

**MINUTES OF THE
MOAPA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD
Thursday, August 10, 2023**

PRESENT:	Lindsey Dalley	Jon Blackwell
	Scott Farnsworth	Ryan Wheeler
	Kelby Robison	Byron Mills
	Joe Davis, General Manager	Jennifer Farnsworth
	Lon Dalley	Jeannie fox
	Kiley Bradshaw	Vernon Robison

ORDER OF BUSINESS: At 4:03pm, Chairman Kelby Robison Called to order the regular meeting of the Moapa Valley Water District. The agenda items were addressed in the following order:

- 1) **Public Comment (may be limited to five minutes)**
No Public Comment
- 2) **Approve the Minutes of the previous meeting held on July 13, 2023 Board Meeting (For Possible Action)**
On motion of Lindsey Dalley and seconded by Jon Blackwell the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2023 meeting.
- 3) **Updates from the Legislature – Warren Hardy**
Warren Hardy was not on the phone. Joe Davis reported that there were some bills we wanted to see passed that didn't and then there were some that we didn't want to be passed that did. The septic conversion bill 8120 went through. Davis got the rules of engagement for it downloaded so if people wanted to take and qualify for that, it could apply out here. We are in the process of doing some of our updates, we feel it would be good to have that information so were studying up just in case we get any calls on it.
- 4) **General Manager Contract Negotiation (For Possible Action)**
Joe Davis showed the Board both of his contracts. The original one he signed was good for three years. He is looking to void the last year of it and sign a new three-year contract, hopefully we'll be closer to the end of the litigation that is going on with Coyote Springs. We'll still be working on the funding aspect for the 24-inch pipeline. Lon & Joe will be putting in more applications for grants to take and try to bring more things to fruition. Davis said that he loves what he does and feels that he still has a lot to offer. There were a few questions by Board Members Lindsey Dalley & Scott Farnsworth. It was Motioned by Lindsey Dalley that they terminate the current contract for the General Manager and replace it with a new three-year agreement as outlined in the agenda. It was seconded by Jon Blackwell. The Board voted 5-0.
- 5) **Cost of Living Increase (For Discussion Only)**
Board Member Scott Farnsworth wanted to talk about a possible Cost of Living Raise for staff. He stated that entry level jobs are getting \$18 hours with sign on bonuses. That is getting close to what we are starting off at the district. Farnsworth thinks it would benefit the district in retaining our employees that we put money into. He mentioned the money spent just this last month that went into certifications and training, and feels it is important that we retain and keep our employees. They are the ones down in the trenches, keeping the water going, keeping the books balanced, making sure the projects are happening, so we don't have to worry about it at night and neither does the public. He proposed that the board give the employees at least a 5% increase. Lindsey Dalley said he was open to that but would like to see how much they would have to raise rates to hold steady. He didn't think it was wise to look at our reserves to

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cover the cost. Ryan Wheeler asked if this is something Scott Farnsworth would like to do every year. Farnsworth said it would be something he would like to at least put on the drawing board and see where we are at. Ryan Wheeler stated that we have been able to compensate and reward employees in other ways based on performance. They adjusted the scale pay a couple of years ago to reflect some of those changes. There was an incentive for staff with longevity. Kelby Robison said that we need to get more details and get some hard numbers and figure out what were looking at and then decide yes or no.

6) Manager's Report

-Office Manager Jeannie Fox reported that we have been going through the Audit. They will be here to report in the October meeting. Ken has been working closely with them, getting them all the data that they need. Jeannie gets them the HR stuff and a few other things. They are doing great for us again. The depreciation has been added and it looks like we are going to come in just under budget on expenses. Our Revenue looks like we are just under budget by about \$3000 dollars. The budget is looking good for the end of the year and we're keeping a close eye on it. We have been working with Scott on a Capital Budget and that will be coming soon.

-Assistant General Manager Lon Dalley reported on the Spring/Ground Water Production. In June we were very low due to the abnormally cool June that we had. It is reflected on the revenue graph, but we were back up to the top end by the end of July. We pumped 113,337,000 gallons through Arrow Canyon. There were some questions about the water samples that we run quarterly.

-General Manager Joe Davis reported that are NDOT permit has been released. There was one request to change some stripping widths for the bike lane but hopefully that is completely covered the funding aspect of it. We sent the letter off so hopefully they will be coming through with their portion of the funding fairly quick. The promise has been made to the county commissioner that the money is coming. The question is, do they give it to us or do they give it to the county. We prefer that they give it to the county because then the accounting is easier for us to submit our reimbursements to one entity instead of us having to track it twice. It will be the first part of September when they'll start digging down Main Street. There will be a little coordination through Vernon Robison to let the local businesses know we are up and running. We will also need coordination when it comes to the Veterans Day Parade. The hope is to get the project done quicker if we can get more trench open at a time. The question will be shifting the traffic over, how NDOT will allow us to do that. Their traffic control plan was submitted today, so that should go through pretty quick. Joe reported that we partnered with AY McDonald. When they went to the no lead brass, it was brittle. We have had a lot of issues with threads breaking and cracking. They have now come out with a new blend. The question is, is that AY is a conservative company, so they want to do a lot of corrosion testing to see how it stands up. We have some pretty corrosive soil, so we put three samples in our system this week. We're also testing some pipe in line with that to see how they work. It will be a long term 5-7 years before we know how the corrosion is working. We have been doing this same corrosion testing with Ductile Iron industries for the past 42 years. It's nothing new but it's nice that we are on the front end of new products because we get a say on how the design mixtures go. Kiley did a really good job of getting those things out in the field and Mason got everything into GIS so we'll be able to track that in real time and go from there. Scott Farnsworth had some questions about the Water resource plan & the conservation plan.

7) Directors' Preference

- Review Monthly Expenditures, Scott Farnsworth had questions on Renewals & Certifications. Joe stated that the District only covers Certifications that are required.
- Litigation

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- Other Related Water Rights

8) Public Comment. (May be limited to five minutes)

None

9) Approval of the September 14, 2023 Board Meeting

The Directors' agreed to hold the next Board Meeting on September 14, 2023 at 4:00pm.

10) Adjournment

Jon Blackwell motioned the meeting adjourn at 4:48pm it was seconded by Ryan Wheeler. The Board voted 5-0