

MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Approved:
7-5-16

NOTICE OF AND AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD JUNE 7, 2016 AT THE OFFICES OF THE MOHAVE VALLEY IRRIGATION & DRAINAGE DISTRICT MEETING TO BEGIN AT 4:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 4:06pm by Chairman Charles B. Sherrill, Jr.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vince Vasquez.

ROLL CALL.

Present: Charles B. (Chip) Sherrill, Jr., Chairman/Director Division III
Vince Vasquez, Director Division II
Clay Vanderslice, Director at Large
Perry Muscelli, Treasurer/Director at Large
Mark Clark, CCM, Manager
Kerri Hatz, Administrative Assistant

Absent: John Kai, Jr., Director Division I
Jamie Kelley, District Counsel

WAIVER MOTION. Motion to waive the reading of full minutes and resolutions presented for approval or adoption. Waiver motion was read by Chairman Charles B. Sherrill, Jr.

1. REPORTS.

A. Staff report on water use.

Manager Mark Clark reported that for the month of April 2016, the district used 2,404 acre feet of water compared to 3,490 acre feet last year at this time. However, year to date we are ahead of last years numbers at 8,976 acre feet of water used and last year we used 8,827 acre feet of water at this time.

B. Bureau of Reclamation Lower Colorado Water Supply Report as of : May 31, 2016; Upper Colorado River Basin Snowpack Report; Lake Powell Water Data Graph; and Lake Mead Water Data Graph. Manager Mark Clark reported that Lake Mead is dropping, it is now at 36% full and the lake is sitting at 1,073 feet. At an elevation of 1,075 feet is when the first shortage is declared so we are below that level at this point. However, it depends on if we are below that level in January 2017, it is anticipated that we will remain below that level of 1,075 feet until October of this year. They anticipate that in November and December of this year it will rise a little bit to get to about 1,081 feet, which means no shortage would be declared next year. Right now, they are anticipating a 10% probability of a shortage being declared in 2017 and a 60% chance of a shortage being declared in 2018, so it jumps substantially. Lake Powell is not in as bad of shape, it is 50% full at an

elevation of 3,603 feet. Lake Mead has not been this low since the 1930's when they initially started filling it. Perry Muscelli asked Mark Clark if these projections are the inflow into Lake Powell? And the forecast for the entire year is 85% of Normal? Mark replied yes. Vince Vasquez stated that the last 14 out of the last 16 years have been below average inflow, so you have to ask yourself is there a new average? Mark replied that the last 16 years of precipitation have been the lowest 16 years in the last 1,200 according to the tree rings. A member of the audience asked a question, So with this water level dropping, what happens to new projects coming up in Mohave Valley? Mark replied we still have water available to allocate within our district even with this lower level.

2. **AGENDA MODIFICATION.** Possible action to withdraw from, or move, any item on the Agenda, including the removal of an item from the Consent Agenda. **No Discussion, no action.**
3. **CONSENT AGENDA.** The items listed below will be considered as a group and acted upon by one motion with no separate discussion of said items, unless a Board Member requests an item or items be removed for separate discussion and action. **A motion was made by Vince Vasquez to approve Items 3A-3D and seconded by Clay Vanderslice, Perry Muscelli Abstained. All in favor, motion passed.**
 - A. Approve the May 3, 2016 Executive Meeting Minutes
 - B. Approve the May 3, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes
 - C. Approve the May 16, 2016 Special Executive Meeting Minutes
 - D. Ratify payment of expenses for May 2016.
4. **REGULAR AGENDA.**
 - A. **2016-2017 Proposed MVIDD Budget.** Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed 2016-2017 Budget. **Mark reported that in the budget there are a couple of changes between last year and this year. One primary change is that Marina Coves has been paid up on their dues, that this fiscal year they paid 1 ½ years worth of water fees, now they are all caught up so next year in the budget we only have them paying one years worth of water fees. MCWA dues are going up so we increased that in the budget. The Multi-Lower Colorado Species Act have increased their dues substantially so that is in the budget here. We have money in the budget to update our website, which is in process now. The only other thing in the budget is the fees for the new auditor for our financial review and those fees will actually be less than our previous auditors, \$500.00 less than our last auditors. Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. asked the board if there were any questions. Vince Vasquez made a motion to approve the Budget, Perry Muscelli seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.**

