

## MINUTES

**Tuesday, March 11, 2025**  
**East Bay Municipal Utility District**  
**Board of Directors**  
**375 Eleventh Street**  
**Oakland, California**

### Regular Closed Session Meeting

President Marguerite Young called to order the Regular Closed Session Meeting of the Board of Directors at 11:17 a.m. in the Administration Building Boardroom.

### ROLL CALL

Directors April Chan, Luz Gómez, Andy Katz, Valerie D. Lewis, Jim Oddie, Joey D. Smith and President Marguerite Young were present at roll call.

Staff participants included General Manager Clifford C. Chan and General Counsel Derek T. McDonald.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

- Addressing the Board were the following: 1) John Halseth, Member Relations Secretary, AFSCME Local 444 commented on standby pay and asked the District to accept Local 444's proposal to increase standby pay; and 2) Eric Larsen, President, AFSCME Local 444 commented on Local 444's proposal for the District to provide a 100 percent employer paid health insurance benefit for retirees.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

President Young announced the closed session agenda, and the Board convened to Administration Building Conference Room 8 for discussion.

### Regular Business Meeting

At 1:03 p.m., General Manager Clifford C. Chan informed Secretary of the District Rischa S. Cole that due to an extended Closed Session Meeting, the Regular Business Meeting would start at 1:30 p.m. President Marguerite Young called to order the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors at 1:37 p.m. in the Administration Building Boardroom.

Directors April Chan, Luz Gómez, Andy Katz, Valerie D. Lewis, Jim Oddie, Joey D. Smith, and President Marguerite Young were present at roll call.

Staff participants included General Manager Clifford C. Chan, General Counsel Derek T. McDonald, and Secretary of the District Rischa S. Cole.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President Young led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

General Manager Clifford C. Chan announced a District project and two staff received awards from the San Francisco Bay Section of the California Water Environment Association (CWEA). The Wastewater Department's Pump Station M Rehabilitation Project, Advanced Oxidation Process for Odor Control was awarded the 2024 Engineering Achievement of the Year Award for demonstrating an innovative method for controlling odors. Director Oddie presented the award and thanked the following staff in attendance representing the project team: William Chaffer, Supervising Construction Inspector; Angela El-Telbany, Senior Civil Engineer; Robert Mac, Senior Electrical Engineer; Donald Pluth, Senior Construction Inspector; Deborah Russell, Senior Civil Engineer; Martin Serena, Assistant Engineer; Robert (Brad) Thomas, Senior Construction Inspector; and Rachel Weber, Associate Civil Engineer. Next, he announced two Wastewater Department staff received individual awards. Associate Civil Engineer Maxwell Armenta (not in attendance) was selected for the CWEA 2024 Outstanding Young Professional of the Year award. Maxwell has been a CWEA member for five years, a leader in the Students and Young Professionals Committee for over three years, and served a lead role on the education planning team for CWEA's annual conference in April. Assistant Engineer Celia Kitchell was selected for the CWEA 2024 Al Ditman Professional Development Training award. Celia has served four years, two of those as chair, with the San Francisco Bay Section's Professional Development Committee which organizes trainings and seminars for wastewater industry professionals. Celia's efforts have played a major part of the success of the Section's training program. Director Lewis congratulated Celia and presented the award.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM CLOSED SESSION**

There were no announcements required from closed session.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Addressing the Board were the following: 1) Kelley Taylor, South Shore Camanche Homeowners Association President commented on the updated plans for the alcohol and personal watercraft bans at Camanche Reservoir, previous requests for data to support the bans, and asked the District to partner and meet with residents before implementing the bans; and 2) Matthew Taylor commented on partnering with the District and for mobilehome park residents to have input on developing rules at Camanche.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- Agenda Item 8 was pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion.
- Motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Gómez, to approve the recommended actions for Items 1-7 on the Consent Calendar carried (7-0) by the following voice vote: AYES (Chan, Gómez, Katz, Lewis, Oddie, Smith, and Young); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (None); ABSENT (None).

