



MISSION RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
138 S. Brandon Street, Fallbrook, CA 92028

District Regular Board Meeting, May 20, 2024
3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at 3:06 pm.

II. Welcome Guests:

Jack Bebee, General Manager, Fallbrook Public Utility District (FPUD)
Rashawn Medina

III. Roll Call, Determination of Quorum

Roll call was as follows:

Directors

Scott Murray, President - present
Julia Escamilla, Vice President - present
Bob Lin, Treasurer - present
Victor Santos, Director – absent
Peggy Brown, Director - present

Associate Directors

Ross Pike - Present
Mark Mervich - Present
Cheryl Lindberg - Present

Staff

Ani Vartanians, District Manager

IV. Additions to the Agenda (Gov. Code 54954.2(b))

In a motion made by Director Brown and seconded by President Murray, a discussion and/or possible action regarding the Fallbrook Median Project was added to the agenda. The motion was pass unanimously as follows:

Murray – Aye	Santos - Absent
Escamilla – Aye	Brown - Aye
Lin - Aye	

Jack Bebee, FPUD General Manager presented a more comprehensive overview about the Fallbrook Median Project opportunity, which was previously declined by the District. He clarified that FPUD would maintain responsibility for risk and liability concerns and would be able to provide funding for costs incurred such as landscape services, materials, and an administration fee through its annual grant program, the Community Benefit Program. After clarification, he asked the Board to reconsider its previous position.

A motion was made Vice President Escamilla and seconded by Director Brown to direct the District Manager to work with FPUD staff to compose an appropriate contract for further consideration by the Board at the District’s June board meeting. The motion was carried as follows:



Murray – Aye
Escamilla – Aye
Lin - Aye

Santos - Absent
Brown - Aye

V. Oral Communications to the Board of Directors (Gov. Code 54954.3 (a))

Guest, Rashawn Medina, introduced himself to the Board. He mentioned that he was interested in serving as a district volunteer and was particularly interested in providing District outreach to at-risk youth within the community.

SECTION 1 – CONSENT ITEMS

Consent Calendar items are routine and non-controversial, to be acted upon by the Board at one time without discussion. If any Board member, staff member, or interested person requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar, it shall be removed so that it may be acted upon separately.

1-A: Treasurer’s Reports – April 2024

1-B: Monthly Expenses – April 2024

1-C: Minutes – April 17, 2024

A motion was made by Director Brown and seconded by Director Lin to accept the consent items as presented effective upon the correction of the 04/17/2024 minutes. The correction would amend “A motion was made by Director and seconded by Director Santos to the consent items as presented” to “A motion was made by Vice President Escamilla and seconded by Director Santos to approve the consent items as presented.”

The motion was carried as follows:

Murray – Aye Santos - Absent
Escamilla – Aye Brown - Aye
Lin - Aye

SECTION 2 – STAFF, OTHER AGENCY, DIRECTOR, COMMITTEE REPORTS

2-A: NRCS Report - A representative from NRCS was not present but instead, a handout was distribution.

2-B: District Manager Report – District Manager Vartanians reported that after research she found that the District would need to change/increase its boundaries in order to increase its tax base.

2-C: Directors’ Reports

President Murray: Nothing to report.

Vice President Escamilla: Nothing to report.

Treasurer Lin: Nothing to report.

Director Santos: Absent

Director Brown: She reported that she networked with Berry Willis but wasn’t able to discuss too much regarding the District as this opportunity took place at a social event.



Associate Director Ross: He reported that he attended a FireSafe meeting. He learned that they applied for a grant for large street markers which also included a partnering with the US Marines for a marker installation phase.

Associate Director Mervich: He reported that a lot of progress has been made at the community garden including the installation of a greenhouse.

Associate Director Lindberg: Nothing to report.

2-D: Legislative Update - There was none.

2-E: Board Committee Reports

Programs Committee - Vice President Escamilla reported that she has not heard anything regarding any of the recently submitted grant applications. She has been monitoring the County of San Diego Council meetings in the event that the Community Incentive Grant application goes before the County Board for approval.

SECTION 3 – CORRESPONDENCE – There was none.

SECTION 4 – BOARD ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

4-1: Consider officially removing “acting” from the current title of the Acting General Manager and invoke a six-month new employee probationary period effective immediately. (Action)

A motion was made by Vice President Escamilla and seconded by Director Brown to move Item 4-1 to closed session as item 5-1.

The motion was carried as follows:

Murray – Aye	Santos - Absent
Escamilla – Aye	Brown - Aye
Lin - Aye	

4-2: Discuss upcoming 2024 Fire Safe Council Volunteer Awards event on May 30, 2024 from 11:00 am to 2:30. (Discussion) – District Manager Vartanians introduced an email from Ann Baldwin from the RCD of Greater San Diego which included an invitation to the Fire Safe Council of San Diego County’s 17th annual Volunteer Awards Ceremony scheduled for May 30, 2024 in El Cajon. Vice President Escamilla pointed out that this event shows that the RCD is working outside of their own jurisdiction as the program participants are located county-wide.

4-3: Consider authorizing the Acting District Manager to transfer funds between the County Tax Revenue Account to the Five Star Money Market Account on an on-going basis. (Action) - District Manager Vartanians reported that currently, tax roll funds are located in the County account and requested that the Board give her authority to transfer these funds to the Five Star account which earns interest at a higher rate of 4.25%. Due to time constraints and other issues of priority, this item was tabled until the June 2024 Board meeting.



SECTION 5 – LEGAL MATTERS – CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Vice President Escamilla and seconded by Director Brown to move to closed session. The motion was carried as follows:

Murray – Aye	Santos - Absent
Escamilla – Aye	Brown - Aye
Lin - Aye	

Closed Session opened at 4:00 pm.

5.1 Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Gov. Code section 54957(b)(1).) Title: Ani Vartanians

Open Session was reconvened at 4:30 pm with the following report: Ani Vartanians title was changed to “District Manager”.

SECTION 6 – AGENDA SUGGESTIONS - NEXT MEETING (6/17/2024) & ADJOURNMENT

The following items were requested to be added to the June Board meeting agenda:

- Continuation of the discussion of the Fallbrook Median Project and possible presentation by current landscaper,
- Consider a hard closure of 5:30 om for regular board meetings.
- Tabled item 4-3.
- Consider joining SD chapter of CSDA,
- Consider authorization for DM to transfer funds.
- Details on current reserve policy and funds.