- B. **MVIDD Comprehensive Fee Schedule and Payment Rules.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Comprehensive Fee Schedule and Payment Rules. Mark Clark stated there is only one recommended change to the Comprehensive Fee Schedule and that is to increase the fee to the Utility Companies to \$3.00 an acre foot, we are trying to move them to be in line with the Agricultural Users. Perry Muscelli made a motion for Approval, Vince Vasquez seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.
- C. **Special District Reimbursement for County Services & Annual Budget.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Annual Budget and Tax Levies and Rates Certification.
Mark Clark state this is just a rehash of the budget that was just approved, only this is on the form that we need to present to the County. Because we are a special taxing district, the County would have to step in should we wind up in a mess like some of the fire districts have. They want to make sure that we are being fiscally responsible so we have to present our budget to them on an annual basis. All this is doing is taking the previously approved budget and putting it in their format so we can present it to the County. Perry Muscelli made a motion for approval, Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.
- D. **Valley View @ Sunrise Hills, Tract 4201-A, T18N, R21W, Sec. 06. Request for a Final Water Allocation.** Discussion and possible action to approve the request for a Final Water Allocation for 66 lots in Phase A. Mark Clark stated that staff has received documentation from the applicant showing that the final plat has been recorded, we have all the signatures and documentation that we require and staff is recommending approval. Mark stated they could have requested this awhile ago, and all fees have been paid. Vince Vasquez asked where this was located? Mark replied that it is in T18N, R21W, Section 6. Perry Muscelli asked if the map was recorded in 2012? Mark replied yes, that is why I said they could have come in for their final quite awhile ago. Perry Muscelli asked if the map was still good? Mark replied that it is good indefinitely. Perry Muscelli asked if it was for 66 Lots? Mark replied yes and that all fees have been paid for Phase A, B, & C. Perry Muscelli asked if this was for Phase A? Mark replied yes and Perry asked if there was any discussion or action on any other phase of this project and Mark replied yes that the next item for discussion is Phase B. Perry Muscelli made a motion for approval, Vince Vasquez seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.
- E. **Valley View @ Sunrise Hills, Tract 4201-B, T18N, R21W, Sec. 06. Application for a Preliminary Water Allocation for 35 lots.** Discussion and possible action to approve the application for a Preliminary Water Allocation for 35 lots for Phase B of Tract 4201. Mark Clark stated that this was in the beginning one phase and then later broken into 3 phases and all fees associated with this was previously paid. Perry Muscelli asked if they had previously been approved for an allocation? Mark said yes it was when it was originally developed but then they broke it into 3 phases. Mark said they already have a preliminary what we are actually doing is looking for an extension for them. Vince Vasquez asked if this water has already been

accounted for in the district? Mark stated it has been accounted for. Perry Muscelli asked if this was new water and how long do they have to get their final? Mark stated it is not new water and we are asking for two (2) year extension to get their final and from his understanding they are pretty close to getting their final from the County. Jaimini Upadyaya stood up and asked to introduce himself, he is from Mohave Engineering Associates and is representing B & R Development Group and they have requested a final from Mohave County over two (2) months ago and are expecting approval at the end of this month or July. Once they get approval they will start construction in August or September. Vince Vasquez asked if that was on the first 66 lots? Jaimini replied no, that the 66 lots are already approved and the streets and everything have already been done. We are starting Phase B which is south of Phase A and 35 lots. Perry Muscelli asked if on phase B would they be coming before the board again? Jaimini and Mark both stated they would be once they request the final water allocation. Perry Muscelli asked if that would be in a few months and Jaimini replied that it could be, it depends on what the County does. Mark Clark stated that is why we are asking for the 24 month extension, even though we do not believe it will take that long, Mark stated he has seen the County really cause some problems and we don't want to keep bringing this to the board over and over again. Jaimini also stated the request is for 2 years only because he does not know how long the County could take. Perry Muscelli made a motion to approve the 24 month extension on Phase B, Clay Vanderslice seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

