

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
VICTOR VALLEY WASTEWATER RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (VWRA)  
March 15, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Dakota Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:38 AM; in Conference Room D at Victorville City Hall, located at 14343 Civic Drive, Victorville California, with the following members present:

<b>ORO GRANDE (CSA 42) AND SPRING VALLEY LAKE (CSA 64) TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY CITY OF VICTORVILLE CITY OF HESPERIA</b>	<b>Dakota Higgins, Chair Scott Nassif, Vice-Chair Debra Jones, Secretary Larry Bird, Treasurer</b>
--	--

**VWRA Staff and Legal Counsel:**

**Darron Poulsen, General Manager  
Kristi Casteel, Executive Assistant  
Piero Dallarda, Legal Counsel (BB&K)  
David Wylie, Safety & Communications Officer  
Brad Adams, Director of O&M  
Robert Coromina, Director of Administration  
Hillary Chavez, Administrative Assistant**

**Guest Present:**

**Doug Robertson, Town of Apple Valley  
Jenele Davidson, City of Victorville  
Brian Gengler, City of Victorville**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS- CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

Chair Higgins asked if there were any comments from the public regarding any item on the Closed Session Agenda. There is a written public comment that was distributed to the Board prior to Closed Session from Mary LaPlante, City Employees Associates - regarding an item 2 on closed session

**Moved: Commissioner Bird**

**Second: Commissioner Nassif**

**Motion to enter into Closed Session**

**Motion passed by a 4-0 roll call vote**

**REGULAR SESSION**

**CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Higgins called the meeting to order at 8:50 AM.

**REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Piero stated that the Board met in closed session on item 2 under Government Section Code 54957/54957.6/54954.5 (f) in a matter of appeal of termination of Mr. Julio Espinoza and the Board after having met and received recommendations from the sub-committee that was created by the Board on the matter, has decided to uphold the termination of Mr. Espinoza and legal counsel has been instructed to share a detailed decisions and findings that will be shared with both sides immediately after the meeting today.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS- REGULAR SESSION AGENDA**

NONE

**POSSIBLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Commissioner Nassif will be abstaining from any disbursements to Napa Auto Parts on item 4

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

3. **Receive, Approve and File Minutes, February 16, 2023**
4. **Receive, Approve and File February 2023 Disbursement**

**Moved: Commissioner Nassif**

**Second: Commissioner Jones**

**Approval of the Consent Calendar Items 3 and 4 with Commissioner Nassif abstaining from any disbursements to Napa Auto Parts on item 4.**

**Chair Higgins- Yes**

**Commissioner Nassif - Yes**

**Commissioner Jones - Yes**

**Commissioner Bird- Yes**

**Motion passed by a 4-0 roll call vote**

**ACTION ITEM:**

**5. Discussion: California River Watch**

This is a discussion only item. No action will be taken.

**No Board Action Required**

**6. Recommendation to Change the Authorized Signer for the Empower Retirement Account**

The Board will consider approval to approve the removal of Chieko Keagy, Controller as the Empower Retirement authorized signer, and approve the Director of Administration and the Accounting Supervisor as the authorized signers

**Moved: Commissioner Bird**

**Second: Chair Higgins**

**Approval to approve the removal of Chieko Keagy, Controller as the Empower Retirement authorized signer, and approve the Director of Administration and the Accounting Supervisor as the authorized signers**

**Chair Higgins- Yes**

**Commissioner Nassif - Yes**

**Commissioner Jones - Yes**

**Commissioner Bird- Yes**

**Motion passed by a 4-0 roll call vote**

**7. Recommendation to Authorize the General Manager to Purchase Equipment for the Rehabilitation of Four Primary Clarifiers From Misco Water Southwest, the Sole Source Provider for Evoqua, for an Amount Not to Exceed \$202,000**

The Board will consider approval to authorize the General Manager to purchase equipment for the rehabilitation of four primary clarifiers from the Misco Water Southwest, the sole source provider for Evoqua, for an amount not to exceed \$202,000

**Moved: Commissioner Jones**

**Second: Commissioner Nassif**

**Approval to authorize the General Manager to purchase equipment for the rehabilitation of four primary clarifiers from the Misco Water Southwest, the sole source provider for Evoqua, for an amount not to exceed \$202,000**

**Chair Higgins- Yes**

**Commissioner Nassif - Yes**

**Commissioner Jones - Yes**

**Commissioner Bird- Yes**

**Motion passed by a 4-0 roll call vote**


**CLOSED SESSION (If Closed Session is continued)**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The board will adjourn to a regular board meeting on April 20, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.**

**APPROVAL:**

**DATE:** 20 Apr 2023 **BY:**

  
Approved by Debra Jones, Secretary  
VVWRA Board of Commissioners