

**SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 30, 2024
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER 9:05 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Chair
Dan Stewart, Vice Chair
Scott Black
Olivia Diaz
Steve Walton

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT Jim Gibson and Justin Jones

STAFF PRESENT John Entsminger, Colby Pellegrino, Dave Johnson, Kevin Bethel and Greg Walch

OTHERS PRESENT None

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

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

For full public comment, visit snwa.com/apps/snwa-agendas/index.cfm

Bob Gomperz spoke concerning item 13 and said he was interested in additional information on what projects would be funded by the proposed bond sale.

ITEM NO.

1. ***For Possible Action: Approve agenda with the inclusion of tabled and/or reconsidered items, emergency items and/or deletion of items, and approve the minutes from the regular meetings of March 21, 2024, and April 25, 2024.***

John Entsminger, General Manager, requested that items 13-16 be considered at the beginning of the agenda.

FINAL ACTION: Vice Chair Stewart made a motion to approve the agenda for this meeting, hearing items 13-16 first, and to approve the minutes from the regular meetings of March 21, 2024, and April 25, 2024. The motion was approved.

Items 13-16 were taken out of order.

13. ***For Possible Action: Adopt a resolution requesting the Board of Directors of the Las Vegas Valley Water District to issue bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$472,100,000 to finance the cost of water projects for the Authority; declaring the official intent of the Authority to reimburse certain costs related to such water projects with the proceeds of such bonds; and providing the effective date thereof.***

FINAL ACTION: Director Black made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

14. ***For Possible Action: Adopt the 2024A SNWA SRF Request Resolution, authorizing the Authority to file an application for a loan from the Nevada Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to finance water infrastructure projects of the Authority and to secure the loan with revenue bonds secured by pledged revenues in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$70,000,000.***

FINAL ACTION: Director Walton made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

15. ***For Possible Action: Adopt a resolution consenting to the refunding of certain Las Vegas Valley Water District General Obligation (Limited Tax) Bonds that are additionally secured by SNWA Pledged Revenues and requesting the Board of Directors of the Las Vegas Valley Water District to issue general obligation (limited tax) (additionally secured by SNWA Pledged Revenues) refunding bonds in the maximum principal amount of \$335,630,000, in one or more series to refinance all or any portion of the Bonds.***

FINAL ACTION: Director Diaz made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

16. ***For Possible Action:*** Conduct a public hearing on the Tentative Budget for the Authority and adopt a final budget for Fiscal Year 2024/25.

John Entsminger, General Manager, gave a summary presentation on the tentative budget. A copy of his presentation is attached to these minutes.

Chair Kirkpatrick opened the public hearing. Ed Uehling said that the Authority should avoid borrowing money by selling its unused Colorado River water apportionment. He said the Authority could also encourage the development of more apartments, which use less water than single-family residences.

Laura McSwain said she objected with how the budget was presented. She said that the budget should have more of a breakdown of the specific items on the budget. She said that there was confusion between the budgets of the Authority and the Las Vegas Valley Water District, and that it was difficult to distinguish between the accomplishments of the two agencies. She said there should also be a breakdown of the wholesale delivery charges by customer in the budget. She also expressed concern about the Authority's lobbying efforts at the Nevada Legislature.

Diane Henry spoke concerning the Authority's septic conversion program. She asked for more information on the funding for the septic conversion program. She said that the budget did detail how the program was funded or where specific expenditures were occurring.

Denise Reitz asked about the infrastructure charges being charged to customers. She was concerned with the increasing charges.

Mr. Entsminger said that the infrastructure charge increases were recommended by a citizens committee and approved by the Board in 2020 to pay for essential infrastructure and to adjust with inflation. He also spoke concerning a septic conversion program letter that was mailed out to residents to gauge interest in a voluntary fee to help fund a fully-funded septic conversion program option for residents with septic systems.

FINAL ACTION: Vice Chair Stewart made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA Items 2 – 9 are routine and can be taken in one motion unless a Director requests that an item be taken separately.

2. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the execution of an assistance agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Authority to accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$743,329 for riparian corridor improvements at the Warm Springs Natural Area and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications if such modifications do not fiscally impact the Authority.
3. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify the execution of amendments 01 and 02 to an agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Authority to accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$20 million to support construction of Weir 5 in the Lower Las Vegas Wash and authorize the General Manager to approve future modifications if such modifications do not fiscally impact the Authority.
4. ***For Possible Action:*** Ratify approval of a grant agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART: Water Recycling and Desalination Planning program for \$1,000,000 for planning and design activities related to the City of Boulder City's wastewater.
5. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the Chair to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, a memorandum of agreement among Clark County, Boulder City, the City of Henderson, the City of Las Vegas, the City of Mesquite, the City of North Las Vegas, the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada and the Authority to collaboratively pursue a competitive grant through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program to help further the actions recommended in the All-In Community Sustainability and Climate Action Plan in Southern Nevada.
6. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the Chair to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an interlocal agreement among the City of Henderson, the City of Las Vegas, the City of North Las Vegas, Clark County, the Clark County Regional Flood Control District, the Clark County Water Reclamation District, and the Authority to establish funding allocations and the budget for Las Vegas Wash activities for the next five fiscal years and approve the Authority's annual allocation of \$892,277, with a 2.5 percent annual increase. In Fiscal Year 2024/25, grant funding will reduce the Authority's allocation to \$796,754.
7. ***For Possible Action:*** Adopt, approve and authorize the Chair to sign the attached amended resolution for more efficient administration of Authority construction projects.

8. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an amendment increasing the existing agreement between Granite Construction Company and the Authority by \$21,000,000 to provide Construction Manager at Risk pre-construction services in support of the Garnet Valley Wastewater System, Phase 2, resulting in a total amount not to exceed \$23,000,000.
9. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign, in substantially the same form as attached hereto, an interlocal agreement between the City of North Las Vegas and the Authority for the transfer of City of North Las Vegas funds for use in the development of the Garnet Valley Wastewater Program to include additional potable water facilities.

FINAL ACTION: Director Black made a motion to approve staff's recommendations. The motion was approved.

BUSINESS AGENDA

10. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an agreement between Carollo Engineers, Inc., and the Authority to assess and perform preliminary design for the rehabilitation of the flocculation area and replacement of sodium hypochlorite generators for an amount not to exceed \$10,289,782.

FINAL ACTION: Director Walton made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

11. ***For Possible Action:*** Award a contract for the replacement of the pumping plant floor to Rafael Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,092,753, authorize a change order contingency amount not to exceed \$100,000, and authorize the General Manager to sign the contract.

FINAL ACTION: Director Diaz made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

12. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign an agreement between Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and the Authority to design septic system conversions for an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000.

FINAL ACTION: Chair Kirkpatrick made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

Items 13-16 were taken out of order.

17. ***For Possible Action:*** Approve a lease agreement between the Colorado River Commission of Nevada and the Authority for 12,220 square feet of office space on the 11th floor of the Molasky Corporate Center for the term beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2026.

FINAL ACTION: Vice Chair Stewart made a motion to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was approved.

18. ***For Information Only:*** Receive an update from staff on water resources including, but not limited to, drought conditions in the Colorado River Basin, conservation programs and initiatives, activities on the Colorado River, and water resource acquisition and development.

Colby Pellegrino, Deputy General Manager - Resources, gave an update on water use and conservation initiatives. A copy of her presentation is attached to these minutes.

NO ACTION REQUIRED

Public Comment

Laura McSwain said that it was important for budgets to show operational expenses related to the delivery of water. She said she objected to AB356 and the removal of grass in some parks. Specifically, she did not agree with the removal of grass and trees at Sunridge Park. She asked for improved access and transparency with the AB356 waiver process.

Ed Uehling said that the Authority has placed restrictions on the residents of Southern Nevada. Nevada's excess water should be used to reduce the pain inflicted on residents by these restrictions. Golf courses are crucial elements of the tourist economy, but the Authority treats them as a plague on the economy.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.