

**Southwestern Water Conservation District  
Board of Directors Special Meeting and Budget Workshop via Zoom  
September 13, 2023**

**Present:** JR Ford Gerald Koppenhafer Kenny Heldman  
Amy Huff Charlie Smith Rusty Hinger  
Jenny Russell

**Absent:** Dagan Chadd David Guilliams

**Staff:** Mo Rock, Programs Coordinator  
Steve Wolff, General Manager

**Consultants:** Beth Van Vurst, General Counsel, Van Vurst Law

**Guests:** Brandon Johnson, Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company (MVIC)

**1.0 Call to Order – Roll Call and Verification of Quorum**

President Jenny Russell called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Roll was taken and a quorum was established.

**2.0 Approve the Agenda**

There was unanimous consent to approve the agenda.

**3.0 Emergency Grant Request from Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company (MVIC) for Beaver Ditch Repairs**

Brandon Johnson from MVIC gave an overview of the Emergency Grant Request for Beaver Ditch Repairs. JR Ford asked if the funding for phase 1 would be covered if they did not secure the grant from the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). Brandon answered that the project would still move forward. Jenny Russell asked Steve Wolff for staff's recommendation regarding the Emergency Grant Request. Steve Wolff said that staff recommended approving the request for the \$65,000 with the following conditions: First, MVIC needs to secure any remaining funding needed to fully perform phase 1 of the project (i.e., demonstrate that CWCB money is not required to move forward with phase 1), and second, SWCD's grant must be conditioned on MVIC expressly agreeing to indemnify and hold SWCD harmless SWCD as suggested by General Counsel.

Gerald Koppenhafer recused himself from voting on the grant, as he is MVIC's President.

**Rusty Hinger motions to approve the MVIC Grant for \$65,000 subject to the two conditions outlined by Steve Wolff. Kenny Heldmen seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**4.0 Work Session: Review & Discussion of Draft Budget FY2024**

Steve Wolff walked through the proposed FY2024 budget explaining any changes between FY2023 and FY2024.

**5.0 Update on the Preparation of SWCD's Annual Audit**

Monika (Mo) Rock gave an update on the FY2023 Audit. The current timeline is as follows:


1. Mo Rock to submit needed documents to FredrickZink & Associates (FZA) by September 1st (completed)
2. FZA to work through Audit until September 19th
3. Mo Rock and Laura Spann to Review the Audit
4. FZA and SWCD to finalize Draft Audit by September 22
5. SWCD is to meet on or before September 28th to approve the Audit

#### **6.0 Questions & Comments from the Public**

No public attended the meeting.

#### **7.0 Adjournment**

Jenny Russel Adjourned the meeting at 12:48 p.m.

  
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Jenny Russell, President