

**MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**of the**  
**SUNNYSLOPE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**April 16, 2019**

**A. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by President Alcorn, at the Sunnyslope County Water District office, 3570 Airline Highway, Hollister, California.

**B. ROLL CALL: Present:** President Mike Alcorn, Director Judi Johnson, Director Jim Parker, Director Robert J. Rodriguez II, and Director Ann Ross.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION MATTERS:** Members of the public may address the Board on the item or items listed on the Closed Session agenda, with a time limit of 3 minutes per speaker. No public comment was made.

**Staff Present for Closed Session:** General Manager/Secretary Don Ridenhour and Attorneys Heidi Quinn and David Laredo.

**D. CLOSED SESSION (Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9 & 54957):** At 4:32 p.m. President Alcorn closed the meeting to the public to discuss the following:

1. **Conference with Legal Counsel** - Anticipated Litigation, Gov. Code § 54956.9(b): – One case.

2. **Conference with Labor Negotiators** - Gov. Code § 54957.6:

District Negotiators: Mike Alcorn, Ann Ross, & Don Ridenhour

Employee organizations: District Management Staff & Utility Workers Union of America – AFL-CIO, Local 820

President Alcorn reconvened the meeting to open session at 5:15 p.m.

**E. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Attorney David Laredo led Directors, staff, and public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**F. REPORT IN OPEN SESSION ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION:** Attorney Heidi Quinn reported as to both items, staff and board provided an update, the board gave direction, but no reportable action was taken.

**G. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Upon motion made by Director Johnson, seconded by Director Parker, and carried 5-0 the agenda was approved as presented.

**H. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND AUDIENCE INTRODUCTIONS:** The Board welcomed members of the public and opened the meeting to public comments regarding matters not itemized on the agenda.

**Staff present for Open Session:** General Manager/Secretary Don Ridenhour, Attorney Heidi Quinn, Executive Assistant/Stenographer Carol Porteur, Water/Wastewater Superintendent Jim Filice; Finance and Human Resource Manager Cathy Buck, and Associate Engineer Rob Hillebrecht.

**I. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A REVISED COMPENSATION PACKAGE FOR THE SIX DISTRICT MANAGEMENT STAFF INCLUDING A SIGNING BONUS AND A COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (Not a project under CEQA per Article 20, Section 15378):** General Manager/Secretary Ridenhour explained that the Personnel Committee has been holding negotiation meetings with the District’s Management Staff and separately with District Union Staff members (Utility Workers Union of America, Local 820). Staff have been working without a contract since July 1, 2018. Due to the lengthy time it has taken for the Union to form and for negotiations to conclude with Union Staff members, Management Staff requested an adjustment in wages prior to the contract with Union Staff Members being complete. The Personnel Committee is recommending a 5.5% signing bonus, and a 5.5% cost of living adjustment effective immediately for the six Management Staff. It is anticipated further revisions may be proposed to the Management Staff compensation and benefits package once negotiations with Union Staff are complete and a new contract with the Union is approved.

Upon motion made by Director Rodriguez, seconded by Director Johnson, and carried 5-0, the Board approved a revised compensation package for the six District Management staff including a signing bonus along with a cost of living adjustment of 5.5%.

**2. THE DISTRICT’S COUNSEL DAVID LAREDO AND HEIDI QUINN WILL BE CONDUCTING A TRAINING SESSION ON ETHICS AND THE BROWN ACT FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF. (Not a project under CEQA per Article 20, Section 15378.):** District Counselors David Laredo and Heidi Quinn provided training to the Sunnyslope County Water District Board of Directors and staff titled, “Ethical Conduct in Public Service – Laws & Principals under AB 1234”. This training is mandated by Assembly Bill 1234 for all public elected officials.

Director Rodriguez excused himself at 6:25 p.m. for the remainder of the training.

The following Directors and staff completed the Ethics and Brown Act Training and received their AB1234 Public Service Ethics Education Proof of Participation Certificate: Michael Alcorn, Judi Johnson, James Parker, Ann Ross, Cathy Buck, Jim Filice, Rob Hillebrecht, Carol Porteur, and Don Ridenhour.

J. President Alcorn adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

**APPROVED BY THE BOARD:** *s/ Michael H. Alcorn*  
Michael H. Alcorn, President

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:** *s/ Donald G. Ridenhour*  
Donald G. Ridenhour, Secretary