

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

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**October 19, 1999**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Directors Lutz, Matthews, Schindler, Sorell and Stock

**STAFF PRESENT:** Jean Di Angelous, Chris Burt, and Shirley Burt

**COUNSEL PRESENT:** William Kruse, Esq.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Steve Sorell, who noted that all five members were present thereby constituting a quorum. The Chair stated that prior to this meeting a closed session of the Board was held and several matters of pending litigation were discussed but no action was taken.

The Chair asked for approval of the Agenda. The General Manager requested that the General Manager's Report be moved below item I. The Agenda was M/S/C (Schindler/Matthews) as amended.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Ben Walker** stated the following:-

- 1) There are several items on the Agenda such as Y2K and Fire Preparedness Plans that the Board needs to be sure that any steps taken now are part of the long range plan, and that it would be helpful to set up a permanent back-up station at the Vosburg Reservoir with either a pump or generator.
- 2) That it is very important that complete and understandable information regarding the Fluoride Variance go to all KID customers, and one of the perspectives to be stressed is that 99.9 % of the water that is delivered is used for other than drinking water. He also warned that rejecting the Fluoride Variance might give the public the impression that everything will be alright now but that may not be true and should be looked at very carefully by the Board.
- 3) That construction of any part of the Delores Tunnel should not be done until absolutely hard data is available for the economic analysis.

**Director Schindler** requested clarification as regards the returning of \$171,000 to FEMA, and the General Manager replied that this was done at the request of FEMA and involved funds that had been deobligated.

**Director Schindler** than stated that he understood that a decision had been made to not appeal the rejection of funding for the High Pressure Tunnel Project and the General Manager stated that was true as there was no new material to present to FEMA which is what they requested if we were to make another appeal.

**Mr. Thomas** made the suggestion-that if persons did not wish to be delivered water from the KID because it contained Fluoride-then maybe they could obtain water from the City of

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

Pasadena. The General Manager stated that he did not believe the Staff would support that suggestion.

**Page 2 -- October 19, 1999**

**Mr. Griffith** expressed concern that the Board had decided not to put generators in place even though in the past it had voted to do so during the Fire Season. He stated that even though it was expensive it was considered cheap insurance because during the 1993 fire the problem had been no water due to lack of electrical power. He noted that if we did need generators in the future we would be faced with the problem of availability because of the demand due to the Y2K problem.

**FIRE PREPAREDNESS POLICY**

**Director Schindler** stated that he had requested this item be placed on the Agenda after the Board voted down the rental of generators during the Fire Season at the last meeting. He stated that he thought that perhaps this had been voted down because it was coupled with the Y2K Paper Plan that was prepared by Staff, and that he would like to decouple the Generator Rental for Fire Season from the Y2K Plan by using the Fire Preparedness Policy that was approved in February of 1997. He noted that on page 5 of that Policy it states that "Emergency Generators will be provided during the Fire Season."

He further stated that he did not fully understand why the Board voted this down when -

1) With very few exceptions nothing has changed since October 1993 as the same water flow characteristics are still there and without power we cannot pump water and will very rapidly deplete our storage sources.

2) The amount of money that it will cost to rent the generators is trivial compared to the potential losses of our consumer base.

3) Voting down rental of the generators in the event of a wildfire puts us at an enormous liability risk even though we are a public entity.

4) At present we have no other plan to give us an edge to deal with a wildfire scenario.

**Director Schindler** then made the following motion-"That the Generators be put in place as they have in previous years for the duration of the Fire Season". The motion failed for lack of a second.

**Director Schindler** then stated that for the record the motion to put in generators at a \$16-20 thousand dollar level for the remainder of the Fire Season has failed because of a lack of a second.

**Director Matthews** stated that his objection to renting the generators has to do with -

1) The lack of a long range plan to deal with Fire Preparedness, which he had requested last year, that would include pumps or generators or whatever it took.

2) The paying of large sums of money year after year for the rental of generators.

**Director Lutz** then made the motion -"That the Board of Directors direct the staff to do that which they suggested some time ago--Buy a Pump." The motion was seconded by Director Matthews. Following extensive discussion the motion was amended and it was M/S/C (Lutz,Matthews) that "The staff be authorized to investigate alternatives for the purchase of a

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

self powered portable pump or pumps."

**Page 3 -- October 19, 1999**

**Director Lutz** then asked if there should be a special meeting when the staff has the information requested. The General Manager stated that as soon as he had the information he would get a memo out to the Board and at that time there could be a decision made regarding a special meeting.

**Director Schindler** then asked that since there now was a plan in place would the Board want to consider the generator rental in view of the fact that delivery of a pump would probably not occur before the New Year. The other members of the Board declined to consider the topic again.

**Director Stock** stated that he wanted to discuss the Fire Preparedness Policy because it is not a complete document in that it does not address all of the Emergency issues, including the Y2K problem. It was decided that an ad hoc committee would be formed consisting of Director Schindler, Director Stock and Ben Walker, and the task would be to develop an expanded Fire Preparedness Policy.

