



## MINUTES

### SPECIAL MEETING

**GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
6425 MAIN STREET, GEORGETOWN, CALIFORNIA 95634**

**JANUARY 7, 2021  
5PM**

Michael Saunders, President  
Cynthia Garcia, Vice President  
Mike Thornbrough, Treasurer  
Mitch MacDonald, Director  
Vacant, Director

### MISSION STATEMENT

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It is the purpose of the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District to:

- Provide reliable water supplies
  - Ensure high quality drinking water
  - Promote stewardship to protect community resources, public health, and quality of life
  - Provide excellent and responsive customer services through dedicated and valued staff
  - Ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability are observed by balancing immediate and long-term needs.
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Out of respect for the meeting and others in attendance, please turn off all cell phones or put in the silent mode.

Pursuant to the Government Code Section 54954.3 (The Brown Act), members of the public shall be afforded the opportunity to speak on any agenda item, provided they are first recognized by the presiding officer. The Board President will call for public comment on each agenda item. Those wishing to address the Board on a matter that is not on the agenda and within the jurisdictional authority of the District may do so during the Public Forum portion of the agenda. Please be aware of the following procedures for speaking during Public Forum or public comment sessions:

1. When called on to speak by the Board President, please approach and speak from the podium.
2. Comments are to be directed only to the Board.
3. The Board will not entertain outbursts from the audience.
4. There is a three-minute time limit per speaker.

5. The Board is not permitted to take action on items addressed under Public Forum.
6. Disruptive conduct shall not be permitted.
7. Persistence in disruptive conduct shall be grounds for removal of that person's privilege of address.

The Board President is responsible for maintaining an orderly meeting.

## 1) CALL TO ORDER, AND ROLL CALL

***Director Saunders called the Special Meeting to order at 1701hrs. Director MacDonald led the Pledge of Allegiance.***

**PRESENT:** DIRECTORS MACDONALD, THORNBROUGH, GARCIA, SAUNDERS

**ABSENT:**

**OTHERS** Barbara Brenner, Legal Counsel,

**PRESENT:** Jeff Nelson, Interim GM

**Director Thornbrough motioned to move New Business Agenda item 5A, Independent Contractor (GM) and CalPERS before the Closed Session 2) Director MacDonald seconded the motion.**

***Roll Call vote was taken:***

***Aye: MACDONALD, THORNBROUGH, GARCIA, SAUNDERS***

***Nay: None***

***The motion CARRIED***

Director Saunders also wanted to correct the Board Action for 5C to receive and file.

**Director MacDonald motioned to correct item 5C to receive and file 2) Director Thornbrough seconded the motion.**

***Roll Call vote was taken:***

***Aye: MACDONALD, THORNBROUGH, GARCIA, SAUNDERS***

***Nay: None***

***The motion CARRIED.***

## 2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

***Director MacDonald motioned to approve 2) ADOPTION OF AGENDA. Director Thornbrough seconded the motion.***

**Roll Call vote was taken:**

**Aye: MACDONALD, THORNBROUGH, GARCIA, SAUNDERS**

**Nay: None**

**The motion CARRIED.**

### **3) PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff read the email from Bonnie Neeley – sent January 7, 2021:

**“Please read aloud at Board Meeting..**between a computer breakdown and power outages, my plan to add my resume never came to pass.

**Attn: Directors and General Manager** I strongly recommend that this “selection” be postponed and a way to actually inform the public that there is a position open. The only venue for actual distribution is the free paper at the end of the month...goes to all mailboxes. After speaking with a number neighbors/friends, an awful lot of them do NOT have FB or the gdpuD email service. I’m surprised that this hiring of a director is so few days after the resume close. Many were not even aware that the selection will be today. That old ploy of 24 hour notice for a special meeting does not serve the public. Additionally, the many “closed” features also do not serve the public...why close finance meetings? Etc. The constant picayune questions to staff take up staff time and money... Why continue the 400/month stipend.?? Folks cannot pay their bills, are often out of work with Covid regulations and the bills are extremely expensive.. Would any of you run without the stipend???? \$20,000/year. I hope the selection you may make is for a community other than Cool, which with Souza’s resignation is all Cool. Since **Garcia is leaving soon, why not do a search for 2 directors and** look for a variety of community folks. Georgetown, Cool, Kelsey, Garden Valley and Pilot Hill all have their own “cultures” values and needs from GDPUD. We all find the constant “polite” belittling, nitpicking and other disruptive behavior among the directors to be wasteful of time and really doesn’t achieve necessary information.. There is little money to “Budget” and too few people able to afford the new rates. The fact that over 240 (?) people could not pay their bills at the end seems disgraceful. As you interview and continue an “interim GM” are you all really looking to serve the higher good of the community? Bonnie Neeley (Director, 2008-2012, Treasurer 2 years.) Please copy to: Darrell Creeks and Stephanie Beck

Director Saunders said he wanted to extend the selection period.

## 5) NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Independent Contractor (GM) and CalPERS Additional attendees:** Michael Kashiwagi (Interwest Consultants), Erin Dervin (Churchwell White)

After discussion by the Board, the recommendation was for the Interim GM to perform the duties “as is” and complete staff evaluations.

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### **ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION AND ADJOURN OPEN SESSION TO CLOSED SESSION**

#### 4) ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

- A. Public Employment – Pursuant to Government Code section 54957 Title: General Manager
- B. Existing Litigation (Gov. Code 54956.9)  
Name of Case: *Georgetown Divide Taxpayers Association v. Georgetown Divide Public Utility District* (El Dorado County Superior case number PC20180211, Third Appellate District case number C091664)

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### **ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AND OPEN REGULAR SESSION**

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### **REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION**

Director Saunders said there was nothing to report out from Closed Session.

## 5) NEW BUSINESS

- B. **Board of Directors Vacancy** – Pursuant to California Government Code section 1780, the Board of Directors will discuss the process for appointing the Vacant Director position.

The Board discussed and came up with a process for conducting the interviews during open session and the voting/nomination process for appointment.

The Board chose to extend the application process and will now be accepting resumes up until February 4, 2021 by 4:30 PM. Applicants selected to come in for an interview will be notified by Saturday Feb 6th of the interview during the regular meeting of February 9 2021.

- C. **Board of Directors Vacancy** – Announcement of Interview Candidates for Board Vacancy – This item was removed from the agenda.

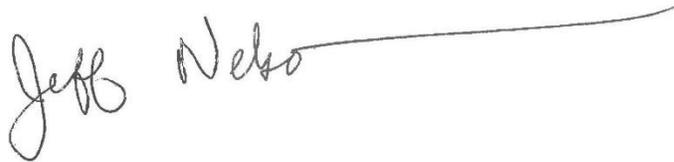
**Director Garcia motioned to adjourn the meeting and 2) Director MacDonald seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call vote was taken:**

**Aye:       MACDONALD, THORNBROUGH, GARCIA, SAUNDERS**  
**Nay:       None**

**6) NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT** – The next Special Meeting is January 28, 2021, and the next Regular Meeting will be on February 9, 2021 at 2:00PM via teleconference.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting via teleconference, please contact Jeff Nelson by telephone at 530-333-4356 or by fax at 530-333-9442. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one-full business day before the start of the meeting. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a).



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Jeff Nelson, Interim General Manager

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February 9, 2021  
Date