

# Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors May 21, 2024

- I. **CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Aromas Water District Board of Directors was called to order by President Morris on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in a hybrid setting; attendees were present in the Board Room, and online via Zoom.
- II. **ROLL CALL.** President Morris, Vice-President Holman, Directors Powers, Norton, and Capron were present in the Board Room along with General Manager Johnson. Counsel Bosso attended via Zoom.
- III. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** President Morris led the pledge of allegiance.
- IV. **STATEMENTS OF DISQUALIFICATION.** There were no statements of disqualification.
- V. **ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS.** There were no additions or deletions.
- VI. **REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION ON APRIL 23, 2024.** GM Johnson was given direction.
- VII. **MINUTES.** The minutes of the April 23, 2024, Board Meeting was presented for review and approval. Director Powers moved for approval of the minutes; Director Capron seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.
- VIII. **ORAL COMMUNICATION.** No public comment. Management Analyst Girõn was in attendance.

## IX. PRESENTATIONS & REPORTS

- A. **Director's Report.** Director Norton reported that he attended the San Benito Business Council meeting where there was discussion about restricting future commercial units, as well as the possibility of a second high school in Hollister. Director Capron reported on attending a San Benito LAFCo workshop.  
Also, later in the meeting, Director Capron mentioned the Monterey County General Plan Housing Element was out for public comment. There are four parcels in Aromas identified for possible placement of multi-unit housing.
- B. **Attorney's Report.** Counsel Bosso reported that there was not anything to report on that affected our District. He mentioned the Legislative Session was coming to a close, so a number of bills were being presented for the Governor's review.

### C. Manager's Report:

#### ***OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE***

##### ***Production & Well Levels***

Total production in April 2024 was 5,377,825 gallons; roughly 5% higher than March's production (roughly 266,269 gallons), and 28% lower than April's average production. The average daily production was 179,261 gallons.

The District has 976 total connected meters – no new connections this month.

San Juan well was operated the entire month, Carpenteria well was operated 29 days of the month, and Pleasant Acres well was operated one day. All water testing reports were filed on time.

**Operational well levels:** Carpenteria well was four feet lower than the previous month, and San Juan well was down six feet. **Observational wells:** The Marshall well level showed a decrease of three feet from the previous month, and the Aimee Meadows well reading showed a decrease of four feet from the last reading.

##### ***INCIDENTS***

No incidents for the month; though the day of the meeting, it was discovered that a meter box on Carr Avenue had been asphalted over when the road was resurfaced. Staff gained access to the meter box.

## ***ADMINISTRATIVE***

### ***Staff & Board Recognition***

GM Johnson reported on the following staff activities: 1) Management Analyst (MA) Girõn and the Operations staff provided the necessary materials for the newly-added customers for the Lead and Copper water sampling effort. All the samples have now been sent to the lab, and the staff is awaiting results; 2) MA Girõn and the Operations staff continue to work on the Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory (LCSLI) requirements from the State. Staff should be completed by the end of May; 3) GM Johnson has been working closely with the Rate Study consultant and the related Rate Study Ad-Hoc Committee; and 4) GM Johnson attended (as did Director Capron) a San Benito LAFCo workshop.

### ***Conservation & Rainfall***

The beginning of the new rainfall year was on October 1, 2023. Since then, 21.08 inches of precipitation has been recorded by the rain gauge at Chittenden Pass.

## ***PROJECTS***

### ***Cole and Rocks Road Annexation***

No new installations were performed this month.

### ***New Water Source***

This matter was discussed in the April Closed Session, and the General Manager was given direction.

### ***Progress on the District's Capital Improvement Plan***

On April 22, 2024, a public workshop was held to discuss the projects contained within the Plan as well as project timing and necessity. The following night, at the Board meeting, the Plan discussion continued, and the Board was at an impasse, based on the rates that would result from the listed projects. A Rate Study Ad-Hoc Committee (Committee) was established to look at projects and rates. The outcome for the Plan will be determined from the Committee.

### ***Follow-up on the Kang Annexation effort***

The Kang Annexation, approved by the District Board in November 2022, and the PVWMA Board of Directors approved the annexation at their April 2023 meeting. The annexation application to San Benito County LAFCo was turned in, by both email and hard copy. Staff met with the LAFCo Executive Officer at a workshop and discuss the matters that need to be finalized for the annexation effort to be completed.

## **D. Correspondence:**

GM Johnson went through the monthly correspondence list and provided information on specific items, specifically the lack of progress on the District-Driscoll agreement, and the upcoming election.

(continued on next page)

