

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT  
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
May 18, 2022**

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A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Running Springs Water District was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the District office located at 31242 Hilltop Boulevard, Running Springs, California, and through teleconference.

The following Directors were present at the District:

Errol Mackzum, President  
Mike Terry, Vice-President  
Bill Conrad, Director  
Mark Acciani, Director  
Laura Dyberg, Director

Also present at the District were the following:

Ryan Gross, General Manager  
Trevor Miller, Operations Manager  
Tony Grabow, Interim Fire Chief  
Cindy Strebel, Battalion Chief  
Amie R. Crowder, Secretary to the Board/Administration Supervisor

The following were present through teleconference:

Ward Simmons, Legal Counsel

The following Visitors were present through teleconference:

David Maccagnone, Founder and CEO, Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. (left at 9:41 A.M.)  
Peter Yanez, Vice President, Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. (left at 9:41 A.M.)  
Jenny Hueter, General Manager, Rim of the World Recreation and Park District  
(arrived at 9:37 A.M. and left at 9:51)

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

The Running Springs Water District Board Meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. by President Errol Mackzum and Director Mark Acciani led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **2. Recognize and Hear from Visitors/Public Comment**

No Visitors.

**A. Presentation from Multi-Bank Securities on Alternative Investment Strategies**

The Running Springs Water District is interested in exploring options for better return on investments. Accounting partner Brad Welebir introduced the District to Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. David Maccagnone and Peter Yanez of Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. introduced themselves, the history of Multi-Bank Securities, and presented alternative investment strategies to the Running Springs Water District. MBS is a broker-dealer of fixed-income securities operating under a client-empowerment model to offer increased return on investment from lower overhead costs. These are more reliable investments that provide regular payments and return of principal fund upon maturity, providing lower total return than higher-risk investments, but also meeting standards for investment of public funds.

**3. Approval of Consent Items**

**A. Approve Meeting Minutes**

**B. Ratify Expenditures and Cash Summary**

**C. Consider Approving Contract for Fiscal Year Ending 2020 Financial Consulting Services**

**D. Consider Approving Contract for Fiscal Year Ending 2020 Financial Audit Services**

**E. Consider Reaffirming Resolution No. 11-21 and Authorizing Virtual Board and Committee Meetings Pursuant to AB 361**

Upon motion by Vice-President Terry, second by Director Acciani and carried by a 5 to 0 vote, the Consent Items were approved.

**4. Action Items**

The following action items will be considered individually, and each require a motion by the Board of Directors for action.

**A. Consider Authorizing Expenditure for Nordic Water Tank Ladder Improvements**

Operations Manager Miller presented the Nordic water storage tank ladder needs repairs in order to maintain safety and to comply with OSHA standards. The received bids were reviewed, and minimal communication ensued.

Upon **motion** by Vice-President Terry, **second** by Director Conrad and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Awarding a construction contract for the Nordic Water Tank Ladder Improvements to RC Construction in the amount of \$16,500, authorizing the General Manager to execute the contract including a 15% change order contingency, was approved.

**B. Consider Authorizing Expenditure for Nordic Water System Improvements**

Manager Gross reviewed the functionality and lifespan of the current Nordic hydropneumatics equipment. The equipment is similar to the Nob Hill system. Manager Gross and Operations Manager Trevor Miller reviewed the mechanics of this newer system and confirmed it also has a generator back-up. All bids were reviewed.

Upon **motion** by Director Conrad, **second** by Director Acciani and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Authorizing Expenditure for Nordic Water System Improvements in the amount of \$83,181.86, was approved.

**C. Consider Authorizing Staff to Reimburse the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Overpayment of Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Medi-Cal Reimbursement Costs**

Interim Chief Grabow reviewed the staff report and explained the outcome of this final audit resulted in an overpayment of \$96,351.44, which the District needs to return to DHCS.

Upon **motion** by Director Dyberg, **second** by Vice-President Terry and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Authorizing Staff to Reimburse the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Overpayment of Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) Medi-Cal Reimbursement Costs in the amount of \$96,351.44, was approved.

