



**BELFLOWER-SOMERSET MUTUAL WATER COMPANY  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD DIRECTORS**

**February 22, 2022**

**4:30 P.M.**

**Location: Company Office**

**ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Rick Cook, President  
Eric Ikeda, Vice President  
Robert Wilson, Secretary - Treasurer  
Leo Struiksma, Director  
Cheryl Harris, Director

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Steve Lenton, General Manager  
Gabriela Gomez, Office Manager  
Tara Bravo, CV Strategies

**ABSENT:**

Tom Coleman, Consultant

**Via Uber Meetings:**

Wesley Whitehead: Shareholder

**1. Call to Order:**

President Cook called to order a regular meeting of the Board of Directors at 4:03 pm at the company office of Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company located at 10016 Flower St., Bellflower, CA 90706.

**2. Additions to the Agenda:** Executive session was moved to the beginning of the meeting. The Board returned to regular session at 4:32 pm.

**3. Approve the Minutes of the Board Meeting held January 18, 2022.**

A motion was made by Director Ikeda, seconded by Director Harris and carried 5-0 to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022, board meeting.

**4. Approve Payment of Bills:**

A Motion was made by Director Harris, seconded by Director Struiksma to approve the payment of the bills as presented. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

**5. Public Comment:** Mr. Whitehead asked if Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company received monies from the State Water Resource Control Board through the American Rescue Plan Act to address COVID-19 Pandemic related water system customer arrearages and if funds would be available for customers? Mr. Lenton confirmed that the company received funds from the state for customers whose bills were past due through June of 2021.

Mr. Whitehead also asked about the status of the real estate land purchase. President Cook informed Mr. Whitehead that the purchase of the land was successful and would soon start plans for the new warehouse.

**6. Discussion/Action items: NONE**

A) Franchise Tax Agreement: Mr. Lenton presented a Franchise tax agreement with the City of Bellflower. This contract is for 20 years at 2% of Bellflower-Somerset's water usage.

A motion was made by Director Struiksma, seconded by Director Ikeda. The motion was passed unanimously by the Board.

**7. Project updates:**

A) Courthouse Mainline Update: Mr. Lenton informed the Board that we would have our easement by May. We have been put on the docket for May, and have no issues found by the county at this time.

B) Leahy Well: Mr. Lenton informed the Board that the pump failed its initial test and was being reconstructed. The new test should be completed within the next two weeks. All other work is complete except for the few remaining parts that are back ordered.

**8. Reports:**

A. Legislative: No update

B. Finance/ Customer Service: Mr. Lenton informed the Board that the monies provided by the State Water Resources Control Board for arrearages has been applied to the customers who were past due through June of 2021.

C. Water Quality: Mr. Lenton informed the Board that all samples are up to date.

D. Public Water Agency Group (PWAG): No update

- E. Maintenance – Safety: Mr. Lenton informed the Board that safety training is current and up to date.
- F. Public Relations: Tara Bravo of CV Strategies presented the public relations reports. CV Strategies has been working with staff to create a newsletter for our customers. They have also added new sliders onto BSMWC’s website and currently working on search engine optimization to ensure greater website visibility.

**9. Committee reports:**

- A. Personnel Committee: No report
- B. Finance Committee: No report
- C. Real Estate: A matter on real estate will be discussed in Executive Session.
- D. General Managers Comments: Mr. Lenton is enthusiastic and looking forward to having the Leahy Well completed.

**10. Executive Session:** (Operations, Personnel, real estate, legal matters):

Director Wilson provided the board with a detailed report on both properties. 10415 Artesia Place property has closed escrow and is officially property of Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company. The property west of 10415 Artesia Place is currently stalled between the owner and the City of Bellflower. BSMWC currently has a standing offer on this property.

**Adjournment:**

The President asked if there was any further business to come before the Board of Directors, there being none, a motion was made by Director Harris and Seconded by Director Struiksma to adjourn the meeting at 4:41 PM.

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Rick Cook  
Board President

ATTEST:

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Robert Wilson, Secretary