**Y2K PLAN**

**The General Manager** noted that he had submitted what he thought was a good plan at the last Board Meeting but since that had not been approved he had sent out another memo showing revised costs estimates and had requested comment from the Board.

**Director Schindler** stated that he had replied and indicated his support for the recommendation.

**The General Manager** then made the following comments regarding his recommendation:-

- 1) There should be serious consideration given to renting two Generators for the Y2K period.
- 2)The KID system is in good shape but we are dependent upon the City of Pasadena for power to the Wilcox Well and upon Southern California Edison for power to the other facilities.
- 3)We are taking a greater chance in not having power during Y2K period than during the Fire Season because of the health issues involved.
- 4)The chlorination systems require power to function and we currently have no generator capable of running them if the power should fail. The KID could probably survive a week with minimal water usage but a "Boil Water Order" would have to be instituted.
- 5)A pump would be nice but provides no ability to run the chlorinators.
- 6)The Pasadena connection on the west side of the system cannot be used without power.
- 7)The recommendation by staff to rent generators has been presented to the Board twice-first for the Fire Season and now for the Y2K period. We are recommending two generators for the months of December and January. We need generators that are large enough to serve for multiple purposes.

**Director Lutz** made a motion that staff purchase one or two small generators to maintain the chlorinators and the motion was seconded by Director Matthews.

**Director Schindler** questioned the exact size of the generators.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

**Director Matthews** replied that he was suggesting 5KW generators that cost approximately \$700-\$800.

**Director Schindler** stated that this size generator was not intended for continuous use and would fail.

**Director Stock** questioned as to whether the reservoirs could not be manually chlorinated.

**Page 4 -- October 19, 1999**

**The General Manager** replied that pool chlorine could be obtained and poured into the reservoirs.

**Director Stock** asked if the generator on the truck was of adequate size and the General Manager

stated that that was not the size he was talking about.

**Director Schindler** again stated that the small generators are not adequate for the intended use and stated that he was backed up by staff in this opinion.

**Director Stock** requested that the question be called.

**Mr. Kruse** read the motion "That the staff be authorized to purchase one or more 5 KW generators as necessary to operate the chlorinators at a cost not to exceed \$800. each."

**Director Sorell** stated that he was opposed to this and deeply disturbed that the staff, who has more expertise than he does, had come to the Board with a recommendation and that the Board is deciding that they are a lot smarter than the staff and are going to suggest that the staff take something a fraction of the size of what they have requested.

**Director Matthews** stated the his action was based on a different opinion of the Y2K problem and that personally he has a high confidence that there will be electricity on January 1, and that it is worthwhile to spend \$800-\$1600 on a generator that could be used for the chlorinators for any type of emergency.

**Director Stock** stated that in addition there will be additional personnel on duty, that our reservoirs will be at maximum storage, and maybe there will be access to pumpers. He further stated that he wanted to be sure that the Board is doing a reasonable job in guarding against the Y2K problem and that we are minimizing the cost to our customers for a very low probability event according to Southern California Edison.

**Mr. Anderson** questioned as to why the chlorine cylinders that we used before could not be used

**Director Schindler** questioned as to whether they could be interfaced with our present system.

**The General Manager** stated that he could not go along with that because of the enormous safety factors involved with the chlorine gas system which was the reason that the decision had been made to go to the on-site chlorine generation system now in place..

**Director Lutz** stated that he had owned many different types and sizes of generators and that while everything does deteriorte in time, they do keep plugging along.

**Director Stock** suggested that the General Manager be given more leeway in dealing with the chlorine problem and that he investigate other ways of dealing with the issue.

**Director Matthews** stated that his support for this recommendation had to do with providing a long term useful solution but that if the staff does not believe that these 5 KW generators are useful on a long term basis then if they want to do something else that is fine.

**Mr. Walker** asked how long the system could exist without chlorination, in another words exist on what there is in the reservoirs, and not use the tunnels..

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

**The General Manager** replied that we could probably last three or four days but the Health Department would make us issue a "Boil Water Order". The staff also stated that because of the size of the tanks we might only be able to last two days.

**Director Matthews** stated that we could also limit the use of the water.

**Director Schindler** asked the General Manager if there was an intermediate solution between what the staff has proposed and what the Board proposes as there seems to be division on this issue.

**Page 5 -- October 19, 1999**

**The General Manager** replied that he could survive if he was allowed to rent two generators but that he could not guarantee that he could maintain the full system. It would be hard and labor intensive.

**Director Sorell** noted that the two smaller generators would be about \$7,000.

**The General Manager** stated that he was not sure that the two smaller ones would suit our purpose.

**Director Sorell** asked if the plan for renting the 50 KW and the 160 KW generators at a cost of \$7000. for the two months would make anyone feel any better, and he received a negative answer from a majority of the Board.

**Mr. Kruse** was then requested to rephrase the motion to include that the staff was authorized but not directed to purchase the small generators which would allow them the option to not purchase if they thought they would not be useful or would be a waste of money.