**D. Consider Approving On-Call Maintenance Contracts**

Manager Gross presented the necessity of the District establishing On-Call Maintenance contracts for as-needed purposes. All expenditures over \$5,000 currently require Board approval. The proposed General Manager Authority level is up to \$25,000 for these on-call maintenance and repair contracts. The contractors listed in the staff report is not considered an all-inclusive list. Per direction from the Board of Directors, contractors may be added or omitted, based on qualifications.

Upon **motion** by Director Dyberg, **second** by Director Acciani and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Approving On-Call Maintenance Contracts with various local qualified contractors and a General Manager Authority Level of \$25,000, was approved.

**E. Consider Authorizing Expenditure for Annual Weed Abatement**

Operations Manager Trevor Miller reviewed the staff report and the District properties requiring this service to maintain compliance with the Running Springs Fire Department Weed Abatement Program. Trevor reviewed the two bids that were received.

Upon **motion** by Director Acciani, **second** by Director Conrad and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Awarding a construction contract to Vanbebber Landscaping for Annual Weed Abatement in the amount of \$6,900, authorizing the General Manager to execute the contract including a 15% change order contingency, was approved.

5. Information Items – The following information items do not require any action by the Board of Directors and are for informational purposes only.

**A. Consider Proposal for Use of Downtown Property for Dog Park**

Jenny Hueter, the General Manager for the Rim of the World Parks & Recreation District presented the request to use the District's downtown property for a dog park. The property being requested for use would not obstruct the Farmer's Market. Jenny explained that Running Springs is currently the only town on the mountain that does not have a dog park. Jenny would like to obtain more information regarding the property, adding fencing, features, and the pricing for these options; and, present to the Board of Directors at a future Board Meeting.

**6. General Manager's Report**

Manager Gross reviewed projects that involve Caltrans and CLAWA.

Director Acciani inquired with Manager Gross if we will need to buy water from CLAWA, due to minimal precipitation. Manager Gross confirmed the District will and is anticipating the State requiring the District to implement its Stage 2 water shortage demand reduction actions. Manager Gross confirmed with President Mackzum the District will send a newsletter to the constituents regarding water use restrictions.

**7. Report from Legal Counsel**

Ward Simmons, Legal Counsel, is monitoring the State Board regarding water conservation and will notify the District as soon as a decision is declared.

**8. Board Member Comments/Meetings**

Director Acciani inquired as to how the Fire Department Union is doing. Interim Chief Grabow provided an update.

**9. Closed Session**

**A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: General Manager. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957**

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 10:35 A.M.

**10. Open Session**

**A. The Board and/or Legal Counsel will report any action taken in closed session.**

The Board of Directors came out of Closed Session at 11:02 A.M. and President Mackzum reported that there was no reportable action taken in Closed Session.

**B. Discuss the General Manager’s Employment Agreement following annual performance evaluation and consider any changes to such.**

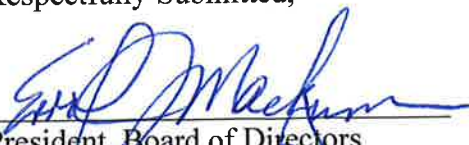
The Board reported that the General Manager’s annual performance evaluation was completed in closed session and the consensus was that his performance continues to be exceptional. President Mackzum asked if the Board had any recommended motions regarding any changes to the General Manager’s Employment Agreement.


Upon motion by Director Conrad, second by Director Dyberg and carried by a 5 to 0 vote, it was approved to increase the General Manager’s base pay by a 4% COLA and an additional 2% merit increase effective June 28, 2022, to restate the Employment Agreement with the General Manager with this change and authorize the Board President to execute the restated Employment Agreement. A copy of the Employment Agreement with the General Manager is available at the District office.

**11. Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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President, Board of Directors  
Running Springs Water District

  
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Secretary of the Board of Directors  
Running Springs Water District