Minutes

Reconvened Board Meeting September 24, 2024

On September 24, 2024, the Board of Trustees of the Lake County Public Water District met in a reconvened meeting at the hour of 1:30 p.m. in the conference room of the District, 500 –17th Street, Zion, Illinois. Chair Ruchti opened the meeting at approximately 1:30 p.m. Upon the roll being called, Trustees Ruchti, Monk Ewert, Smith, Latif, and Jaeger were present. Trustee Ower was present virtually. Also present were General Manager Don White, Operations Manager Jeremy Thompson, and Administrative Assistant/Board Secretary Karen Johnston.

Chair Ruchti stated that the board was meeting with Operations Manager Thompson to be interviewed for the position of General Manager. Trustee Jaeger made a motion to move into executive session to discuss personnel issues, which was seconded by Trustee Smith. Chair Ruchti asked if any further discussion was desired. As there was no further discussion, and upon the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

* * * EXECUTIVE SESSION * * *

Upon exiting executive session, Trustee Smith proposed that an offer be extended for the position of general manager, which was subsequently seconded by Trustee Ewert. Chair Ruchti inquired whether there was any additional discussion that was requested. Trustee Ower expressed a desire to continue the conversation regarding the job offer's conditions and requested that the motion be revised to emphasize that the board would strongly encourage Mr. Thompson to enroll in suitable courses to enhance his comprehension of financial matters. Subsequently, the discussion continued. Trustee Smith stated that she would revise her motion to incorporate that stipulation. Trustee Ewert seconded the amended motion. The board proceeded to discuss the compensation package for the job offer. The board also discussed whether CRG Search be informed that the scheduled second interview with their candidate be cancelled. Trustee Monk reminded the board that there was still a motion on the floor and the board discussed how to proceed with that motion. Trustee Smith made a motion to table her motion, which was seconded by Trustee Ewert. Trustee Latif then made a motion to move forward with the scheduled interview the CRG Search candidate before making any other offer for the position, which was seconded by Trustee Ower. Chair Ruchti asked if there was further discussion, there was and the board continued to their conversation. Chair Ruchti called for a voice vote on the motion as follows:

Ayes: (2) S. Latif; K. Smith

Nays: (5) M. Ruchti; A. Monk; D. Ower; T. Smith; D. Jaeger

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Absent:None

Motion rejected on voice vote.

Trustee Smith made a motion to prepare an offer for the position of general manager to Jeremy Thompson, which was seconded by Trustee Ewert. Chair Ruchti asked if any further discussion was desired. As there was no further discussion, and upon the voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Trustee Ower made a motion to adjourn until September 27, 2024, which was seconded by Trustee Jaeger. Following a unanimous vote, the motion was carried.

Karen L. Johnston

Board Secretary