



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING (WORKSHOP) MINUTES

Wednesday, August 06, 2025 at 9:00 AM

66575 Second St, Desert Hot Springs, CA AND/OR Via Teleconference

## CALL TO ORDER

President Sewell called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM

## ROLL CALL

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** President Ivan Sewell, Vice President Robert Griffith, Director Russ Martin, Director Amber Duff, Director Ted Mayrhofen

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Macy, Marion Champion, Arturo Ceja, Danny Friend, Eric Weck, Oriana Hoffert, Amanda Lucas, Kurt Kettenacker, Dori Petee

## PUBLIC INPUT

No public input.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN UPDATE

Assistant General Manager Champion introduced several members of the clear committee and the key topics for discussion.

The primary focus of the meeting was on the financial and operational aspects of the district. General Manager Macy emphasized the importance of maintaining reserves for emergencies and the need for rate increases to fund infrastructure projects. There were detailed discussions about the costs associated with water and wastewater systems, the impact of inflation, and the necessity of having adequate cash reserves to handle unexpected events.

Several board members and committee members addressed the board, sharing their insights and feedback. For instance, one member highlighted the challenges faced in terms of regulations that drive up costs and the importance of transparency in financial planning. Another member discussed the significance of community engagement and the need to communicate effectively with the public about the district's operations and financial strategies.

The board also heard from members of the committee who shared their experiences and feedback on the district's operations and financial planning. The meeting concluded with a review of the district's capital improvement projects and the financial strategies to support them.

The review of the district's capital improvement projects focused on several key areas. One of the major projects discussed was the M2 project, which is currently out to bid and has a budget of \$10 million, funded by grants. Another significant project is the construction of the new administrative building. The district is also planning to invest in a filtration system at the Horton plant, with a budget of \$2 million. Additionally, there are plans for the D3 project, which has a budget of almost \$3 million.

The financial strategies to support these projects include the issuance of bonds and securing additional grant funding. The district has already secured \$8 million in grants for the M2 project and \$2.8 million for other projects. The district is also considering issuing bonds to soften the impact of rate increases on customers. The financial plan includes maintaining adequate cash reserves to handle unexpected events and ensuring that the district meets its debt coverage ratio of 1.2.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

No comments

**DIRECTOR COMMENTS AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. General Comments
2. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Director Duff reminded everyone that school started today and to be careful and cautious in and around school parking lots.

President Sewell thanked the staff for a great presentation and thanked Vice President Griffith for covering the July meetings.

**ADJOURN**

With no further business, President Sewell adjourned the meeting at 10:26 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dori Petee  
Executive Assistant