



**MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2023**

**AGENDA 6:00 PM  
CLOSED SESSION**

**Recorded Meetings:** Recorded meetings are available on the District's website:  
<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/AgendaCenter>

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

President Christensen called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm at the Capitola City Council Chambers.

**Board Members Present:**

Carla Christensen, President  
Dr. Bruce Jaffe, Vice-President  
Dr. Thomas LaHue, Director  
Rachél Lather, Director

**District Counsel**

Joshua Nelson, District Counsel

**Staff Members Present:**

Ron Duncan, General Manager  
Taj Dufour, Engineering Manager  
Melanie Mow Schumacher, Special Projects-Communications Manager / Assistant General Manager  
Emma Western, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk

**Others Present:**

2 members of the public

**2. PUBLIC HEARING – *None***

**3. BOARD MEMBERS' OPPORTUNITY TO REMOVE ITEMS FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

None removed.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

One public comment was heard.

MOTION: Director Lather; Second: Vice-President Jaffe; To approve Consent Agenda Items 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 (as amended), 4.11, and 4.12. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

4.1 Approval of Minutes – *None*

4.2 Board Planning Calendar  
**Action: *Approved***

- 4.3 Special Board Assignments Status Report  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.4 Finance Status Report  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.5 Production Reports  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.6 Management Update  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.7 Approve Annual Statement of Investment Policy, Fiscal Year 2023/24  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.8 Review Annual Disclosure (Govt. Code Section 53065.5), Fiscal Year 2022-23 Director & Employee Reimbursements of at Least \$100  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.9 Approve Board Attendance at the CSDA Annual Conference, August 28-31, 2023, in Monterey, CA, and Attendance/Sponsorship at the WaterReuse Conference, November 5-7, 2023, in Indian Wells, CA  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.10 Approve Allocation from OCR for Security Upgrades to Lobby  
**Action: Approved**  
  
Director LaHue stated that there is a typo in the motion – the approval amount should be \$25,000 not \$25,00. General Counsel Nelson confirmed that this amount can be amended in the consent agenda motion.
- 4.11 Consider Sponsorship of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Fundraiser to Continue Collaboration and Enhance the Partnership between the District and the Foundation  
**Action: Approved**
- 4.12 Approve Extension of Continued Professional Consulting Services for General Hydrology with Montgomery and Associates  
**Action: Approved**

5. **ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS** (*items not on the Agenda*)

Written communications addressed to the Board are available on the District's website:  
<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/AgendaCenter>

One public comment was heard. Vice-President Jaffe responded to public comment and requested that staff share the Pure Water Soquel (PWS) Project Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR), which includes the Responses to Comments. This document is available on the District's website:  
<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/DocumentCenter/View/390/Responses-to-Comments-Document-PDF>

Second public comment was heard.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1 District Counsel – Oral Report

No report at this time.

**7. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

7.1 Conditional and Unconditional Will Serve Letters

7.1.1 Unconditional Will Serve for 36 Dwelling Unit Apartment Building at 2838 Park Ave, Soquel.  
APN: 037-231-20, 037-231-22 (Pajaro Wall Street Inn, LLC)

Mr. Dufour reviewed the unconditional will serve.

Board discussion ensued regarding the subject project.

One public comment was heard. Mr. Duncan responded to public comment.

MOTION: Vice-President Jaffe; Second: Director Lather; To approve an unconditional will serve letter for the 36 dwelling unit apartment building at 2838 Park Avenue, Soquel, APN 037-231-20 & 22. Motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.
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**8. CLOSED SESSION**

8.1 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section §54956.9(d)(1)  
Steinbruner vs. California Coastal Commission, et al., San Francisco County Superior Court Case No. CPF-20517119; CA First District Court of Appeals Case Nos. A163079, A163199  
Steinbruner v. Soquel Creek Water District, et al. Santa Cruz County Superior Court Case No. 21CV01517  
Steinbruner v. Soquel Creek Water District, et al. Santa Cruz County Superior Court Case No. 21CV02699; CA Sixth District Court of Appeals Case No. H050093

8.2 Closed Session Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54597(b)  
Personnel Session to Evaluate Performance of General Manager

8.3 Conference With Labor Negotiators  
Agency designated representative(s): Carla Christensen  
Unrepresented Employee: General Manager

8.4 Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: 1 Case (Claim of Bernt Barbera)

8.5 Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: 1 Case

At 6:21 pm, President Christensen announced that the Board will return to closed session to discuss Items 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5.

One public comment was heard.

**CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION – 6:24 pm**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION - 6:55 pm**

President Christensen adjourned the closed session and returned to open session at 6:55 pm.

President Christensen reported that the Board discussed Items 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4 and 8.5 in closed session. No reportable action was taken.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

President Christensen adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.

SUBMITTED:



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Emma Western, Board Clerk

APPROVED:



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Carla Christensen, President