



# Marina Coast Water District

## Minutes Budget and Personnel Committee Meeting

April 6, 2021

### 1. Call to Order:

The April 6, 2021 Budget and Personnel Committee meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by President Shriner. In attendance via Zoom teleconference were:

- Committee members: President Shriner and Director Cortez
- Staff: Derek Cray, Kelly Cadiente, and Paula Riso
- Public members: Remleh Scherzinger

### 2. Public Comments on Any Item Not on the Agenda:

There was no public comment.

### 3. Approve the Draft Minutes of the March 2, 2021 Meeting:

Director Cortez made a motion to approve the minutes of March 2, 2021. President Shriner seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of 2-Ayes (Cortez, Shriner), 0-Noes, and 0-Absent.

### 4. Discuss Succession Planning:

Mr. Cray said he had nothing new to share and suggested pulling it from the agenda until the new General Manager has had time to look at staffing. The Committee members agreed to hold off on this item until later in the summer.

### 5. Discuss Board Member Compensation and Proposed Board Procedures Manual Language Update:

Director Cortez shared language he would like to see added to the Board Procedures Manual regarding compensation. He proposed raising the stipend to \$100 per Board meeting, special Board meeting, and Ad Hoc meetings; and introducing a \$50 stipend for Standing Committees of the Board. Discussion regarding timing of when the compensation would start, followed. This item will be brought back for more discussion.

### 6. Discuss Possible Financial Help Options for Customers During the COVID Crisis:

Mr. Cray and Ms. Cadiente discussed the current customer assistance program and possible options available to the customers. Ms. Cadiente explained how the payment plan option worked for customers that are past due on their bills and noted that any changes made to the payment plan would be made for all customers who are past due, not just COVID affected customers. Director Cortez asked if there was any way to waive the capital component surcharge. Mr. Cray said he thought it could be deferred, but it would extend the payback period. Director Cortez asked if there was a way to waive the surcharge completely.

Ms. Cadiente answered that legal counsel would have to answer that question but didn't think it would be fair to the customers that don't get the same break. She added that the funds anticipated to be collected have been accounted for in paying District debt. Mr. Cray said that to waive the surcharge entirely, the difference would have to be accounted for in the new rate study. Director Cortez commented that he was thinking of deferring it for 2-7 months. Mr. Scherzinger suggested looking into other ways to help the customers, to include ramping up visibility of the current programs, rather than deferring the surcharge. Mr. Cray announced that the District website has been updated to include the customer assistance information on the homepage.

7. Identify Agenda Items for the Next Committee Meeting:

Director Cortez suggested having a draft survey of how the employees are doing since getting the vaccines and how they feel overall.

8. Committee Member Comments:

Director Cortez welcomed Mr. Scherzinger and thanked staff for their hard work.

9. Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.