

# MINUTES

WESTPORT COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

SPECIAL MEETING, 16 September, 2021

(This meeting was convened via Zoom to vote for a new Board Member to fill the seat vacated by Valentine Hale's resignation.)

Call to Order/Roll Call: Meeting convened at 7:12pm

Present: Board Members Lee Tepper, Ryan Grossman and David Brothers.

Public: Melinda McLaughlin, Robert Finnell

Staff: Administrator, Kayla Cooper

Candidate: Gary Weiss

Public Comment: Melinda McLaughlin welcomed the candidate and joined in discussion throughout the meeting, as did Robert Finnell. Robert Finnell encouraged Board Members to become familiar with The Brown Act and to conduct meetings accordingly.

2) Interview of Candidate: Gary Weiss expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Board and his interest in serving the community. Board Members and the Candidate discussed the Candidate's qualifications and the responsibilities of a Board Member.

3) Closed Session: The Board and attending Members of the Public discussed the Candidate privately.

4) The Vote: The Board unanimously voted to elect Elect Gary Weiss to fill the vacant seat.

5) Swearing In: Administrator, Kayla Cooper, instructed Gary Weiss in taking the oath of Office, and Gary Weiss formally sworn in as a Board Member.

6) Adjournment: Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm

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Roll Call

Present: Board Members Lee Tepper, Ryan Grossman, David Brothers  
Staff: John Morrill, Chief Operator. Kayla Cooper was absent.

Public: Robert Finnell, Gary Weiss, Carla Thomas

## Consent Agenda

A. Drought Plan. The drought plan, authored by John Morrill with

input from board members and members of the public who had attended previous meetings, was read through a final time. Lee moved that we accept the plan in its present form. The Board voted unanimously to approve the document. It will be sent to district customers with the August bill and posted on the website and on the store bulletin board.

B. Board Vacancy. The Board discussed filling the vacancy created by the resignation of Valentine Hale. The Board has until September 25 to appoint a new member. Gary Weiss attended this meeting and expressed a willingness to join the Board. The Board agreed to take up the issue at its regular meeting (August 12) and begin the process then of public notification and solicitation of other candidates.

C. Lift Pump Repair/Replacement. John Morrill explained to the Board the need to replace or repair the broken lift pump at the lift station on Omega Street. He provided an estimate of \$7,527 dollars to repair the pump and \$13,300 dollars to

replace it. The Chief Operator favors rebuilding the old pump. The Board voted unanimously to rebuild the pump.

D. Chlorine. John Morrill has located a source for chlorine in bulk (in 55 gallon drums versus 1 gallon jugs). Robert Finnell and John Morrill stressed the current scarcity of chlorine. The Board agreed with the recommendation that we buy from this vendor.

Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 8:21pm

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