



## SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

1777 N Meadowlark Dr, Apple Valley  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 5:30 PM

### MINUTES

**Mayor** | Michael Farrar |

**Council Members** | Kevin Sair | Robin Whitmore | Barratt Nielson | Janet Prentice |

**CALL TO ORDER-** Mayor Farrar called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PRAYER-** Prayer offered by Council Member Prentice.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### **PRESENT**

Mayor Michael Farrar

Council Member Kevin Sair

Council Member Robin Whitmore

Council Member Barratt Nielson

Council Member Janet Prentice

#### **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comments.

#### **DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

1. Appointment of board members from the registered voters for the Big Plains Water Special Service District, Resolution-R-2024-03.

Mayor Farrar explained several applicants, numbered one through five, had submitted their applications, and the council aimed to fill the vacancy.

Mayor Farrar invited each applicant to come forward and answer a few basic questions. The first applicant, Matt Politte, introduced themselves, (stating their name, address, and, resident of Apple Valley, Utah), and mentioned concerns about washout issues in their area. Matt Politte had been a resident for approximately two and a half to three years, residing in the Cedar Point area.

Mayor Farrar posed questions to Matt Politte, inquiring about their stance on growth in Apple Valley. Matt Politte expressed the need for reasonable growth, emphasizing the importance of having sufficient water supply. He acknowledged concerns about the aquifer and emphasized the need to investigate and address water-related issues.

In addition to water-related concerns, Matt Politte highlighted his skills and experience, including working at Hurricane City as a utility locator, having hands-on experience, and possessing a building



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license. The council members appreciated Matt Politte's commitment to the town and dual-purpose skills, considering his potential contributions to emergency situations and general maintenance.

Mayor Farrar concluded the discussion with Matt Politte, and there were no further questions from the council. The meeting attendees expressed gratitude, and Mayor Farrar thanked Matt Politte for his participation in the appointment process.

Following Matt Politte's interview, Bradley Farrar, resident of Apple Valley, was invited to speak. Bradley Farrar had been a resident for a little over a year, living across from Cedar Point and near the mayor's residence.

Mayor Farrar asked Bradley Farrar about their stance on growth in Apple Valley. Bradley Farrar expressed the view that some growth might be necessary but emphasized the importance of being responsible. They stated a clear preference against excessive growth. When questioned about concerns regarding the water supply, Bradley Farrar expressed worry, specifically about the unknown factors and the lack of information about the underground water situation.

Bradley Farrar acknowledged his limited experience compared to other applicants but offered to be an option for the board if needed. He conveyed a willingness to learn, even expressing readiness to be mentored by current Board Member Ross Gregerson. Bradley Farrar emphasized their commitment to volunteering time, irrespective of board membership, to contribute to the town's well-being.

Mayor Farrar thanked Bradley Farrar, highlighting the importance of community service, and encouraged everyone to consider the ongoing opportunities for community involvement. There were no additional questions, and Bradley's Farrar segment concluded with expressions of appreciation from the council for all applicants who had applied for the position.

The next applicant was Kenneth Younger, who shared that they were a resident of Apple Valley, close to the border. Kenneth Younger had been a permanent resident since 2020 and purchased a home in 2016 when the area had fewer developments. Originally from the Bay Area, specifically the East Bay in Oakland, Kenneth worked for 23 years at the East Bay Municipal Utility District, the second-largest water company in Northern California. During their tenure at the utility district, Kenneth Younger held various roles, including storekeeper, foreman, material specialist, and store supervisor for the last decade. He managed multiple warehouses and dealt with aspects such as engineering proposals and specifications. Kenneth Younger expressed extensive knowledge of water company operations and maintenance.

When asked about their perspective on growth in Apple Valley, Kenneth Younger acknowledged the inevitability due to ongoing developments, mentioning a subdivision being built behind their house. They highlighted the community's shared concern for water supply, emphasizing the potential risks and the need for responsible management. Kenneth Younger expressed a desire to contribute their experience to address water-related challenges. Reflecting on his experiences in the Bay Area, Kenneth Younger discussed the importance of ensuring quality water service to the entire district and emphasized the significance of generating revenue through water bills. He mentioned involvement in operational tasks, including delivering supplies to crews working on site.



