

**CONFORMED AGENDA**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**6425 MAIN STREET, GEORGETOWN, CA 95634**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2017**  
**2:00 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.
- 

**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*The meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM.*

*Directors Present: David Halpin, Jesse Hanschild, Lon Uso, Dane Wadle*

*Staff Present: General Manager Steven Palmer, Operations Manager Darrell Creeks, Engineering Consultant George Sanders, Management Analyst Christina Cross; Legal Counsel: Kerry Fuller, Churchwell White, LLP*

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

***Motion by Director Wadle to adopt the Agenda. Second by Director Halpin.***

***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.

**Public Comments:** *None*

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Development Impact Fee Annual Report**

**Possible Board Action:** Receive and File

*General Manager Steve Palmer pointed out that there was an error in the table in Attachment 2. Director Uso asked that this item be pulled from the Consent Calendar so the correction could be made.*

Mr. Palmer stated that under the Fee Schedule for the 5/8 - 3/4-inch meter, the connection fee should be \$9,200. He confirmed that the table has been corrected in the amended version of Attachment 2. Director Wadle commented that the District is operating with a facilities charge study that is about ten years old and that should be updated relatively soon. Mr. Palmer agreed that it is important to update this document and confirmed that it is on his "to do" list.

**Motion by Director Halpin to approve the Consent Calendar with the correction to the table contained in Attachment 2 of Item #4A. Second by Director Wadle.**

**No public comment.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### A. APPOINT NEW DIRECTOR TO FILL VACANCY ON THE BOARD

**Possible Board Action:** Adopt Resolution making appointment to fill the vacant Director position.

After the General Manager summarized the process for filling the vacancy pursuant to the Public Utilities Code, Director Uso stated that Bob Diekon pulled his application, so there are three people under consideration. He asked those applicants present to say a few words.

As a member of the ad hoc committee, Director Wadle stated the committee wanted to go through a process that was professional, but not overly rigorous. Candidates were asked why they were interested in serving on the board and what they considered to be priority issues.

Mae Harms stated she received her degrees from Western Michigan University and Andrews University. She was a teacher in Michigan and in the community of Rescue. She was very active in coming to the GDPUD meetings a few years ago. She feels the Board must look to the future and pay attention to what is being done by the District to meet state and national requirements. In response to Director Uso's inquiry, Ms. Harms indicated that she looked at this appointment as filling in for a year. She said that she was not certain she would be interested in running for election.

Dave Souza introduced himself as a long-time resident who cares about the community he considers family. He stated he could bring some common sense to the Board and some peace with those who might have some issues with the District because he knows a lot of people on the mountain. He wants to help with the infrastructure and thanked the Board for doing what they can to address the infrastructure issues. He stated he would be interested in running for the position.

Since Mr. Souza is an elected Garden Valley Fire Commissioner, Director Uso asked Legal Counsel if there would be a conflict of representation. Kerry Fuller indicated there would only be a conflict if there was an overlap in oversight between the two. Director Uso stated there is no overlap, but indicated that Mr. Souza would have to reclude himself on any matters related to the fire district.

Director Uso stated that he discussed the need to have a good candidate from outside of ALT with the applicant from that area. Director Halpin agreed it was very important to have diversity on the Board and Director Hanschild shared the same sentiments.

Director Halpin stated he regretted that Ray Griffiths was not present. The General Manager confirmed that Mr. Griffiths was notified of this Board meeting.

Director Uso indicated that it was important to him to appoint someone who is interested in running for the position to provide continuity to the work of the Board. Otherwise, he feels both Ms. Harms and Mr. Souza would make great members of the Board.

Director Halpin stated he was also inclined to support Mr. Souza's appointment because he already has some standing in the community as an elected fire commissioner.

*Director Wadle stated that both applicants presented a clear and more concise vision for the District. He thought Mr. Souza's experience as a Fire Commissioner was valuable as he would bring some institutional knowledge to the Board.*

***Motion by Director Hanschild to adopt Resolution 2017-32 appointing David Souza to fill the remaining term of Carl Hoelscher. Second by Director Wadle.***

***Public Comment: None***

***The motion passed unanimously.***

*Director Uso thanked both applicants for throwing their hat in the ring. He indicated that Mr. Souza will be sworn into office at the Regular Board meeting in January.*

## **B. LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**Possible Board Action:** Adopt Resolution adopting policy for Low-Income Assistance Program.

*Mr. Palmer stated that, based on Board guidance at previous meetings and during the Rate Study Workshops, Staff has drafted a Low-Income Rate Assistance Program policy assuming an annual allocation of \$35,000. The General Manager highlighted points in the draft policy and requested additional guidance from the Board.*

*Board members shared the following thoughts:*

*Director Halpin stated that he was not comfortable moving forward because he feels there are too many loose ends in the policy. He stated he's not a big fan of this program in general, and especially while the District was fiscally insolvent. He added that there is nothing in the mission statement that requires the Board to do this. Additionally, the State is looking to pass a bill to address low-income rate assistance.*

*Director Wadle stated he fundamentally agreed with Director Halpin, but feels there's some validity to providing this program. He would like to think about it more and have Legal Counsel look at it.*

*Director Uso stated the Board has been discussing such a program for a long time. He feels the Board has a moral responsibility to provide low-income assistance since the rates have been substantially increased and there will be some that will have to be making some very difficult decisions on how they're going to spend their very limited income. He said he did not want to wait on the State and wants to move forward with the District program.*

*Director Hanschild also expressed his support for a low-income assistance program.*

*After discussing how the maximum allocation of \$35,000 would be divided, the income eligibility criteria modeled after the PGE CARE Program, the application rates in other LIRA programs, public input and outreach, and how the program would be administered, the Board tabled the matter to the regular Board meeting in January.*

## **6. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

*The Board adjourned to close session at 3:05 PM.*

### **A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--LABOR NEGOTIATION**

*(Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.5(f) and Government Code 54957.6)  
District Representatives: General Manager Steven Palmer; District General Counsel  
Employee Organization: International Union of Operating Engineers Stationary Engineers, Local No. 39*

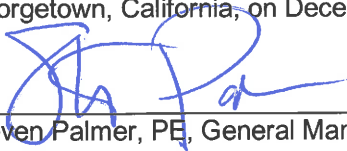
*The Board returned to open session at 4:40 PM with no announcement of action taken in closed session.*

7. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS, REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS AND REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OR RESEARCH TO BE COMPLETED BY STAFF** – Opportunity for Board members to discuss matters of interest to them and provide input for future meetings as well as report on their District-related meeting attendance.

8. **NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT** – Next regular meeting is January 9, 2018, at 2:00 PM, at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District, 6425 Main Street, Georgetown, CA 95634.

*The meeting adjourned at 4:41 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 Steve 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 December 11, 2017.



Steven Palmer, PE, General Manager

1/11/18

Date