

**SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

2011-07-21

APPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order

09:03 AM

●
Molasky Corporate Center, Southern Nevada Water Authority Board
Chambers,
100 City Parkway, Suite 700 (7th floor)
Las Vegas, Nevada

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Shari Buck Chair, Mary Beth Scow Vice Chair, Sam Bateman, Bob Coffin, Tom Collins, Duncan McCoy, Steve Sisolak

DIRECTORS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Pat Mulroy, Phil Speight, Rick Holmes, Jim Taylor, John Entsminger

OTHERS PRESENT

ITEM NO.

Unless otherwise indicated, all members present voted in the affirmative.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

BUSINESS AGENDA

1. Approval of Agenda & Minutes

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Scow to approve the agenda for this meeting and the minutes of the regular meeting of June 16, 2011. The motion was approved.

2. Appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman to preside over the Board of Directors for fiscal year 2011/2012, and appoint three directors to serve as commissioners of the Colorado River Commission for one-year terms.

Director Sisolak asked if the Authority had a policy related to officer term limits. Pat Mulroy replied that the Authority's Cooperative Agreement does not maintain such a policy. Director Sisolak expressed a concern about directors holding officer positions for subsequent years and requested an agenda item be placed on a future agenda to discuss this issue and to look to the policies of other entities as an example.

Director Collins also suggested looking into developing an agenda item for future agendas that provided for comments from the directors.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director McCoy to appoint Mayor Shari Buck as chairman and Commissioner Mary Beth Scow as vice chairman. The motion was approved.

A motion was made by Chairman Buck to appoint Directors Bob Coffin, Tom Collins and Duncan McCoy as commissioners of the Colorado River Commission for a one-year term. The motion was approved.

3. Authorize the General Manager to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study Agreement among the Bureau of Reclamation, the Arizona Department of Water Resources, the (California) Six Agency Committee, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, the Utah Division of Water Resources, the Wyoming State Engineer's Office, and the Authority which extends the time of performance to July 2012, and increases the Authority's cash contribution by an amount not to exceed \$160,000.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Vice Chair Scow to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

4. Approve a project funding agreement between the Water Research Foundation and the Authority to conduct research on the "Release of Algal Metabolites Due to Preoxidation with Ozone" for the amount \$268,099.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Collins to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

5. Ratify the Authority's intervention in Nevada Power Company's General Rate Case and authorize the Authority's intervention in the upcoming Public Utility Commission and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission dockets involving the merger of Nevada Power Company with Sierra Pacific Resources.

Pat Mulroy explained that the Authority is a transmission customer of NV Energy, and to that extent, if the Authority does not intervene in the rate case, it cannot participate in the process moving forward. Director Sisolak asked for clarification regarding our position in the rate case. Ms. Mulroy replied that the Authority is seeking to maintain its current transmission rates and keep any potential increases to a minimum. Jim Taylor reported that NV Energy is proposing a small increase, but clarified that this agenda item is intended to allow the Authority to be a participating member in the case. He also noted that the Authority plans to use out-of-house counsel, but does not anticipate the cost to exceed \$100,000.

FINAL ACTION: A motion was made by Director Sisolak to follow staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

6. Receive an update from staff on water resources including, but not limited to, drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin, the results of the implementation of the Authority's Water Resource and Conservation Plans, activities on the Colorado River, and on the development of in-state water resources.

Rick Holmes provided the board with an update regarding drought conditions along the Colorado

River. A copy of the presentation is included with the minutes.

Director Sisolak asked how many feet Lake Mead is currently projected to rise. John Entsminger stated that the lake is projected to rise approximately 50 feet if Lake Powell receives all of its projected inflows. Director Sisolak asked if that would put Nevada near a surplus condition, which Ms. Mulroy confirmed that it would put the lake near surplus conditions. Director Bateman asked how surplus conditions could benefit Nevada, and Ms. Mulroy described how surplus conditions are similar to shortage conditions, as they are tied to Lake Mead water elevations. Surplus is declared at elevation 1,150 feet - when surplus conditions are declared, Nevada can use more than its regular allocation.

Ms. Mulroy reported that the draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Authority's Clark, Lincoln and White Pine Counties Groundwater Development Project is available for public comment. The Bureau of Land Management is conducting public meetings throughout the state and staff is preparing for the hearings to consider the water rights in September - November 2011.

Chairman Buck asked Ms. Mulroy to report on her remarks at the U.S. Chambers national infrastructure conference. Ms. Mulroy reported that the Chamber is evaluating costs to cities across the United States related to impacts from drought and flooding events. The conference evaluated options to examining water resources as a national issue with national infrastructure and will be working to elevate these issues to the federal level.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public wishing to speak.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.

APPROVED:

Shari Buck, Chair

Patricia Mulroy, General Manager

Copies of all original agenda items and minutes, including all attachments, are on file in the General Manager's office at the Las Vegas Valley Water District, 1001 South Valley View Boulevard.