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The council noted Kenneth Younger's musical inclination, particularly playing the guitar, with a preference for Grateful Dead music. Kenneth Younger shared that they had been playing the guitar for many years. The council expressed appreciation for Kenneth Younger's willingness to contribute to the community, and there were no further questions. Mayor Farrar thanked Kenneth Younger for their participation in the meeting.

Harold Merritt was invited to speak. Harold Merritt, resident of Apple Valley, had been a homeowner for approximately 30 years and a resident for about 15 to 20 years. He shared that when they built their first home, there were only five houses in Apple Valley.

When asked about their perspective on growth, Harold Merritt expressed a cautious approach. While acknowledging that undeveloped lots, particularly in Cedar Point, could be utilized, he was not in favor of large-scale developments exceeding five houses. Harold Merritt raised concerns about both the quantity and quality of water, emphasizing struggles with maintaining water quality compliance and the potential challenges of expanding further.

Harold Merritt, having been part of the board since 2011, highlighted the ongoing effort and time required to manage the water system effectively. Mayor Farrar acknowledged Harold Merritt's extensive experience and expressed gratitude for his contributions to the community. There were no additional questions, and the council thanked Harold Merritt for their service and dedication.

The last applicant, Thomas Hunt, was unable to attend.

The council addressed the need for two board members and expressed gratitude to all applicants for their willingness to contribute to the community. They emphasized the importance of community involvement and thanked everyone for their efforts.

The council discussed the appointment of Harold Merritt, recognizing their significant contributions to the district and the valuable insight they bring. Despite an earlier announcement of resignation, the council expressed the desire to keep Harold Merritt on the board for as long as he wished to stay due to their expertise.

**MOTION:** Council Member Sair motioned to appoint Harold Merritt as Big Plains Water Special Service District, Resolution-R-2024-03.

**SECOND:** The motion was seconded by Council Member Whitmore.

**VOTE:** Mayor Farrar called for a roll call vote:

Council Member Nielson - Aye  
Council Member Sair - Aye  
Mayor Farrar - Aye  
Council Member Whitmore - Aye  
Council Member Prentice - Aye



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The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

**MOTION:** Council Member Sair motioned to appoint Matt Politte to Big Plains Water Special Service District, Resolution-R-2024-03.

**SECOND:** The motion was seconded by Council Member Prentice.

**VOTE:** Mayor Farrar called for a roll call vote:

Council Member Nielson - Aye  
Council Member Sair - Aye  
Mayor Farrar - Aye  
Council Member Whitmore - Aye  
Council Member Prentice - Aye

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Oath of Office was administered by Town Clerk/Recorder Jenna Vizcardo to both Harold Merritt and Matt Politte.

2. Appointment of board members from the elected officials for the Big Plains Water Special Service District, Resolution-R-2024-04.

The council engaged in a discussion regarding the Mayor's action in filling the vacancy, which they described as an automatic process.

**MOTION:** Council Member Sair motioned we leave Barratt Nielson in as board member, Resolution-R-2024-04.

**SECOND:** The motion was seconded by Council Member Whitmore.

**VOTE:** Mayor Farrar called for a roll call vote:

Council Member Nielson - Aye  
Council Member Sair - Aye  
Council Member Whitmore - Aye  
Mayor Farrar - Aye  
Council Member Prentice - Aye

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.



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**REQUEST FOR A CLOSED SESSION: IF NECESSARY**

No request.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Council Member Prentice motioned to adjourn the meeting.

**SECOND:** The motion was seconded by Council Member Whitmore.

**VOTE:** Mayor Farrar called for a vote:

- Council Member Nielson - Aye
- Council Member Sair - Aye
- Mayor Farrar - Aye
- Council Member Prentice - Aye
- Council Member Whitmore - Aye

The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor | Michael L. Farrar

Attest BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Town Clerk/Recorder | Jenna Vizcardo