1. **Motion No. 034-25** – Approved the Special Meeting Minutes and Regular Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2025.
2. The following correspondence was filed with the Board: 1) Presentation entitled, “Water Supply Update,” dated March 11, 2025; 2) Speakers’ Bureau and Outreach Record CY25, dated March 11, 2025; and 3) Email dated March 10, 2025 (with attachments) from Ivette Rivera to Office of the Secretary regarding Please include this email and the attached document to the Board of Directors packet for tomorrow’s EBMUD open board meeting, in the afternoon. Thank you... Fwd: FYI: Ivette Rivera (EEOC R2S) v AFSCME (plus doc previously served on Eric Larsen.).
3. **Motion No. 035-25** – Awarded a sole source contract beginning on or after March 11, 2025 to Hydra-Stop LLC, for supplying Hydra-Stop LLC insertion valve installation equipment and training for a total cost, after the addition of taxes, not to exceed \$165,147.
4. **Motion No. 036-25** – Authorized an agreement beginning on or after April 25, 2025, with AdMail Express, Inc. for three years, with two options to renew for additional one-year periods for a total amount, including option years, not to exceed \$275,000 to fulfill customer orders from the District’s online store, provide warehousing services, and support on-demand special large volume District mailings.
5. **Motion No. 037-25** – Authorized the purchase of laptops, workstations, supporting devices, related warranties, and services beginning on or after March 11, 2025, from Dell Marketing LP, for a total amount not to exceed \$3,178,028.41. This purchase will be made under State of California contracts available for use by local governments.
6. **Motion No. 038-25** – Authorized an agreement beginning on or after March 11, 2025 with Branco Construction, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$995,870 for the renovation of Camanche House at Pardee Center.
7. **Motion No. 039-25** – Authorized an agreement beginning on or after March 11, 2025 with Schneider Electric Systems USA, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$3,778,263 to perform and support the District’s Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System upgrade at multiple District facilities.
8. **Adopt a resolution to appoint the following individuals as Standby Officers for the East Bay Municipal Utility District Board of Directors as outlined in the Directors’ Emergency Succession Plan.**

Ward No. 1	1) Ahmad Anderson
Ward No. 6	1) Wendall A. Mitchell 2) Carolyn Veal-Hunter

Director Lewis introduced Wendall A. Mitchell and provided an overview of his background and experience. Director Lewis thanked Mr. Mitchell for being willing to serve as a Standby Officer. Next, Director Smith introduced Ahmad Anderson and provided an overview of his background and experience. Director Smith thanked Mr. Anderson for being willing to serve as a Standby Officer.

- Motion by Director Oddie, seconded by Director Chan, to approve the recommended actions for Item 8 on the Consent Calendar carried (7-0) by the following voice vote: AYES (Chan, Gómez, Katz, Lewis, Oddie, Smith, and Young); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (None); ABSENT (None).

**Resolution No. 35440-25** – Confirming Appointment Of Standby Officers For The East Bay Municipal Utility District Board Of Directors For Ward Nos. 1 AND 6 Under The Emergency Succession Plan For The Board Of Directors.

## **DETERMINATION AND DISCUSSION**

### **9. Legislative Update.**

General Manager Clifford C. Chan reported the Legislative/Human Resources Committee met earlier and supported the staff recommendation for the three bills in Legislative Report No. 02-25. Manager of Intergovernmental Affairs Kathy Viatella stated the meeting agenda listed SB 823, however the correct bill number is AB 823 (Boerner) Solid waste: plastic microbeads. Ms. Viatella asked if the Board would like an overview of the three bills. Legislative/Human Resources Committee Chair Luz Gómez commented Ms. Viatella's review during the Committee meeting was clear and thorough. President Young requested an overview of SB 31 (McNerney) Water quality: recycled water. As amended on February 10, 2025, SB 31 is intended to facilitate the use of nonpotable recycled water by updating Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations, the state regulations that govern its use. Ms. Viatella reviewed SB 31 and in response to a question during the Legislative/Human Resources Committee meeting, clarified the recycled water is treated to a tertiary standard and would protect public health and do no harm to wildlife that may inhabit the water. Next, she provided information on water rate assistance legislation introduced in February 2025. AB 532 (Ransom), which is sponsored by the California Municipal Utilities Association, would make changes to existing law. SB 350 (Durazo) which is sponsored by Clean Water Action, Community Water Center, and Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, seeks to change water rate assistance legislation. The Board discussed the bills and asked questions regarding the legislature's intent to create a revised Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) focusing on water systems with fewer than 3,000 connections or those serving predominantly disadvantaged communities; ratepayers' ability to voluntarily opt out of contributing to a program; information on the third-party administrators of the LIHWAP implemented by the Department of Community Services and Development in Fiscal Year 2021-2022; potential impacts if agencies are required to automatically enroll customers in a rate assistance program; and whether a local agency can adopt its own opt-out program and incorporate it into its Proposition 218 notice. Ms. Viatella confirmed staff will continue to monitor these bills and work with the bill authors to address the Board's comments and concerns.