**Director Schindler** then questioned as to what happens if they are more than \$800. or the staff decides that they are no good. It just dies on the vine and that's the end of it?

**Director Sorell** replied that that was what he was hearing from the motion, and called for the question.

**It was M/S/C (Lutz/Matthews)** by a vote of 4/0/1- "That the staff be authorized but not directed to purchase one or more 5 KW generators as necessary to operate the chlorinators at a cost not to exceed \$800 each." Director Schindler abstained stating that he did not want to vote for nonsense.

**The General Manager** stated that he wanted to go on record as stating that this is contrary to the recommendations of your staff.

**Director Schindler** then made the motion "That the Board follow the recommendations of the staff in regards to generator rental for Y2K". The motion was seconded by Director Sorell.

It was defeated by a vote of 2/3 with Directors Schindler and Sorell voting Aye, and Directors Matthews, Lutz, and Stock voting No.

**FLUORIDE VARIANCE**

**Director Schindler** stated had he had been out of town and had not been able to develop the fact sheet that he had been assigned to do, but that he would have a draft of this document to the Board in the week prior to the next Board Meeting.

**Director Stock** then stated that other Board Members also have the opportunity to present material for the Board's consideration by that date.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

**DELORES TUNNEL**

**Mitigation Plan**-The Chair stated that this had already been dealt with.

**Cost Benefit Study**-The Board reviewed the report that had been prepared by the Financial Consultant, Chris Aldinger, and decided that it was an information item that could be shared with the public.

Staff was directed to arrange a meeting with the consultant and Director Stock to review the report at Director Stock's request.

**Page 6 -- October 19, 1999**

**STANDBY POLICY/EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

The Board reviewed the Survey of Benefits offered by local water agencies and the three options for participation by the District for the Medical, Dental, and Vision Health Plans offered by ACWA. The three participation options were 50/50 at an annual cost to the District of \$4,606.68, 60/40 at a cost of \$5,449.20, and 70/30 at a cost of \$6,292.08.

**It was M/S/C (Schindler/Sorell) 3/1/1** "That the Board should provide full coverage for the employee and full family at the 70/30 level" with Director Lutz voting No and Director Stock abstaining.

**Director Stock** asked when the effective date would be.

**Director Sorell** asked when the effective date of the new standby policy would be .

**Director Stock** replied that no effective date had been established but that they had recommended January 2000.

**Director Sorell** stated that he had assumed the benefits package would be put in at the same time as the new standby policy.

**Director Schindler** stated that he would amend his motion to include a starting date of December 1, 1999.

**Director Sorell** stated "And that would be for both the revised standby policy as recommended by the subcommittee and this benefits program."

**Director Schindler** asked that the standby policy be reviewed.

**Director Stock** stated that in effect it pays \$30. a day for standby and that their week day hours would be cut by 2 hours to compensate for the 2 hour weekend duty on both weekends days thereby not having to pay overtime for the weekend facility check.

**Director Schindler** asked if that was acceptable to staff.

**The General Manager** stated that he would endeavor to abide by that but that if it affects the workday he would not want it written in stone.

Director Matthews stated that the understanding was that it would be done where practical.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S COMPENSATION**

It was M/S/C (Stock/Schindler) that "That the District pay for the medical, dental, and vision coverage for the dependent of the General Manager which is approximately \$1300. per year starting on December 1, 1999." The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

--

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Doyne Road Project**-Mr. Chen is the new project coordinator for ASL Consulting Engineers and met with the staff to review the project. Staff is waiting for a reply to the contract that was sent to them on April 30, 1999.

**Kinclair Project**-No reply has been received regarding the contract. Mr. Stewart has called and requested that KID obtain an estimate from ASL for the offsite facilities, and he was told that they are working on it.

**Page 7 -- October 19, 1999**

**Delinquency Billing**-The 30-60-90 Aging Report is attached, which shows that the 60 day level has come down.

**Annual Newsletter**-The Board agreed with Director Schindler's request to advance the mailing of the Meter Reader to December.

**Planned Maintenance**

**Brown Reservoir**-It was M/S/C (Schindler/Matthews) that "The Board authorize the Staff to accept the bid of Thomas Construction to replace the roof of the Brown Reservoir for the sum of \$10,350. and to proceed with the project."

**Telemetry System Modification**-It was M/S/C(Lutz/Sorell) 4/1 "That the staff be authorized to proceed with the modification of the telemetry system-Option Two 2- for the sum of \$23,216. Directors Sorell, Schindler, Matthews, and Lutz voted Aye and Director Stock vote Nay.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of September 21, 1999 were reviewed and approved with the following addition to page 4 -Review of Y2K Contingency Plan- first sentence-which should read "After lengthy discussion it was M/S (Stock/Matthews) that the Y2K Contingency Plan should not be adopted which included not approving the rental of generators for the Fire Season."

**REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Financial Report of September 30, 1999 was reviewed and unanimously approved for filing as presented.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held on November 16, 1999 at the District Office.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
KINNELOA IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

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Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Burt  
Acting Secretary