

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 20, 2023**

The director's present were: Bruce Kuebler, Laurie Lary, Ed Lee, and Peggy Wiles. Directors Absent: Jack Curtis. Also present were the District's legal counsel, Stuart Nielson; Technical Advisor, Bert Rapp; General Manager, Alma Quezada; and Office Manager, Emily Arnbrister; Public Present: Harrison Stenberg of Time Value Investments, Inc.

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER** - President Ed Lee called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. Flag salute led by Bert Rapp.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - A. **MINUTES NOVEMBER 15, 2023**
 - B. **PAYMENTS & CHECKS FOR NOVEMBER**
 - C. **FINANCIALS FOR SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER**

Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the consent agenda seconded by Peggy Wiles and the motion carried 4-0.
4. **2024 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS:** The General Manager presented the 2024 meeting calendar dates with major action items. **Public Comment:** None.
5. **APPROVE BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE TO SPECIAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE:** Director Lary is requesting approval of expenses to attend the 2024 Special District Leadership Academy in San Luis Obispo in February as required under the District's Personnel Policy. The conference is designed for elected and appointed officials. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Approve Director Lary's request to cover expenses associated with attending the 2024 Special District Leadership Academy in San Luis Obispo. Peggy Wiles moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded by Bruce Kuebler and the motion carried 4-0.
6. **UPDATE SIGNATORIES FOR MECHANICS BANK:** The General Manager recommends that the Board make changes to who has access to the District checking accounts by updating the signatories for Mechanics Bank. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** The Board makes the following changes to the District's checking accounts: 1) Update the Resolution Signers to replace Nathan Rosser with Laurel Lary; and 2) Update the Account Signers to remove Nathan Rosser and Bert Rapp and replace them with Laurel Lary and Alma Quezada respectively. Bruce Kuebler moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded by Laurel Lary and the motion carried 4-0.
7. **ANNUAL EMPLOYEE SURVEY:** Annually in January, staff is asked to complete a survey to review the General Manager with the results summarized by legal counsel and presented anonymously to the Board of Directors. Discussion followed on the format of the survey and changes were recommended to enhance employee anonymity. The General Manager was appointed in late October and recommends postponing the employee survey to March to coincide with their 6-month review. **Public Comment:** None.
8. **DISTRICT FUNDS AND INVESTMENT OPTIONS:** The General Manager gave a presentation on where the District currently holds saving funds and potential options for the District to maximize current rates of return. The District also has a CD that recently matured and was presented with options on how to move forward with the matured funds by Harrison Stenberg. There was general board discussion about this item. **Public Comment:** None. **Recommended Action:** Reinvest available investment funds of \$248,000 into a 2yr CD by Centris with remaining funds staying in the money market account to be monitored by the General Manager with pending funds transferred to LAIF when return rates are similar. Peggy Wiles moved for approval of the recommended action, seconded by Bruce Kuebler and the motion carried 4-0.