

*Del Rey Community Services District*  
**Minutes of the  
Board of Directors  
Special Board Meeting  
January 11, 2024  
6:00p.m.**

President Reyna called the Special Board Meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

**Directors present:** Maria Reyna, Daniel Ramirez, Joaquin Nunez,  
Stephanie Garza (arrived at 6:21p.m.)

**Directors absent:** Rolando Sanchez

A2 The Board leads in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A3 **Approval of Agenda:** LC Linden explains items C-1 to C-3, E, F, and G can all be held for discussion until the Regular Board meeting. President Reyna made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended changes. Nunez seconds the motion. All in favor; three ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez. All Absent; two absent: Garza, Sanchez. Motion passed.

**B. SCHEDULED AND UNSCHEDULED COMMUNICATIONS:**

No comments.

**D. PUBLIC HEARINGS (DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS):**

D-1 Consideration for approval of the water, sewer, and refuse Rate Study for Del Rey CSD by IGS, and the setting of the public hearing for the Proposition 218 majority protest proceeding. Bergmann introduces himself to the Board and thanks them for accommodating and having a Special Meeting. He anticipates questions. He understands the last rate study was successfully rejected in 2020. He also realized the impact of the groundwater recharge were not considered in the previous rate study. He has made sure to include the full impact by including the groundwater recharge fees. He informs the Board the rate study packet is the same presented at the previous meeting, but he would like to highlight key points again. He reviews and highlights key points, tables, and graphs in the packet. Bergmann explains what revenue needs to be to cover expenses. The Ground Water Recharge is currently \$100,000 of the \$200,000 deficit. Discussion. President Reyna clarifies the GSA has to be paid and is not an optional expense. LC Linden explains it is a contractual obligation. Bergmann explains the importance of the water meters. Bergmann continues to state the Grund Water Recharge for FY 24-25 will be about \$225,000 which is more than all of the District's revenue and is a huge expense which will result in an ending fund balance at zero. He states with the rate increase the overall revenue increases by 3 over the next five years not gaining any funds balance. Discussion. Bergmann reviews cost of water chart on page 4. He explains the single-family increase is not as much compared to industrial and commercial increase. He touches on notice protest and states people tend to disagree with the result of the study not because they can't afford it. He continues to state if the protest succeeds again, the District will suffer tremendously. He adds that as long as the Board acts responsibly, assuming they agree with the study, they have done their duty. He advises to inform and encourage residents of the help, resources, and programs there are to help pay their bill rather than to protest. DM Arias states the people have been offered assistance, and programs have come to help people fill out applications, but people don't come to the workshops. Discussion. Bergmann see people only truly act when they are afraid to be cut off, but even then that is a long procedure. Discussion. Nunez asks how much the monthly bill will increase. Bergmann states sewer and garbage won't increase, only water which would increase by about \$25. Discussion. Bergmann hands out a draft of the notice to be sent out to residents which he states contains factual

information. He reviews it with the Board. Overall, the increase is only high enough to cover costs. Discussion. President Reyna opens the item to the public for comment. Public member Rumaldo Reyna asks what can be done for residents not paying. President Reyna explains that he can add that to the agenda for the next meeting. Discussion. Reyna made a motion to approve the Rate Study for proceeding, set a public hearing March 21, 2024, and direct Staff to send legally sufficient Prop 218 Notice. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; four ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez, Garza. All Absent; one absent: Sanchez. Motion passed.

**H. ADJOURNMENT:**

Reyna made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ramirez seconds the motion. All in favor; four ayes: Reyna, Ramirez, Nunez, Garza. All Absent; one absent: Sanchez. Motion passed. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:05p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Eileen Hernandez*

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