

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
EAST ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

January 23, 2018

**1. Call to Order.** A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Orange County Water District was called to order by DOUGLASS DAVERT, President of the Board of Directors, at 6:11 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2018, at the Foothill High School Event Center, located at 19251 Dodge Avenue, North Tustin, California. District Secretary JEFFREY A. HOSKINSON, recorded the minutes of the meeting.

The following Directors were present: RICHARD BELL, DOUGLASS DAVERT, JOHN DULEBOHN, SEYMOUR EVERETT and JOHN SEARS.

Also present, in addition to members of the public, were:

LISA OHLUND	General Manager
JEFFREY HOSKINSON	District Secretary and Legal Counsel
ZEKI KAYIRAN	RKM Consulting Engineers
DIANNA PAY	RKM Consulting Engineers

**2. Public Communications to the Board.** None on Non-Agenda Items.

**3. Welcome, Introduction, and Opening Remarks.** President DAVERT made opening remarks and introduced the members of the Board, and provided an overview of the goal to provide an education on septic issues, and reasons for pursuit of conversion of septic systems to sewer.

**4. Presentation on Background of Sewer and Septic Issues.** Ms. OHLUND delivered a powerpoint presentation relative to a historical overview of the sewer and septic issues in the North Tustin area, and why it has become a problem. Ms. Ohlund discussed the difficulties of records not fully indicating who is connected, and provided an overview of a current mapping of those areas both in and outside of the District's sewer system based on the District's efforts to date. Ms. Diann Pay of RKM Consulting Engineers provided an overview of the study in process to determine the scope of septic systems within the District. Ms. Ohlund stated that no one would be required to connect to the system, and that it is a voluntary process.

**5. Presentation on Environmental and Health Effects of Septic Systems.** Ms. Ohlund discussed how septic systems will eventually fail, and that some users are experiencing failure already.

**6. Presentation on Financial Issues Relative to Septic System Conversions.** Ms. Ohlund discussed an overview of the public financing options available to fund sewer facilities necessary to connect homes to system, and the distinction between what may be funded using public financing. Ms. Ohlund discussed that public financing could not be used to fund private laterals (the components that connect sewer in street to individual homes).

6. **Question and Answer Opportunity for Attendees.** Community members in attendance participated in a question and answer session, which centered on various issues, including:

- Necessary participation to move forward with a conversion project. Ms. Ohlund indicated that they would be looking for 95% participation, but not necessarily of all 600 properties, but rather, for example, if there was a group of 10 to 15 homes, if participation among those homes reached 95 percent, then they would have a project for that area.
- Questions arose for those homeowners that may only need a private lateral to reach existing sewer in their street. Response was that it would simply be a private project then, if no extension of public sewer necessary.
- Homeowner asked why they should work through the District, if they are able to connect to an existing sewer. Ms. Ohlund suggested that they should take advantage of the District's expertise to understand the components needed for their situation. Additionally, if the sewer main is owned by the District, a permit would be required to connect
- Discussion occurred relative to some homeowners that may have had septic systems installed with stub off facilities for future sewer already.
- Questions arose relative to whether septic tanks need to be taken out. The response was that they do not; but rather there is an abandonment process, which involves pumping and filling with sand.
- Questions arose relative to reimbursement agreements, for homeowners that did not participate now, but later sought to take benefit of systems built and financed by others now. Responses centered on the availability of reimbursement agreements, which often are tied to a 10 year time period.

7. **Adjournment.**

**ACTION TAKEN:**

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m., the next regular meeting date and time being Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 5:00 p.m., to be held in the Offices of the East Orange County Water District, 185 N. McPherson Road, Orange, California.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jeffrey A. Hoskinson