# MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING WORKSHOP OF BIG BEAR MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2014

The Open Session workshop began at 1:00 PM. Those in attendance included President Murphy, Director Lewis, Director Eminger, Director Smith, General Manager Scott Heule, Lake Manager Mike Stephenson, and Board Secretary Vicki Sheppard.

## PAPERLESS AGENDA PACKAGES

Mr. Heule made a presentation regarding various options for paperless agenda packages in lieu of the board books that are currently being used. He showed tomorrow's agenda that had been converted to a paperless format. He explained that the City of Big Bear Lake and BBARWA are currently using paperless packages commenting that they are very satisfied with the results. He added that the District could purchase an I-Pad, Tablet, or Notebook with touch screens for each Director to use. Director Smith stated that it would save time and money in the long run. It was the consensus that staff should research options and prices for paperless agenda packages and what hardware and software requirements there might be.

## PORTABLE ELECTRONIC SIGN BOARDS

Mr. Stephenson reported on electronic sign boards that we would be able to place at the launch ramps or at the administration building. He explained that they are 48 x 96 inches in size. He added that they are the same types of signs that we see along the highway in Big Bear Lake. He reported that they could flash 4 - 5 programmed messages at a time. He said that we could have Quagga messages, parking lot full messages, lake event messages, etc. He added that the cost of the sign would be approximately \$15,000. Mr. Stephenson explained that if we were able to program them remotely it would cost an additional \$70 a month for the air-card application. He reported that we could save the \$70 a month by programming them on-site adding that there would be someone on-site at the ramp or at the office that could program them. Director Smith stated that he would like to see time and temperature displayed. Mr. Stephenson explained that those could be two of the messages that could be displayed. It was the consensus that Mr. Stephenson would research specifications and get prices from other sources.

#### BOARD ROOM TECHNOLOGY UPDATES

Mr. Heule presented various display screen options. He reported that they would greatly improve PowerPoint presentations and tele-conferencing meetings. He also discussed sound system and lighting options including more sensitive microphones and speakers. Director Smith commented that we do have a little extra money from shutting down RDA. Other non-technical improvement possibilities were discussed such as more efficient air circulation fans, replacing ceiling tiles, window coverings, and dais remodeling. It was determined that this subject should go back to the Facilities Committee for further review.

## **HARVESTER ISSUES FOR 2014**

Mr. Stephenson reported that any combination of harvesters and transportation he could find exceeded the budget approved by the Board at the last Board meeting. He explained that after a lengthy discussion about these alternatives, the Facilities Committee suggested that instead of renting an additional harvester for 2014 that he schedule a second shift harvester operator and helper that would then allow the machine to work for an additional 3-4 hours each day (this approach will not require any additional expense except for standard maintenance and fuel on the

harvester). Mr. Stephenson reported that he proposes instead to run 12 hour shifts using current employees (paying overtime) except for Friday's. He explained that we have good employees now and he doesn't think that hiring another employee would be as efficient as using the trained employees we now have and paying them overtime. He reported that he discussed this with the current maintenance personnel and they are all for it. He added that we will still get the new harvester in 2015. Director Smith added that we have the extra truck and utilizing our current harvester and the employees we now have is a "win-win" situation.

## TROUT REARING FACILITIES

Mr. Heule showed a fish farming video from Cedar Crest Trout Farms. President Murphy asked how much money it would cost to have a trout farm on a smaller scale. Mr. Stephenson said it would be close to \$500,000. He commented that cage expansion is what he would like to see. Director Lewis asked where we would put the new cages. Mr. Stephenson explained that after the Big Bear Marina dredge, we could put the cages right here but before the dredge is completed we could only add a couple more. Staff was directed to look into price options for expanding the cages and also to look at additional docks to hold the cages. Mr. Stephenson reported on the fish tanks he is looking to put at MWD and the Middle School. He added that the students at the Middle School would be taking care of baby fish in the tanks as an educational project.

Mr. Heule discussed the stolen memorial plaques at the dam. He asked if we should take the stones away from the areas where the plaques were taken and just leave the one plaque or should we look into options for replacing the missing plaques. He added that we could look into replacements and a better way to secure them so they could not be stolen again. President Murphy asked if we could write to the dam engineers and ask them to help with the cost of replacements. Director Eminger commented that possibly the Historical Society could be asked to help share the cost of replacements also. Staff will look into replacement costs and asking other agencies for help.

## ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 2:28 P.M to discuss General Manager Performance Evaluation.

## RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting was reconvened to Open Session at 3:30 P.M. No reportable action.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 PM.

Vicki Sheppard

Secretary to the Board

Big Bear Municipal Water District

(SEAL)