

# MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

January 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

North City Water District Board Room

## **Commissioners Present**

Commissioner Charlotte Haines Commissioner Ron Ricker

#### **Staff Present**

Diane Pottinger, District Manager
Amalia Mostrales, Finance Manager
Denny Clouse, Operations Manager
Theresa Harrington, Executive Assistant
Toby Bigger, Field Inspector/Special Projects
Paulyne Perez, Customer Care and Vender Supervisor
Joe Bennett, District Attorney

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. Three candidates for the open commissioner position; Richard Nicholson, Lloyd Skinner and Patricia Hale were present. Ms. Pottinger reported that the fourth candidate, Corinne Travis, declined the interview earlier in the day. The candidates introduced themselves. Each candidate was asked to draw a number to determine the order of interviews. Mr. Nicholson drew the first interview slot, Mr. Skinner the second and Ms. Hale the third.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered into executive session at 2:03 p.m. for 15 minutes evaluate the qualification of a candidate for appointment to elected office with Mr. Bennett and Ms. Pottinger pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(h). The executive session concluded at 2:17 p.m. The Board meeting resumed in open session at 2:18 p.m.

# **COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**

District Attorney Joe Bennett reviewed the interview and selection process with each candidate. Candidates were informed that they could choose to stay for the entire meeting or leave after their interview. Candidates were escorted to the waiting room and were called in individually for their interviews.

# **INTERVIEW SUMMARIES**

**Richard Nicholson:** Mr. Nicholson has worked in the surety industry and also is a CPA. His community service includes helping incorporate the City of Shoreline and serving on many boards, including Shoreline School District. Mr. Nicholson stated that he is well-prepared and a good listener. He is willing to attend industry, community and educational meetings beyond the regular Board meetings. He expects the District to deliver high-quality water, cost-effectively and with integrity. If appointed he would intend to seek election to a full-term in November. He complimented the District on its community outreach. He believes that a special purpose district is the type of municipal entity best positioned to provide water service. NCWD's ratepayers benefit from the specific focus and the dedication of funds to a single enterprise.

Lloyd Skinner: Mr. Skinner stated that he would welcome the opportunity to serve the public, in an area that fits with his skills and experience. He believes that community education and outreach is important for the District. He served on the Lake Forest Park Planning Commission, including a term as the Chair. Mr. Skinner believes his experience the private sector, organizational management and public infrastructure would be assets to the Board. He has a thorough understanding of public works, utilities, finance and budgets. He is retired and has the time to attend outside meetings on behalf of the District. He understands the distinct roles of staff and the Board, and appreciates the need for training for both commissioners and staff. If appointed he would seek election in November. He asked the commissioners what they believed was the most rewarding part of serving on the Board and what would be the biggest challenge for a new commissioner.

**Patty Hale**: Ms. Hale believes she can contribute to the District and work well with other commissioners. She has attended several meetings of the District's Board, has closely followed the District over the years, and has a long-history of public service and serving on boards in the community. She believes that she would be a good fit for the Board and the District. As a teacher, she can assist the

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District with its community outreach and education efforts. She is currently the outreach coordinator for her neighborhood association. Ms. Hale is able to attend educational, industry and community meetings beyond the commissioner meetings and will seek election to a full term in appointed. She understands the balance between maintaining and improving infrastructure as well as keeping rates low. Her approach would be to make informed budget decisions based on reviewing the facts and staff recommendations. She strongly believes in the District's mission and its single focus on water service. The District is the best entity to provide water service to the residents and businesses in the North City area. She asked commissioners what are the most important things for a new commissioner to know.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered into executive session at 4:10 p.m. for 20 minutes evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elected office. The commissioners invited the staff to stay for the beginning of the session. The session continued with only Mr. Bennett and Ms. Pottinger present. The executive session was extended at 4:30 for an additional 10 minutes. The executive session concluded at 4:40 p.m.

The Board took a short break and returned to regular session at 4:45 p.m.

## **COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT**

Regular session commenced with Ms. Patricia Hale present. Commissioner Haines reported that staff and commissioners were impressed with the qualifications of all of the candidates making the selection difficult. Commissioner Ricker concurred all three candidates were well qualified and choosing among them was difficult.

Commissioner Ricker made a motion to appoint Patricia Hale to fill North City Water District Commissioner #2 position. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion and the motion passed. Ms. Hale accepted the appointment.

The commissioners directed the District Manager to prepare a resolution to approve the appointment which will be considered as the first order of business at the January 15 regular meeting. Ms. Hale will be sworn in at the January 15 regular meeting following the passage of the resolution.

The meeting was then adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 15 at 3:00 p.m. at the District's Administrative Offices.

Charlotte Haines		
Ronald Ricker		
Patricia M. Hale	 	 