant Writing Services, April 2023 (Board approved 06/08/22)	842.50
22017	Kaelyn Park	Art Contest Winner - 4th Place Grades 6-8	50.00

22018	Kelly Services, Inc.	Inv. 1602523123, Temporary Services Week Ending 04/23/23 Inv. 1800374723, Temporary Services Week Ending 04/23/23 Inv. 1702693123, Temporary Services Week Ending 04/30/23 Inv. 1800374823, Temporary Services Week Ending 04/30/23 Inv. 1802687723, Temporary Services Week Ending 05/07/23 Inv. 1902760723, Temporary Services Week Ending 05/14/23 Inv. 2002743923, Temporary Services Week Ending 05/21/23 Inv. 2101941323, Temporary Services Week Ending 05/28/23 (Board approved 12/16/21)	1,508.63 55.87 1,338.53 49.57 1,701.63 1,433.25 1,680.00 1,669.50	9,436.98
22019	Khloe Lam	Art Contest Winner - 2nd Place Grades 3-5		100.00
22020	Kyra Tang	Art Contest Winner - 5th Place Grades 9-12		50.00
22021	Lands' End	Inv. SIN11165432, UD Logo Items CM. SCR1403627, Returned UD Logo Items Inv. SIN11262551, UD Logo Items	481.27 (216.03) 251.24	516.48
22022	La Opinion	Inv. 129490423, Earth Day 2023 Ad		1,250.00
22023	Means Consulting, LLC	Inv. USGV-5908, Strategic Planning and Facilitation Services		13,720.74
22024	R M Systems	Inv. 905173, Additional Wireless Microphone/Installation		1,066.58
22025	Rowland Water District	Inv. 9025, UD Cost Share - Compressor Repairs for the Surge Tanks at PS2A		2,264.81
22026	Sameerah Bradford	Art Contest Winner - 3rd Place Grades 9-12		150.00
22027	Seonghee (Sophie) Yoo	Art Contest Winner - 3rd Place Grades 6-8		75.00
22028	San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership	Inv. 7874, UD Cost Share - Open House Catering		455.00
22029	San Gabriel Valley Newspaper	Inv. 0000565520, LA County Fair Ads, April 2023 Inv. D7CBE7F-0001, PH Notice Standby Charge	2,275.00 724.72	2,999.72
22030	Skylar Wang	Art Contest Winner - 4th Place Grades 3-5		50.00
22031	Spectrum Reach/Charter	Inv. 380016232, Public Information, May 2023 Inv. 420018975, Public Information, May 2023 Inv. 420018976, Public Information, May 2023	3,450.00 1,528.00 1,500.00	6,478.00
22032	Stetson Engineers, Inc.	Inv. 2533-205, General Engineering Support Services, April 2023		9,717.31
22033	Sunny Slope Water	Inv. MAAEWCPMET126-040323, Emergency Water Conservation Program Project Inv. MAAEWCPMET126-041823, Emergency Water Conservation Program Project	2,415.50 1,214.50	3,630.00
22034	Sylvia Wang	Art Contest Winner - 2nd Place Grades 9-12		200.00
22035	Team 968	Inv. GRNT22-23AREI, Acid, Base & PH Experiment		1,000.00
22036	Upper District Payroll Fund	Inv. APR 23, Reimbursement of Payroll and Payroll Taxes for Employees Inv. APR 23D, Reimbursement of Payroll Taxes for Directors	127,401.06 6,500.18	133,901.24
22037	Upper District Revolving Fund	Inv. MAY 23, Replenish Revolving Fund Account - May 2023 Office Supplies Computer Systems/Equipment/Maintenance/Insurance/ Outside Service Directors's Outreach Telephone/Utilities/Building Maintenance Meeting Expense District Vehicle Expense Travel/Conference Water Conservation Program Expenses WRP Operation & Maintenance/Permits/Water Purchases/PM/Public Info	522.84 529.00 1,820.00 4,217.79 244.93 34.98 67.86 1,061.64 4,660.02	
22038	U.S. Bank Corporate Payment System	Medical/ODA Reimbursement/Processing Fee/Retirement Plan/Overdeposit  CalCard Changes through 05/22/23  Membership/Other  Meetings, Travel, Conferences  Computer Systems/Office Equipment/Supplies/Maintenance & Service/Utilities	4,382.33 5,351.50 1,057.27	17,541.39
		Conservation Program Expenses, Education and Outreach	1,184.00	7,592.77
22039	Via Promotionals	Inv. 20934, UD Logo Items Inv. 20990, UD Logo Items	2,423.61 3,194.66	5,618.27
22040	WateReuse Association	Inv. 11/05/23UD, 2023 Annual California Conference Sponsorship		2,000.00
22041	Wesley Zhu	Art Contest Winner - 3rd Place Grades 3-5		75.00
22042	Willdan Financial Services	Inv. 010-53694, FY 2022/23 Standby Charge Services through January 2023 Inv. 010-54639, FY 2022/23 Standby Charge Services through April 2023 ( <i>Board approved 04/03/19</i> )	2,829.96 12,160.06	14,990.02

2204	3 Anthony Fellow	Director's Compensation, April 2023 10 Days District Business 10 MWD Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	2,550 2,550 516 (500 (1,567	).00 5.87 ).00)	3,549.80
2204	4 Katerina Garcia	Director's Compensation, April 2023 5 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	1,275 516 (500 (181	5.87 0.00)	1,110.69
2204	5 Anthony Fellow	Director's Compensation, May 2023 10 Days District Business 10 MWD Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	2,550 2,550 516 (500 (1,567	).00 5.87 ).00)	3,549.80
2204	6 Ed Chavez	Director's Compensation, May 2023 10 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	2,550 2,777 (1,600 (1,691	7.70 0.00)	2,036.16
2204	17 Charles Treviño	Director's Compensation, May 2023 10 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	2,550 516 (500 (525	5.87 0.00)	2,041.22
2204	8 Jennifer Santana	Director's Compensation, May 2023 6 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	1,530 516 (1,800 (220	5.87 0.00)	26.43
2204	9 Katerina Garcia	Director's Compensation, May 2023 7 Days District Business Meeting/Travel Expenses/Allowance Less Deferred Comp. Less Taxes Withheld	1,785 516 (500 (292	5.87 0.00)	1,509.82
			TOTAL	_\$	334,732.15
1110	Central Basin MWD	Invoice No. USGV-APR23, Purchase of 0.4 AF of Recycled Water in March 2023 ( <i>Previously paid 06/06/23</i> )		\$	256.31
1111	City of Industry City Hall	Invoice No. APR-23, Purchase of 40.2 AF of Recycled Water in April 2023			13,869.00
1112	City of Industry City Hall	Invoice No. APR-23CIP, CIP Charge for APR 2023 @ \$98 per AF			3,939.60
1113	Metropolitan Water District	Invoice No. 11129, Purchase of 334.3 AF of Treated Water in April 2023			795,882.30
1114	San Gabriel Valley MWD	Invoice No. 552, 99.86 AF of Water Delivered through the Alhambra/MWD Exchange Agreement in April 2023 @ \$200 per AF			19,972.00
1115	Suburban Water System	Invoice No. 6720, Phase IIB Normal Operating Charge, May 2023			1,776.16
			TOTAL	\$	835,695.37