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

September 15, 2026
4:00 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 September 15th at 3:59 p.m. at the company office of Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company located at 10016 Flower St. Bellflower, CA 90706.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Director Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance

3. **Invocation**
   Director Gocan led the Invocation

4. **Additions to the Agenda**
   Mr. Lenton requested the following items be added to the agenda:
   9. D. Cal Am Agreement
   9. E. Puente Basin Advocacy

5. **A. Approve Minutes of the Board Meeting held August 17, 2026**
A motion was made by Director Gocan, seconded by Director Struiksma. The motion was approved by the board; 5-0 to approve the August 17, 2026 board meeting minutes.

B. Approve Minutes of the Board Meeting held August 21, 2026
A motion was made by Director Gocan, seconded by Director Struiksma. The motion was approved by the board; 5-0 to approve the August 21, 2026 board meeting minutes.

Discussion Item

6. **Approve Ratification Payment of Bills**
A motion was made by Director Wilson, seconded by Director Gocan, to approve the ratification payment of the bills as presented. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

7. **Approve Financial Statement**
Ian Berg of Starting Line Advisory presented the Financial Statement including balance sheet for July 2026. A motion was made by Director Struiksma, seconded by Director Gocan, to approve the Financial Statement as presented. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

8. **Public Comment**
Wesley Whitehead asked if the Company was going to update backflow devices records as a clean up item. Mr. Lenton responded that all records are updated and are kept in-house.

9. **Discussion/Action Items**
   A. FY 25/26 Financial Review presented by Ian Berg of Starting Line Advisory
   Ian Berg of Starting Line Advisory presented the FY 25/26 Financial Review. Director Cook requested staff to change the Accounting/Auditing Firm prior to next Annual Review.
   A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the FY 25/26 Financial Review as presented. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

   B. Backflow
   Mr. Lenton introduced Omar Carrillo, the Company Cross-Connection Specialist to present additional information for the Board of Director's consideration regarding Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company offering Backflow device installation services for customers that may need assistance. Mr. Carrillo presented a power point presentation from the Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Cross Connection Handbook effective July 1, 2024 which mandates some properties to install a Backflow device. The Company would not work on any private property but would assist customers through the difficulties of the

permitting process. After discussion amongst the Board, they unanimously requested this item come back at a future date with an operation plan.

C. Excessive Water Use Penalty Policy
Mr. Lenton presented the Board of Director's with the proposed Excessive Water Use Penalty Policy Agreement for approval. Currently 384 properties are over the state allotment, data is provided by Eagle Ariel. President Ikeda requested a modification on bullet 7 - Enforcement, item 4 Water Flow Restrictor (page 4) be rescinded from this policy.
A motion was made by Director Gocan, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve Excessive Water Use Penalty Policy as presented with modifications. The motion was carried by the board; 4-1 abstention (Struiksma).

D. Cal Am
Mr. Lenton advised the Board CalAm proposed purchase of Flora Vista property. Including a 20 year agreement to purchase water from the High Capacity Well for consideration. He will update the Board at a future date

E. Puente Basin Advocacy
Mr. Lenton presented the request for Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company to contribute $10,000 to Puente Basin Advocacy services to seek the future bill for employees to have emergency access to natural disaster service areas.

10. **Project Updates**

A. Metrorail: Mr. Lenton informed the Board, the Company signed the agreement and is waiting on Metro to return the signed agreement.

B. Artesia Place: Mr. Lenton informed the Board construction started, a fence was installed around the perimeter, and all debris cleared around the site. A pre-construction meeting will take place with City of Bellflower next week. The warehouse will be constructed first, followed by the main office.

C. PFAS/PFOS: Mr. Lenton informed the Board yesterday was the pre-construction meeting and the grading permit will be submitted by October 6th.

11. **Reports**

A. Legislative: Mr. Lenton distributed the request for veto to the Board regarding SB1417 which pertains to Mutual Water Companies, he is requesting the Board of Directors to sign one on behalf of the Company.
A motion was made by Director Cook, seconded by Director Struiksma, to approve the Geneal Manager, Steve Lenton to modify and sign the letter to mail the governor on behalf of Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company. The motion was carried by the board; 5-0.

B. Finance/Customer Service: Mrs. Zepeda informed the Board customer service is working on cleaning up the Company website with Water Conservation updates.

C. Water Quality: Mr. Lenton informed the Board all samples are good.

D. Public Water Agency Group (PWAG): Mr. Lenton informed the Board Mike Vasquez attended the meeting.

E. Maintenance/Safety: Mr. Lenton informed the Board the next safety training is Traffic Control on September 10th.

12. **Committee Reports**

A. Personnel Committee: None

B. Finance Committee: None

C. Real Estate: None

D. General Managers Comments: None

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

14. **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 5:29 p.m.

Eric Ikeda
Board President

ATTEST:

Leo Struiksma, Secretary – Treasurer