5. **PUBLIC INPUT.** Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. asked if there was any public input. Richard Park stated how hot it is. They talked a little about the current weather and Richard Park told the board about a water culture project that he is testing out currently. He is testing watermelon and squash. They are growing like crazy. The water is getting about 125 degrees and this is just an experiment. He talked about trying cucumbers. He talked about aerating the water also. The group then talked about how low the water levels are as compared to weather temperatures relating to each other. They talked about weather cycles also. They also talked about the dam and water levels in the past. They talked about El Nino and the research on that and it's a crap shoot. Jaimini asked about the water levels and the water adequacy for 100 years. How does it work with the District? Both Mark Clark and Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. stated that you can get a 100 year adequacy from the district that we follow the same protocol as ADWR. Mark stated that within the AMA's in Phoenix, Tucson and Prescott they have what is called active management areas, so there the rules are a little more complex because they have what is called a 100 year assured water supply. Outside of those AMA's they have what is called the 100 year water adequacy which is a little different but essentially the same but the technical rules are a little different. Mark stated we follow the adequacy. It is still ADWR's guidelines. Jaimini asked if ADWR and the District were the same? Mark said no they are not, ADWR is the state water agency and we are the local. Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. stated that we communicate with them on water usage and water issues and follow their guidelines. Jaimini asked with current water levels do we still have the 100 year adequacy? Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. stated that if the lake dries up and falls below 1,000 feet, nobody will get any water. Mark Clark stated the dead pool is 895 feet. We also have to remember that Lake Mead is like a cone, so the more

the water lowers the faster it moves at the bottom. Jaimini asked if there was an aquifer here? Both Mark Clark, Vince Vasquez stated there is not, it is just an underground river and if this dries up then the river dries up. Jaimini stated he has been asked why people just drill wells, and Mark Clark stated they would have to have permission and an allocation from MVIDD. Vince Vasquez stated that any wells are using Colorado River water and you have to have a right to be able to do that and you have to go through the District in order to get a water allocation. Jaimini asked if that was only for projects? Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. stated any water use, whether it is Utilities, anyone wanting to drill a well has to come to the District to get it in writing to have an allocation to then go to ADWR to get a 100 year adequacy. We work in conjunction with them and BOR. Vince Vasquez stated this is the most highly regulated river in the United States. Perry Muscelli stated there is over 20 million people who rely on the river. Jaimini stated there are people that come from other states and ask what the water situation is in Mohave Valley and he doesn't know the answer. He doesn't know what will it be like in 5 years from now. Richard Park asked again where the dead pool is and Mark said at 895 feet the water will not be able to be pumped through the dam. They talked about how that is not that far away. Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. stated he is optimistic and does not see that happening within the next 50 years but who knows. Cycles happen and hopefully we will get 3-5 years of good snow. Because of the 20 million people using the river it is getting sucked up and evaporation, the more people the more it will be used up. Jaimini talked about the water issues in Kingman and the Rhodes issues with the aquifer. Vince stated it is an unregulated ground water basin and they all agreed that is what is causing heated issues at the Board of Supervisors meetings. Vince again restated that within our district you have to have a water allocation unlike the unregulated ground water basin in Kingman where anyone can just drill a well as a landowner you have that right. Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. talked about our conservation programs in our area trying to help with the water issues, such as the lined irrigation ditches so the water doesn't just go down, we use laser levels to level the fields to use less water and we try to conserve water here. It is in each contract that you have to have lined ditches or you lose your water contract. Everyone in the district has cemented or is in the process of cementing all of their ditches. 75% used to be dirt ditches here, because it was cheap, but now because of conservation on our irrigation rules says you will have cement ditches and it has been a significant expense but it saves water, as much as 15%. They talked about the ground water levels dropping in Kingman. They talked about the water intake level in Nevada and their dead pool levels and the cost incurred there as well. Jaimini talked about the water in Saudi Arabia and the machines they have to turn sea water into drinking water. Everyone talked about how expensive that is. They talked about the different pipeline projects going on right now also. Charles B. Sherrill, Jr. thanked everyone for coming.

6. **ADJOURNMENT.** A motion to Adjourn was made by Vince Vasquez and seconded by Clay Vanderslice. All in favor, motion passed. Meeting adjourned a 4:40pm.