

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
LATHROP IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lathrop Irrigation District convened on Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 4:02 p.m. at 1235 Academy Dr, Lathrop, California. Due to concerns caused by the Coronavirus, the meeting was noticed as an optional online meeting for members of the public and staff.

Board of Directors Present:	Ravi Kotecha, Michael Dell’Osso
Directors Absent:	Juan Vega
Also Present:	Curtis Bryant, Erik Jones, Keri Richards (via Online), Terry Truscott, (via online), Brian Biering, Esq.- Ellison, Schneider, Harris, & Donlan (via phone)
Public Present:	None

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in order by Director Dell’Osso.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF July 27, 2022 Regular Board Meeting: Director Kotecha made a motion to approve the Minutes of the July 27, 2022 Regular Board Meeting. Director Dell’Osso seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 2-0 vote.

STAFF REPORTS:

- a. Mr. Bryant advised that legal counsel will be drafting a letter regarding the contract issues with Eaton, they are insisting on payment outside the scope of the contracted amount and not all of the equipment has been delivered. He indicated that a partial payment has been made and the project is within the budgeted amount.
- b. Staff again advised that there has been an increasing concerning trend where renters have been failing to pay their bills and have been “skipping” out and leaving the District customers with the additional costs. Staff would like to know the legal implications of implementing a mandatory deposit for all rentals, since the District cannot recover through a lien on the property. District Counsel will look into this question for the next meeting. Legal Counsel Biering also suggested that there may be a way to required the legal property owner to keep the utilities in their name. He will research and provide a recommendation.
- c. No discussion

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-09 ATTESTATION APPROVING 2021 POWER SOURCE DISCLOSURE REPORT AND POWER CONTENT LABEL: Legal Counsel Biering recommended that this matter be tabled as he would like to look into the REC purchases for that reporting year and believes the report needs to be amended to reflect those purchases. He will work with staff to get the information from the WREGIS site.

Mr. Bryant advised that he is still working to put together a retirement policy which would provide a retirement benefit to employees who participate in the current retirement plan. Director Kotecha had some sample policies that he offered to share with staff.

Staff presented additional information regarding the current volatile energy markets, and how LID purchases the power procured for delivery to customers. Also discussed was the cost associated with the maintenance of the utility, labor, and other costs in order to keep the District running. Staff advised that with the current increased costs of energy, rates are not keeping up and the trend is unsustainable. Mr. Bryant advised the he and Mr. Jones will be meeting with the City of Lodi to review how they apply their energy cost adjustment mechanism and see if that is a viable option for the District. He also stated that he would like to put together a narrative to help customers understand what is happening with energy costs.

Mr. Bryant explained that in order to cover the costs associated with new development residential inspections, the fee needs to be increased for phase 2 from \$200 to \$750. This fee is paid by the builder at the point of the initial application for service to run the service to each home where a meter will be placed.

Mr. Bryant further explained that we are also under-collecting for the costs associated with commercial inspection fees, and that cost should be set at \$1000 for GS3 installations and graduated down for the rate classes.

Mr. Bryant also advised that the current infrastructure charges are set to collect to cover the existing bond payment for the installation of the initial equipment for the first phase of the development. He recommends that when the new phase is in place the infrastructure charges need to be reflective to have the new homes pay their fair share of the costs to build new infrastructure so the existing homeowners don't have to pay for it.

(Items d and e were not discussed at this time, as they were briefly discussed earlier in the meeting)

(Item 8 was not discussed at this time, as it was briefly covered earlier in the meeting)

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Truscott presented the July 2022 warrants for approval, as well as a report on the District's cash position. Director Kotecha made a motion to approve the warrants, Director Dell'Osso made a second to the Motion. The motion was approved by a 2-0 vote. The Board reviewed the Cash Balance and Budget to Actual reports presented by Ms. Truscott as well.

OTHER BUSINESS: District counsel advised that the new Board member would need to complete the necessary Form 700 for assuming office. Secretary Richards advised that she would provide that information to Director Vega for completion. Mr. Bryant asked that the website be updated with Director Vegas information.

Next Regular Board meeting scheduled for September 28, 2022 will need to be rescheduled, it was suggested to move it to September 29, 2022 based on availability.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 pm. (Exact time was not detailed in my notes)

Respectfully Submitted,

Keri Richards

KERI RICHARDS,
Secretary