

TRI-CITY REGIONAL SANITARY DISTRICT
Rescheduled Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2024

Item # 1 President R. Jacques called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Item # 2 M. Buzan led the Pledge of Allegiance

Item # 3 **Roll Call:** C. Asrarynezami; M. Buzan; C. Calloway; R. Jacques; M.A. Moreno; M. Harper, District Counsel; T. Stratton, Bond Counsel
Also: M. Krebs, PACE (Z); D. Patton (Z)
Public: J.L. Stanneart, H. Farester, T. Werner, M. Meijia, D. Farester, G. Madrid, S. Madrid

Item # 4 **Approval of Regular Session Meeting Minutes of 03/18/2024.** R. Jacques suggested that Item #10 in the subject meeting minutes be revised and that he would submit the edited language to L. Cooper, M. Harper's paralegal. He requested approval of the draft minutes with the wording changes. C. Asrarynezami moved to approve the referenced minutes, seconded by M. Buzan. Carried, 5-0.

Approval of Special Session Meeting Minutes of 03/25/2024. C. Asrarynezami moved to approve the referenced minutes, seconded by C. Calloway. Carried, 5-0.

Item # 5 **Financial Report:** the Gila County Treasurer reported \$512,037.72 in the TRSD account as of March 31, 2024.

Item # 6 **Payment of Bills:**

Name	Reason	Amount
Robert Jacques	Meetings: Travel/Expenses, etc.	\$397.25
AVIX Accounting, LLC	Recurring Accounting Fees (3/19)	\$2,319.94
AVIX Accounting, LLC	Recurring Accounting Fees (4/4)	\$1,374.17
Harper Law Offices, PC	General Legal	\$6,084.73
Harper Law Offices, PC	Project Legal	\$6,561.10
Harper Law Offices, PC	Rights of Way/Easements Legal	\$1,117.55
The Stratton Law Firm	Phase I Representation	\$4,547.50
The Stratton Law Firm	Phase I Representation	\$12,452.50
IBEW Building Corp.	Room Rental	\$225.00
Deborah Patton	Outside Contract Services	\$144.00
ADEQ	Misc WFA Reimbursable Legal Fees	\$174.00
Josephs Appraisal Group	Misc. Contract Services	\$1,000.00
HeinfeldMeech	Audit Fees	\$3,400.00
NEXXUS Consulting	Advocacy	\$5,000.00

C. Asrarynezami moved to approve payment of these bills and file them for audit, seconded by R. Jacques. Carried 5-0.

Item # 7 **Presentation of Resolution 24-002:** Resolution requesting that the TRSD Board authorize the execution and delivery of a proposal from Hilltop Securities and authorize the taking of all other actions necessary to the consummation of the transaction contemplated by this Resolution and declaring an emergency. Following a reading by R. Jacques of the Item as presented on the agenda and an explanation by T. Stratton, M.A. Moreno moved to

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authorize R. Jacques to sign the necessary paperwork described in the Resolution, seconded by M. Buzan. Carried, 5-0.

- Item # 8 **Limp-Along Permit (LAP) Notification Letter:** The subject letter was prepared by TRSD, at the request of Jake Garrett of Gila County, and it will be submitted along the LAP application to document, for the record, that the applicant agrees to hook-up to the TRSD system when the system is available. The letter will address concerns expressed by Gila County regarding property owners whose wastewater systems are problematic. R. Jacques read the referenced letter at the request of G. Madrid, an attendant at the board meeting. R. Jacques noted the letter has been developed as a form letter to be on TRSD letterhead for any property within the District and identified by Gila County as requiring a LAP.
- Item # 9 **Address Ongoing Disinformation Distributed in Local Media Outlets:** M. Harper noted that he had recorded a radio program interview of F. Barcon. R. Jacques commented on misinformation being distributed by a member of the group Citizens Against Higher Taxes (CAHT) on D. Hays not being on the board because she disagreed with Mr. Jacques on the Board's project approach. He also commented that four Board Members are appointed (insinuating that appointed Board Members do not bring the same concern for residents of the district as do elected members). R. Jacques pointed out that three Board Members ran for re-election in 2020 and were unopposed. The Board Members were re-elected w/o opposition. Finally, R. Jacques pointed out the negative cost impact to the District's residents if the TRSD wastewater were given to the Town of Miami for treatment. This alternative is being proposed by a member of the group CAHT. That member does not appear to be a resident of the District. Board Secretary M.A. Moreno recounted a brief history of the TRSD.
- Item # 10 **Address PACE's Grant Funding Efforts on its Engineering/Construction Oversight Budget:** R. Jacques pointed out that M. Krebs, A. Jaycox and other PACE staff have spent considerable time working on the Project grant-funding applications. This action was precipitated by RD's insistence that TRSD look for added grant monies required by Phase I cost overruns. PACE's efforts have been crucial to seeking and acquiring grant funding for the project. It is, in R. Jacques' opinion, outside of the "Fund Raising" scope of PACE's current engineering contract. R. Jacques requested that M. Krebs provide a reconciliation of PACE's efforts on Grant Applications for Board consideration and possible action. R. Jacques asked that the information be provided for consideration at TRSD's May Board Meeting. M. Krebs replied that PACE would provide that information. He reported that A. Jaycox was actively collecting the information.
- Item #11 **Future Public Workshops:** R. Jacques reported that he is planning Public Workshops, hopefully prior to the May Board meeting, to be facilitated by D. Patton.
- Item # 12 **Call to the Public:**
- J.L. Stanneart asked for clarification on the funds generated by the sale of TRSD's effluent. R. Jacques stated that those funds would be used to benefit both the

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residents of the District and the potential needs of the system itself. M. Harper provided an example of how Green Valley Water (Payson, AZ) uses its' similar funds.

- G. Madrid addressed the Board as a new resident of Miami and recommended more information and transparency as a means of addressing residents' concerns. R. Jacques offered to meet with G. Madrid to discuss the history of the Project. G. Madrid stated that he would contact R. Jacques for such a meeting.

Item # 13 **Executive Session:** M.A. Moreno moved to adjourn to Executive Session and reconvene in Regular Session at the close of Executive Session. Seconded by M. Buzan. Carried 5-0.
Executive Session convened at 6:10 p.m.
Regular Session reconvened at 6:19 p.m.

Item # 14 **Items discussed in Executive Session: Confidential**

Item # 15 **Announcements:** M.A. Moreno noted the Gila County 4-H Shooting Sports Club would be hosting the State Air Rifle and Pistol Competition at the Gila County Fairgrounds on April 13, 2024.

Item # 16 **Schedule any Topic or Issue:** The next Regular Meeting will be Monday, May 20, 2024, at 5:15 p.m. at the IBEW Hall.

Item # 17 **Adjournment:** M.A. Moreno moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m., seconded by C. Asrarynezami. Carried, 5-0.