

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 25, 2020**

Directors present via Zoom video and teleconference were: Ed Lee, Peggy Wiles, Bruce Kuebler and Nathan Rosser. Directors absent were: Jack Curtis. Also present were: General Manager/Board Secretary Bert Rapp, and Account Administrator Emily Arnbrister.

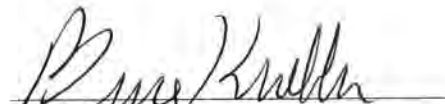
1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER-** President Ed Lee called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) –** None.
3. **REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTIONS 2020-236 AND 2020-237 EXEMPTIONS FROM CEQA–** Tesla asked for Notices of Exemption for CEQA to be filled declaring the installation of backup batteries for both Baldwin and Parker booster stations exempt from CEQA. The batteries will have no significant environmental impact. There is no indication that an environmental analysis is needed. The battery backup system at both pump stations will produce less noise and air pollution by reducing run times for the current diesel engine generators which will reduce environmental impacts.
Recommended action: 1) Approve resolutions 2020-326 and 2020-327 declaring that the installation of emergency backup batteries is exempt from CEQA. 2) Direct the General Manager to file the Notice of Exemption with the State Office of Planning and Research and the Ventura County Clerk. Peggy Wiles moved for approval of the recommended actions, seconded Nathan Rosser and carried 4-0. (AYES: Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser, and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None. ABSENT: Jack Curtis)
4. **COMMENT LETTER FOR MATILJA DAM ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION IMPACT-** Bert Rapp reviewed the prepared comment letter. With the dam removal, the Ventura River Water District is at risk for flood damage due to the Ventura River being a high energy, meandering river. In 1969, the Sparks Well (now occupied by Baldwin Pump Station) was damaged by flood waters. The Baldwin Pump Station is within the FEMA 100-year flood plain. Ventura River Water District is asking for the Watershed Protection District to consider mitigating the flood impacts on the Baldwin Pump Station facilities. **Recommended action:** The General Manager recommends that the Board authorize the Board President to sign the attached comment letter. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded Nathan Rosser and carried 4-0. (AYES: Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, Nathan Rosser, and Peggy Wiles. NOES: None. ABSENT: Jack Curtis)

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 am

Attested:



Ed Lee, President



Bruce Kuebler, Vice President