

# CHINO BASIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT RECHARGE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES WORKSTUDY SESSION

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024, AT 2:00 P.M.

CONFERENCE ROOM 4594 SAN BERNARDINO STREET MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS** 

Gilbert Aldaco, Director Theresa Layton, Director Amanda Coker, Director

**GENERAL MANAGER** 

Elizabeth Willis

**LEGAL COUNSEL** 

Lee McElhaney

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Treasurer Aldaco called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Treasurer Gilbert Aldaco, Director Teri Layton, and Director Amanda Coker were present.

General Manager Elizabeth Willis, Administrative Services Manager Alicia Fernandez, Facilities & Operations Manager Dave Schroeder, and Legal Counsel Lee McElhaney were present.

#### ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

General Manager Willis confirmed there were no additions or changes to the agenda.

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

Administrative Services Manager Fernandez confirmed there were no public comments.

#### **WORKSTUDY ITEM**

1. DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE CHINO BASIN RECHARGING METHODS

**Recommendation:** It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Discuss and provide direction to staff on possible methods and projects for recharging water into the Chino Groundwater Basin.

General Manager Willis provided an introduction and brief overview of Item 1. Ms. Willis stated that a Recharge plan aligns with the Chino Basin Water Conservation District's goal of overall ground water recharge efforts.

Treasurer Aldaco provided several examples of ways an agency can recharge water within the basin, such as underground facilities and extensions of pipelines from street storm drains to the Brooks Basin.

General Manager Willis stated there is a possibility of buying land or San Bernardino Flood Control Basins. Director Layton and Coker stated there are instances where existing basins can be leased or bought. Additionally, the discussion of purchasing land for the purpose of developing a recharge basin was determined as a potential option for supporting recharge efforts.

Director Coker suggested the possibility of the District supporting pre-treatment efforts to storm water before it goes to the local basins. Ms. Willis and the Recharge Committee stated that pre-treatment is a potential idea to explore as an opportunity to receive grant funding and to collaborate with other agencies to mitigate trash and debris in recharge water.

Director Aldaco suggested reviewing surrounding cities on where flooding occurs and propose a partnership to reduce flooding through the production of storm drains. The Committee concurred, stating that the District should meet with the surrounding cities to determine their drainage plans and see where the District can mitigate flooding or purchase land for the purpose of storm water runoff.

General Manager Willis stated that a request for qualifications for a real estate firm may be necessary before any acquisition of land. The Committee concurred and stated that costs will be a deterrent for purchasing land.

The Committee suggested that General Manager Willis meet with cities within the District's boundaries to learn about where flooding occurs and discuss how the District can partner with them to recharge additional stormwater.

The Committee also mentioned that the District should look to partner with neighboring agencies to provide guidance on new legislation regarding artificial turf and water conservation. The Committee stated that by establishing a partnership relationship early, it may be easier to work with the cities later when the acquisition of land or storm water pre-treatment does become a topic of discussion.

Director Layton stated that while these recharge efforts are good, it is important to note that the basins do not bring in revenue and would be an ongoing cost to the District. General Manager Willis concurred and stressed the importance of partnerships with local agencies to split operational, construction, or acquisition costs, if applicable.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

Treasurer Aldaco adjourned the Recharge Committee Meeting at 3:15 p.m. to the next Regular Board of Directors Meeting of the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, scheduled for Monday, June 10, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE 2024.

Elizabeth Willis, General Manager

ATTEST:

Brandon Yoshida, Board Clerk