

**CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 3, 2021**

**MINUTES**

***CALL TO ORDER***

President Borba called to order a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Contra Costa Water District (District or CCWD) at 6:30 p.m., at 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, the regular meeting place of the Board. Pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders, the meeting was open to the public via teleconference, and Board member participation was in-person and via the teleconference.

***SAFETY BRIEFING***

The safety protocols completed by Board and staff participating in-person were provided.

***ROLL CALL***

Directors Present:	Lisa M. Borba, President Ernesto A. Avila, Vice President John A. Burgh Connstance Holdaway Antonio Martinez
Directors Absent:	None
General Manager:	Stephen J. Welch
Legal Counsel:	Douglas E. Coty
District Secretary	Mary A. Neher
Executive Management Analyst	Shelly Wise

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

President Borba led the pledge of allegiance.

***ADOPTION OF AGENDA***

The attachments to Agenda Item No. 7 regarding the vehicle purchases were revised to include additional information. The Board adopted the agenda by rule.

***PUBLIC COMMENT (Please observe a three-minute time limit)***

President Borba asked for public comment. Diablo Water District Director Joe Kovalick announced that he was participating in the teleconference.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve Directors' Services/Business and Travel Expenses
  - a. Future Services – March 2021
2. Approval of February 3, 2021 meeting minutes.
3. Approve the warrant register dated March 4, 2021.
4. Approve amendment of easements for a log boom with Joan Jess, Trustee of the Jess Family 1998 Trust Agreement, et al. for a five-year period ending on February 28, 2026 and an option for an additional five-year period to expire on February 28, 2031.
5. Authorize a conditional Modified Pressure Service Agreement with the owner of 3298 The Alameda, Concord in compliance with the Code of Regulations.
6. Authorize payment to the Division of Safety of Dams for the second application fee payment to enlarge the dam for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project in an amount of \$533,000, for a total fee payment to date of \$800,000.

President Borba asked if anyone wanted to remove an item from the consent calendar to be separately considered. No items were removed for separate consideration. President Borba asked for Board comments. There were none. President Borba asked for public comment. There were none.

**MOTION:** Holdaway/Martinez to approve the consent calendar. The motion was approved by roll-call vote (Ayes: Avila, Borba, Burgh, Holdaway, Martinez; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None).

**ACTION**

7. Authorize the purchase of two dump trucks, one bulldozer, one backhoe loader, seven heavy vehicles and four light vehicles and associated fabrication services for a combined purchase price of \$1,240,858.75 excluding sales tax.

General Manager Welch reviewed the vehicles in need of replacement, the District's vehicle replacement program that included the funds for the vehicles, and the competitive procurement process used for the vehicles. President Borba asked for Board comments. The Board thanked staff for providing the additional information and acknowledged that some vehicles would be procured through Sourcewell, which is a competitive bidding consortium used by public agencies. President Borba asked for public comment. There were none.

**MOTION:** Martinez/Holdaway to authorize the purchase of two dump trucks, one bulldozer, one backhoe loader, seven heavy vehicles and four light vehicles and associated fabrication services for a combined purchase price of \$1,240,858.75 excluding sales tax. The motion was approved by roll-call vote (Ayes: Avila, Borba, Burgh, Holdaway, Martinez; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None).

8. Adopt recommended positions on AB 602, AB 678, SB 222, SB 223, SB 230, and H.R. 737.

Director of Public Affairs Jennifer Allen explained the bill introduction deadline was February 19, 2021 and over 2,400 bills, many in spot form, had been introduced. Key legislative topics being monitored by the District were

reviewed. The Board state legislative briefings were scheduled for March 16. Various bills being developed by the District's local legislators were reviewed. AB 602 and AB 678 were both in spot form and appear to focus on development fees. The District recommended to take a *Watch* position on both bills. SB 222 focuses on development of a state-led low-income water bill assistance program. Because it is unknown how the program would be rolled out and no funding source has been identified, the District recommended to take a *Watch* position. SB 223 would further restrict the discontinuation of water service for non-payment and provide waivers and debt forgiveness, which could lead to violations of Proposition 218 by public agencies. The District recommended to take a *Watch* position. SB 230 would require the State Water Board's development of a Constituents of Emerging Concern Program to assess and make recommendations based upon studies from scientific processes. The District recommended to take a *Support* position.

On the federal side, the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package was still under discussion in the Senate, which includes a \$500 million water utility assistance package. H.R. 737 would extend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act of 2016 for 10 years. This is the first of several anticipated bills under development proposing to extend the WIIN Act. At this time staff asked for the Board to support the general concept of extending the WIIN Act and not issue a formal *Support* position until additional WIIN Act extension bills may be developed and reviewed.

President Borba asked for Board comment. A discussion ensued regarding bills related to water service as a right. In response to the Board's question regarding Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) extension from 20 to 30 years, staff acknowledged that the topic was under consideration and that there was no bill addressing the WIFIA extension to discuss at this time. A discussion ensued regarding the push for infrastructure funding and the importance for special districts to engage their local legislative representatives regarding funding opportunities. President Borba asked for public comment. There were none.

**MOTION:** Avila/Burgh to adopt District positions on: AB 602 – *Watch*, AB 678 – *Watch*, SB 222 – *Watch*, SB 223 – *Watch*, SB 230 – *Support*, and H.R. 737 – *Support*. The motion was approved by roll-call vote (Ayes: Avila, Borba, Burgh, Holdaway, Martinez; Noes: None; Abstain: None; Absent: None).

#### **REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION**

##### 9. Schedule Future Meeting Dates and Times

There were no meetings were added to the calendar.

#### **REPORTS**

##### 10. General Manager

General Manager Welch reported that the Canal liner repair at MP 25.40 has been completed, and the Canal will soon be placed back into service. Staff was commended for the repair. The Local Agency Partners federal legislative outreach activities for the Phase 2 of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project were reviewed. The District has had no additional COVID cases in its work force and over 40 members of staff have received their first vaccine. The Safe Return to Work Plan will be updated and reviewed with the applicable staff and unions.

##### 11. Legal Counsel

Legal Counsel did not have a report.

12. Board

Director Holdaway did not have a report.

Director Burgh did not have a report.

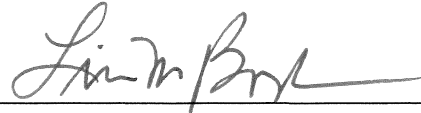
Director Martinez did not have a report.

Vice President Avila reported attendance at and provided comments on the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) DC 2021 Virtual Conference on February 24; the ACWA Local Affairs Committee on February 24; and a meeting with the General Manager on February 25.

President Borba reported attendance at and provided comments on two meetings with the General Manager on February 23 and March 2; and the ACWA DC 2021 Virtual Conference on February 24.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:02 p.m. President Borba adjourned the meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors will be on March 17, 2021 commencing at 6:30 p.m. and will be held by teleconference.



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Lisa M. Borba, President

Attest:



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Mary A. Neher, District Secretary