



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ARVIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
July 17, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Arvin Community Services District duly met at a Regular Board Meeting held on Monday, July 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at 309 Campus Dr., Arvin, CA 93203.

The meeting was called to order by General Manager at 6:06 PM

Directors Present: Pantoja, Ojeda, Gallado. Directors Absent: Reyna, Alvarez

Others Present: General Manager/Board Secretary – Raul Barraza, Jr.; Legal Counsel – Alan J. Peake; District Engineer – Dee Jaspar.

Pledge of allegiance: The Pledge was led by General Manager Raul Barraza, Jr.

Due to the President and Vice President not being in attendance a motion was made by Director Ojeda to have himself chair the meeting and it was seconded by Director Gallardo.

AYES: Gallardo, Ojeda, Pantoja

Agenda Item #1 Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item #2.: Consent Calendar

- a. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes for June 19, 2023**
- b. **Approval of Special Meeting Minutes for July 6, 2023**
- c. **Accounts Payable for July 3, 2023 – July 14, 2023**

A motion was made to approve item 2.c. and table items 2.a. and 2.b. by Director Ojeda and it was seconded by Director Pantoja.

AYES: Ojeda, Pantoja, Gallardo

Agenda Item #3: Presentation from Jefferey Landry with Oppenheimer & Co. Inc. regarding financing for the Arvin CSD Solar Project

General Manager introduced Jeffery Landry from Oppenheimer and Co. Jeffery presented the board of directors with the next steps in having the District obtain a loan from Bank of America at 4.35% and has to meet the deadline of August 25th in order to get the lower rate. The District needs to obtain a land lease agreement from the City of Arvin in order to move forward as well as obtaining the waiver for parity debt from the State Water Resources Control Board. Only information was provided, and no action was taken at this time.

Agenda Item #4: Board to discuss and take action re: Resolution 23-02: A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Arvin Community Services District Finding of Project Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act for the Arvin CSD Solar Project

General Manager and Legal Counsel presented Resolution in order to have the District apply for a project exemption from CEQA to continue with the construction of the Arvin CSD Solar Project. After a small discussion, a motion was made by Director Ojeda and seconded by Director Pantoja.

AYES: Ojeda, Pantoja, Gallardo



Agenda Item #5: Presentation by Robert Michalik and David Bilby from Optimized Investment Partners regarding Investment Options for Arvin CSD

General Manger presented Robert and David from Optimized Investment Partners who presented to the board of directors with a plan to help the District in making safe investments. Information was provided, but no action was taken at this time.

Agenda Item #6: Approval of Contract with JP Masuda for Land Lease Appraisal for the Arvin CSD Solar Project

General Manager informed the Board that he had not yet received a contract from JP Masuda and would request the board to table the item until further notice. A motion was made by Director Ojeda and seconded by Director Gallardo to table the item.

Agenda Item #7: Approval for Two Clerical III Employees to attend Caselle Annual Conference October 9, 2023 – October 11, 2023.

General Manager informed the Board that the annual training for Caselle was going to be taking place in October, and he would like to send the two clerical III employees to train. A breakdown of the cost was stated not to exceed \$3,000. A motion was made by Director Pantoja and seconded by Director Ojeda.

AYES: Ojeda, Pantoja, Gallardo

Agenda Item #8: Approval of Agreement with Kern Plumbing and Backflow Services, Inc. for Cross Connection Specialist Designation and Backflow Management in the amount of \$4,500 for Fiscal Year 2023 – 2024

General Manager informed the Board that the renewal to have Monte Raines as the Cross Connection Specialist for the District as well as managing the Backflows. A motion was made by Director Ojeda to approve the renewal contract and it was seconded by Director Pantoja.

AYES: Ojeda, Pantoja, Gallardo

#9: Staff Comments

General Manger: Informed the board that 55 shut-offs were taking place July 18.

Legal Counsel: No comment.

District Engineer: The work on Well 13 (mechanical and chemical cleaning) will be started by Bakersfield Well and Pump next week. Well 18 is still waiting on the emergency generator so that the well site can be completed and there is no timeline yet on when the work will commence.

Agenda Item #10: Board Member Comments:

- a. **Director Gallardo:** No comment.
- b. **Director Ojeda:** 1) asked about the valves on Franklin Street and if they have been raised to grade yet, General Manager informed him that it would be taking place next week. 2) had a question regarding how many payments are coming in through the online payment portal. GM informed him that it averaged about 1,800 payments, which is about 40% of our customers. Those numbers would be brought back.
- c. **Director Pantoja:** Asked about the surplus property. Legal Counsel went over the process so that the District can sell exempted property.
- d. **Vice President Alvarez:** Absent.
- e. **President Reyna:** Absent.

Agenda Item #12: Closed Session: a. Conference with Labor Negotiators: General Manager and District Legal Counsel: Laborers International Union of North America 777 Gov't Code 54957.6

A motion was made to go into Closed Session at 7:34 p.m. by Director Ojeda and seconded by Director Pantoja.

A motion was made to go back into open session at 7:38 p.m. by Director Pantoja and seconded by Director Ojeda.

Report: Information was provided and by unanimous consent, direction was given.



Agenda Item #13: Adjournment

A motion was made by Director Ojeda and seconded by Director Pantoja to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m.
AYES: Pantoja, Ojeda, Gallardo.

Submitted by:

Raul Barraza, Jr.

**Raul Barraza, Jr.
Board Secretary/General Manager**

Attest:

Aurelio Reyna

**Aurelio Reyna
Board President**