- Motion by Director Lewis, seconded by Director Chan, to approve the recommended actions for Item 9 carried (7-0) by the following voice vote: AYES (Chan, Gómez, Katz, Lewis, Oddie, Smith, and Young); NOES (None); ABSTAIN (None); ABSENT (None).

**Motion No. 040-25** – Received Legislative Report No. 02-25 and approved positions on the following bills: 1) SUPPORT AB 823 (Boerner) Solid waste: plastic microbeads; 2) SUPPORT SB 31 (McNerney) Water quality: recycled water; and 3) SUPPORT SB 394 (Allen) Water theft: fire hydrants; and received information on Water Rate Assistance Legislation.

10. **General Manager's Report.**

Water Supply Update

Manager of Maintenance and Construction/Water Operations Roberto C. Cortez presented the update on the District's current water supply including the following data as of March 5: gross water production; total system storage (628,590 acre-feet); precipitation in the East Bay (14.8 inches) and in the Mokelumne (26.6 inches); and the snow depth (74 inches) and snow water content (19.6 inches) at Caples Lake. He reviewed snowpack levels and snow water equivalent in the Sierras as of March 6; precipitation forecasts across the states for March 13-19, 2025; projected Mokelumne precipitation for Rainfall Year 2025; and 2025 total system storage projections. Mr. Cortez responded to questions on when the State would determine water year types and projections for the District.

General Manager Clifford C. Chan announced the February 2025 Monthly Report was included in the agenda materials and the Speakers' Bureau and Outreach Record CY25 had been provided at Board places.

**REPORTS AND DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

11. **Committee Reports.**

- Filed with the Board were the Minutes for the February 25, 2025 Finance/Administration Committee Meeting.
- Chair April Chan reported the Planning Committee met earlier and received reports on the Annual Water Quality Program; Miller Road Trench Soil Management Project Update and Availability of the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration; and Updated Plans for Alcohol and Personal Watercraft Prohibitions at Camanche Reservoir.
- Chair Luz Gómez reported the Legislative/Human Resources Committee met earlier and received reports on the Legislative Update; the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan Update; and Assembly Bill No. 1484 – Temporary Employees.

12. **Other Items for Future Consideration.**

None.

13. **Director Comments.**

- Director Gómez reported attending the San Ramon State of the City Address on March 5; the swearing-in ceremony for Assemblymember Annamarie Ávila Farías in Martinez on March 6; and the East Bay Leadership Council Leadership Series event in Pleasant Hill on March 10.

- Director Katz reported attending the East Bay Wildfire Coalition meeting in El Cerrito on February 27.
- Director Lewis reported attending the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon of the Oakland Chapter of Jack and Jill in Oakland on March 1.
  
- Director Oddie reported attending the San Leandro City Council meeting on March 3 and plans to attend the following: Alameda County Mayors Conference in Piedmont on March 12; Ward 5 meet and greet in Alameda on March 13; Alameda County Special Districts Association Annual Dinner in Castro Valley on March 13; State of the City Address in San Leandro on March 18; State of the City Address in Alameda on March 20; Alameda County Unincorporated Services Committee meeting in San Leandro on March 26; and the East Bay Economic Development Alliance East Bay Innovation Awards event in Oakland on March 27.
  
- Director Smith reported attending the East Bay Wildfire Coalition meeting in El Cerrito on February 27; receiving the Charles A. Hayes award at the Northern California Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Annual Scholarship Awards dinner in Oakland on February 28; attending the North Richmond Municipal Advisory Committee on March 4; and plans to attend the Ward 1 meet and greet in Richmond on March 12.
  
- President Young reported on plans to provide a presentation on EBMUD at the Orinda Valley Garden Club on March 12 and to attend the Alameda County Mayors Conference in Piedmont on March 12.
  
- Director Chan had no report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Young adjourned the Regular Meeting at 2:47 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



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Rischa S. Cole, Secretary of the District

APPROVED: March 25, 2025



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Marguerite Young, President of the Board