

HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1078 Dogwood Rd., Suite 104
Heber, CA 92249

MINUTES

Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION:

WEBSITE: <https://zoom.us/join>

MEETING ID: 796-978-5637

CALL IN PHONE NUMBER: 1 (669) 900-6833 or 1 (760) 336-1572

The District recognizes its obligation to provide equal access to those individuals with disabilities. Please contact the District (760-482-2440) two working days prior to the meeting with any special requests for reasonable accommodation.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Sandoval called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** Those attending the meeting included President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz Molina, and Director Tabarez. Director Matus arrived at 6:02pm. Director Garcia arrived at 6:23pm. Also, in attendance were General Manager, Madeline Dessert, General Counsel, Mitch Driskill, Finance Manager, Luis Carrasco, and Office Manager, Moises Cardenas.
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Tony Sandoval.
4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** There was a motion to approve the agenda by Director Tabarez, seconded by Vice-President Diaz-Molina.
The motion was approved by roll call vote of 3-0-2.
AYES: President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz-Molina, Director Tabarez
NOES: None.
ABSENT: Director Garcia, Director Matus
5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Luis Plancarte, Supervisor for District 2, Imperial County Board of Supervisors- Mr. Plancarte gave an update on multiple county projects. First, he spoke about Street Sweeping and how the county is working towards fixing their old street sweepers. He also spoke about the sidewalk development on the south side of Heber, there will be 35 curb miles added including curb and gutter. Mr. Plancarte also spoke about AB 918 and how Heber was not included for representation but did mention that if there is no interest in the position the Board of Supervisors will appoint someone. Mr. Plancarte also mentioned that the BOS will sponsor the Heber Fall Fiesta for \$500.00.

Guillermo Verdugo, Water Lead Operator, HPUD- Mr. Verdugo made public comment representing the Water Operators, he spoke about the changes in insurance that were not beneficial to the employees. Mr. Verdugo also mentioned the turnover of employees and how they would like a raise to compete with the state prison system.

The Board may set time limits on the amount of time any speaker can use to address the Board. Members of the public are allowed to make comments about anything not listed on the agenda. If the comments concern an agenda item, they must wait until that item is up for discussion. If you wish to address the Board, please speak to the Board Clerk or

General Manager during the meeting and when recognized by the President of the Board address the Board. The Board can't take action on any item not on the agenda.

6. CONSENT AGENDA: There was a motion to approve the consent agenda by Director Tabarez, seconded by Director Matus.

The motion was approved by roll call vote of 4-0-1.

AYES: President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz-Molina, Director Tabarez, Director Matus

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Director Garcia

- A. Approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting on September 21, 2023
- B. Approve Current Demands for September 2023

7. REPORTS:

- A. President and Director's Comments

Director Matus- During Director's Comments, Director Matus mentioned that Fall Ball games start in 10 days and will start at 7pm. He also mentioned that he stands with Israel during this time of hardship between Palestine and Israel.

President Sandoval- During Director's Comments, President Sandoval spoke about having multiple meetings with Assemblymember Garcia regarding LAFCO representation while also mentioning that IID will be paying 100 percent.

- B. Operations Report for September 2023

The Operations Report was presented with no additional comment.

- C. General Manager's Report

The General Manager's Report was presented with no additional comment.

- D. Grants Update

The Grants Update was presented with no additional comment.

- E. Fall Fiesta Update

The Fall Fiesta Update was presented with no additional comment.

8. NEW BUSINESS: Discussion and Possible Action

- A. Residential Energy Assistant Program (REAP) Presentation- Isis Montes, Customer Service Officer

The REAP presentation was presented with no additional comment from Isis Montes.

- B. Adopt Resolution 2023-11 to update Social Media Policy No. 3095- General Manager

There was a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-11 by President Sandoval, seconded by Director Garcia.

The motion was approved by roll call vote of 5-0.

AYES: President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz-Molina, Director Tabarez, Director Matus, Director Garcia
NOES: None.

C. Information Only- First Quarter Budget Report- Finance Manager

The First Quarter Budget Report was presented by Luis Carrazco with no additional comment.

D. Adopt Resolution 2023-12 providing temporary extension of water service to Sebastian Harvesting- General Manager

There was a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-12 by Vice-President Diaz-Molina, seconded by Director Matus.
The motion was approved by roll call vote of 5-0.

AYES: President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz-Molina, Director Tabarez, Director Matus, Director Garcia
NOES: None.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-HPUD Fall Fiesta will be held on October 28, 2023 from 5pm to 10pm at Tito Huerta Park (1165 N Palm Ave, Heber, CA 92249)

-HPUD General Manager will waive Ordinance 220 for the Heber Fall Fiesta

-CDSA Special District Leadership Academy in Santa Rosa, October 22-25, 2023

-CSDA Board Secretary and Clerk Conference November 6-8, 2023 in Monterey, CA

10. CLOSED SESSION: President Sandoval entered Closed Session at 7:02pm.

To ensure privacy during Closed Session, we will observe the following procedures:

- The Board President will enter Closed Session. Members of the public will exit the boardroom.
 - A. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code § 54957(b))
General Manager
 - B. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Government Code § 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representatives: General Manager, General Counsel
Employee Organization: Natural Resources Technical Association

There was no reportable action during Closed Session.

President Sandoval exited Closed Session at 7:58pm.

11. ADJOURNMENT: There was a motion to adjourn at 7:59pm by Director Garcia, seconded by Director Tabarez.

The motion was approved by roll call vote of 5-0.

AYES: President Sandoval, Vice-President Diaz-Molina, Director Tabarez, Director Matus, Director Garcia
NOES: None.