



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

**October 20, 2025**

**4:30 P.M.**

**Location: Company Office**

**ROLL CALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Eric Ikeda, President

Robert Wilson, Vice President

Leo Struiksma, Secretary – Treasurer

Rick Cook, Director- Remote

Ioana Gocan, Director

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Steve Lenton, General Manager

Angelica Zepeda, Office Manager

Ian Berg, Starting Line Advisory

Wesley Whitehead, Shareholder

**1. Call to Order**

President Ikeda called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Directors on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:32 p.m. at the company office of Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company located at 10016 Flower St. Bellflower, CA 90706.

**2. Additions to the Agenda**

A. Franchise Agreement

**3. Approve Minutes of the Board Meeting held September 15, 2025**

A motion was made by Director Gocan, seconded by Director Wilson. The motion was approved by the board; 5-0 to approve the September 15, 2025 board meeting minutes.

**4. Approve Payment of Bills**

A motion was made by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Struiksma, to approve the payment of the bills as presented. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

**5. Approve Financial Statement**

Ian Berg of Starting Line Advisory presented the Financial Statement including balance sheet for August 2025. A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Gocan, to approve the Financial Statement as presented. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

**6. Public Comment**

Wesley Whitehead asked what the cost to purchase a chlorine tank. Mr. Lenton responded the average price is \$5,000. However, if he is asking about the one needed for the High Capacity Well, this will be a charged to Cal American to pay, not BSMWC. Wesley Whitehead inquired about information technology and current cyber protections. Mr. Steve Lenton responded the importance of the Company prioritizing cybersecurity for protecting sensitive data and maintaining important operations. Recently Federal testing was conducted to ensure company safety is top priority protecting critical infrastructure. Additionally our staff regularly participates in cyber prevention trainings to remain vigilant against cyber-attacks.

**7. Discussion/Action Items:**

**A. IT Server –**

Mr. Steve Lenton presented the quote for IT Services for Implementation of Dual Node Local Server System in the amount of \$102,331. Director Wilson requested staff obtain another quote. Mr. Lenton shared this is an item with high sensitivity due to needing to maintain operations. A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Struiksma, to approve the HighRoad IT quote for Implementation of Dual Node Local Server System in the amount of \$102,331. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

Director Wilson requested permission from the Board President Ikeda to make a call to obtain another IT quote. President Ikeda called for a brief 5 minute recess. Director Wilson informed the board he can provide a second quote for consideration. Director Cook moved to withdraw his motion, additionally requests to review a competitive bid prior to approval. The motion was seconded by Director Struiksma. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

**B. Franchise Agreement-**

Mr. Steve Lenton presented the draft Franchise Agreement given by attorney Ed Olivo. A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Wilson, to bring this item back to the next board meeting. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

**8. Project Updates:**

**A. Metrorail: None**

**B. Artesia Place: Mr. Lenton informed the board he is waiting to obtain a quote from Edison.**

- C. PFAS/PFOS: Mr. Lenton informed the board he and staff will be at the City of Bellflower Planning Commission meeting this evening awaiting final approval of Conditional Use Permit at Mapledale, Chicago and Leahy.

**9. Reports:**

- A. Legislative: None
- B. Finance/Customer Service: Mrs. Zepeda informed the board customer services installed a remote check reader recently and staff is conducting training. This allows in house real time customer service check management, equating to much faster processing avoiding significant delays.
- C. Water Quality: Mr. Lenton informed the board Mapledale sample results are below the limits and will be resample by the State for official testing and approval.
- D. Public Water Agency Group (PWAG): Mr. Lenton informed the board the quarterly meeting will take place next week.
- E. Maintenance/Safety: Mr. Lenton informed the board all safety training courses are up to date.

**10. Committee Reports:**

- A. Personnel Committee: None
- B. Finance Committee: None
- C. Real Estate: None
- D. General Managers Comments: Mr. Lenton announced another settlement payment from 3M in the amount of \$990,306.30 will be received in the coming days.

**11. Executive Session: (Operations, Personnel, Real Estate, Legal Matters):**

- A. Financial Bank - A motion was made by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Cook, to approve transition of primary Financial institution to Banc of California. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.
- B. Company Operational Hours and Days /Personnel –  
A motion was made by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Struiksma, to approve opening the Company business office Monday – Friday, five (5) days a week, excluding approved holidays. This will also include moving forward with a

4/10 workweek for staff beginning January 3, 2026. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

- C. AI – Proceed with integration slowly without compromising quality of customer service. Discuss further in the November 17<sup>th</sup> board meeting. A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Gocan, to approve AI. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

12. **Adjournment:** President Ikeda asked if there was any further business to discuss before the Board of Directors. Seeing there was none, a motion was made by Director Wilson and seconded by Director Struiksma to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m.



Eric Ikeda  
Board President

ATTEST:



Leo Struiksma, Secretary