



MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LA PUENTE VALLEY COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
112 N. FIRST STREET, LA PUENTE, CALIFORNIA
MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024, AT 4:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Rojas called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Rojas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Vice President	Director	Director	Director
Rojas	Escalera	Argudo	Barajas	Hernandez
Present	Present	Absent	Absent	Present

Director Argudo was not present during roll call and arrived to the meeting at 4:32 pm.

OTHERS PRESENT

Staff and Counsel: General Manager & Board Secretary, Roy Frausto; Customer Service & Accounting Supervisor, Shaunte Maldonado; HR Coordinator/Admin Assistant, Angelina Padilla; Operations & Maintenance Superintendent, Paul Zampielo; Water Treatment & Supply Superintendent, Cesar Ortiz; and District Counsel, James Ciampa.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident and Kiwanis member, Georgene Navarrete, thanked the District for their participation at the Little League Event and also invited the Board to their spaghetti fundraiser on 3/22/24.

Councilmember, Valerie Munoz, passed out letters to the Board and talked in her capacity as a Water Quality Authority representative to ask for support letters in regards to federal funding appropriations for 2025.

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion: Adopt Agenda as presented.

1st: President Rojas

2nd: Director Argudo

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Adopt Consent Calendar as Presented

1st: President Rojas

2nd: Director Escalera

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

7. ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Consideration of Award of Contract to Tri County Pump Company for Rehabilitation Work of the District’s Well No. 2.

Mr. Ortiz presented the staff report and went over the necessary rehabilitation work needed for Well No. 2. Mr. Frausto also highlighted that due to the extensive amount of material that needs to be replaced, the amount does exceed this year’s budget. He noted an amendment to reallocate funds will come to the Board later for approval.

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to Proceed with the Work as Proposed by Tri County Pump Company for an Amount Not to Exceed \$271,660.53.

1st: Vice President Escalera

2nd: President Rojas

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

B. Ratification of General Manager’s Letter Regarding a Withdrawal Request for Exclusion from the Settlement with DuPont and 3M in the Multi-District PFAS Litigation.

Mr. Frausto went over the benefits of withdrawing the District’s optout letter from the DuPont and 3M settlement. Mr. Ciampa also highlighted that participating in the settlement will benefit the District in the event of any PFAS levels arising, a separate claim could be made. Opting out would create a separate lawsuit, whereas participating in the settlement would offer protection without the need for additional legal action. Mr. Ciampa and Mr. Frausto along with input from a third-party environmental group discussed that participating in the settlement would be the best course of action.

Motion: Ratify General Manager’s Withdrawal Request Letter

1st: Vice President Escalera

2nd: President Rojas

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

C. Consideration of Resolution No. 302, Revising the District’s Employee Policies and Procedures Manual.

Ms. Padilla went over the proposed changes to the Employee Manual and was available for any questions.

Motion: Adopt Resolution No. 302

1st: Director Argudo

2nd: President Rojas

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

D. Consideration of Legal Services Agreement with SL Environmental Law Group PC (SL), the Law Office of Kevin Madonna PLLC (KM), Douglas and London, P.C. (D&L), Taft Stettinius & Hollister, LLP (Taft), and Levin Papantonio Rafferty Proctor Buchanan O’Brien Barr Mougey P.A. (Levin Papantonio), for the Purpose of Investigating and Assessing Potential Claims Arising out of the Presence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (“PFAS”) Contaminants in Water Supply Wells Affecting the District.

Mr. Frausto and Mr. Ciampa noted that this would be the best legal firm to guide the District through the DuPont and 3M settlement. Mr. Ciampa emphasized that the claims are very complicated, noting that this environmental law firm group is well versed in the requirements of the claims and know how to maximize the recovery.

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to Enter Into a Legal Services Agreement.

1st: Vice President Escalera

2nd: President Rojas

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

8. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Zampietro summarized his report and highlighted the water levels of the Wells and how much they have increased following the recent rainfall. He also provided the Board with an update on the Lomitas Project and was available for any questions.

Motion: Receive and File

1st: President Rojas

2nd: Director Argudo

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

9. TREATMENT AND SUPPLY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Ortiz summarized his report and highlighted the PVOU IZ-2 Well and that they are working with the County to get the permit to begin mobilization, and he also went over the RO system rework.

Motion: Receive and File

1st: President Rojas

2nd: Director Argudo

	President Rojas	Vice President Escalera	Director Argudo	Director Barajas	Director Hernandez
Vote	Yes	Yes	Yes	Absent	Yes

Motion carried by a vote of: 4 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent

10. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Padilla went over the Form 700 deadline and notified the Board of social media and website updates.

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Frausto provided a summary to the Board on various topics, including Baldwin Park key well, rainfall, PVOU IZ-SZ budget, and a proposed property for the District.

12. OTHER ITEMS

A. Upcoming Events.

Ms. Padilla went over the upcoming events and confirmed the Board's attendance to these events.

B. Information Items.

Included in the Board Packet.

13. ATTORNEY'S COMMENTS

None.

14. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

A. Report on Events Attended.

None.

B. Other Comments.

None.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

16. ADJOURNMENT

President William R. Rojas adjourned the meeting at 5:14 pm.

Attest:

William Rojas, Board President

Roy Frausto, Board Secretary