

**CONFORMED AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Please note alternative meeting location and time:

**GEORGETOWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
6530 WENTWORTH SPRINGS, GEORGETOWN, CALIFORNIA**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2017

5:30 P.M.

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the purpose of the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District to:

- Provide reliable water supplies
 - Ensure high quality drinking water
 - Promote stewardship to protect community resources, public health and quality of life
 - Provide excellent and responsive customer services through dedicated and valued staff
 - Ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability are observed by balancing immediate and long-term needs
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1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Director Halpin, Director Hanschild, Director Uso, Director Wadle.

Staff Present: General Manager Steven Palmer; Board Assistant Gloria Omania

Legal Counsel: Robin Baral, Churchwell White

Consultant: John Van den Bergh, Rural Development Specialist, Rural Community Assistant Corporation

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion by Director Halpin to adopt the agenda. Second by Director Hanschild.

Public Comment: None

The motion passed unanimously.

- 3. PUBLIC FORUM** – Any member of the public may address the Board on any matter within the jurisdictional authority of the District. Public members desiring to provide comments must be recognized by the Board President, and speak from the podium. Comments must be directed only to the Board. The public should address the Board members during the public meetings as President, Vice President, or Director followed by the Board member's individual last name. The Board will hear communications on matters not on the agenda, but no action will be taken.

No disruptive conduct shall be permitted at any Board meeting. Persistence in disruptive conduct shall be grounds for summary termination, by the President, of that person's privilege of address.

Linnea Marengo stated that the public should be given ample notice of the time and location of the December meeting when the Board will be voting on the rates. Director Uso concurred.

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – Approve Minutes of Special Meeting of October 18, 2017

Motion by Director Wadle to approve the minutes of October 18, 2017. Second by Director Halpin.

Public Comment: None

The motion passed unanimously.

4. **REVIEW RATE STUDY FINAL REPORT AND ADOPT RESOLUTION 2017-27 – NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO PROPOSITION 218**

Possible Board Action: Adopt Resolution 2017-27 authorizing the General Manager to prepare and deliver a notice of a public hearing pursuant to Proposition 218.

General Manager Steve Palmer and Consultant John Van den Bergh presented the Rate Study Final Report with a Power Point presentation (copy attached) to supplement the staff report.

Mr. Palmer described the input received from those who participated in the two public workshops and the Board workshop meeting. He stated that at the workshop of October 18, 2017, the Board directed Staff to look at using the ad valorem to fund administrative costs, establish a low-income assistance program, stretch the timeframe for funding capital projects from 5 years to 10 years, and review the capital replacement program.

Mr. Van den Bergh, Rural Development Specialist, described what Staff did, how they did it, and the resulting computations. Mr. Van den Bergh presented the table below showing the current bi-monthly base rate and the new rate in the first year as recommended by the Board (Column F) and as recommended by Staff (Column G):

Bi-Monthly Base Rate for Treated Water in first year			
	Current	Board F	Recommended G
5/8"	\$47.14	\$68.43	\$58.81
3/4"	\$47.14	\$68.43	\$58.81
1"	\$47.14	\$68.43	\$58.81
1.5"	\$47.14	\$228.12	\$196.04
2"	\$47.14	\$364.98	\$313.66
3"	\$47.14	\$729.97	\$627.32
4"	\$50.32	\$1,140.58	\$980.18
Usage per 100CF of Treated Water in first year			
All	\$1.38-\$2.21	\$2.25	\$2.55
Average Treated Water Bi-Monthly Bill for 5/8" meter in first year, for 2100 CF			
	84.18	112.7	108.98
% Increase		34%	29%
Seasonal rate for 1 MI of Irrigation Water in first year			
1 MI	\$363.70	\$986.00	\$771.00
% Increase		171%	112%

Director Uso then brought the matter to the Board and members directed questions to the General Manager and Consultant before inviting public comments.

Director Uso reviewed the ground rules for public comments, indicating that each speaker would have 4 minutes to speak.

The following individuals commented: Joe Duarte, Wendell Smith, Linnea Marengo, Ray Kringel, Stephen Dowd, Cherie Carlyon, Ray Paul, Johanna Friesen, Amy Ratto, Potato Richardson, Mike Baker, and Rick Gillespie.

The comments and discussion are summarized below:

- The District is expected to tighten its belt.
- These increased rates will kill ag.
- There should be separate voting for treated water customers and irrigation customers.
- The County Registrar of Voters should count the ballots.
- Some customers use irrigation for gardening and to keep things green for fire safety reasons.
- In addition to increased rates, also have the cost of electricity to pump the water.
- What will happen if an irrigation customer chooses not to use the water; will they lose their irrigation service? Director Uso stated he would like to work with irrigation customers to review irrigation policy.
- Did Staff look at potential of growth?
- Look at putting assessment on tax bill.
- The Rural Community Coalition would like to be involved in the implementation of the low income assistance program.
- The Board listened and have tried to keep the rates down.
- The Board was urged to try to get more customer emails for disseminating information. Director Uso added this is also important for notifying customers during urgent and emergency situations.
- People should get involved and learn more about the District. There are vacancies on the Finance Committee. Interested persons were urged to contact the current Finance Committee members to learn more about the work of the committee.

Director Uso thanked everyone for participating and brought the matter back to the Board for additional questions for Mr. Palmer and Mr. Van den Berg about the two options. The Board approved the Staff recommendation and authorized the General Manager to:

- Defer some capital replacements.
- Spread rate increases over 10 years.
- Split the General Administration costs based on number of customers.
- Allocate 64% of property tax to treated water system.
 - \$1,006,000 per year to capital replacement program
- Allocate 36% of property tax to irrigation water system.
 - \$563,000 per year to fund irrigation water operations
 - No contributions to capital replacement program in the first year.

MOTION by Director Wadle to adopt Resolution 2017-27 authorizing staff to move forward with the 218. Second by Director Hanschild.

Public Comment:

The motion passed unanimously.

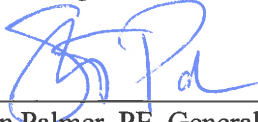
The Board set the Public Hearing for Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 5:30 PM. The General Manager stated that the District will send out the official notification to property owners.

Discussion ensued regarding the process of having the El Dorado County Elections Department count the votes to ensure the integrity of the voting process. The Board directed Staff to investigate the possibility of having the County Registrar of Voters count the protest letters.

- 5. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT** – The next regular meeting will be November 14, 2017, at 2:00 PM, at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District office.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Steven Palmer by telephone at 530-333-4356 or by fax at 530-333-9442. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one-full business day before the start of the meeting. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a), this agenda was posted on the District's bulletin board at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District office, at 6425 Main Street, Georgetown, California, on October 20, 2017.



Steven Palmer, PE, General Manager

11/17/17

Date