

# EL DORADO HILLS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

## SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY SIXTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Special Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, January 31, 2019**  
**5:00 p.m.**

District Office, 1050 Wilson Boulevard, El Dorado Hills, CA 95762

### **I. CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION**

President Girauda called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and Chief Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Directors in attendance: Durante, Girauda, Hartley, and White. Staff in attendance: Chief Johnson and Director of Finance Braddock. Counsel Cook was also in attendance.

### **II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – Matt Belleci, El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters representative, encouraged the Board to appoint Bill Gilmore. The Board asked that any further comments about candidates be held until the public comment opportunity after the interviews.**

### **III. BOARD VACANCY**

**A. Interview applicants for Board Vacancy –** Nine candidates had submitted applications for the Board vacancy terminating in November 2020; Mr. Richard Ross withdrew his application prior to this meeting. The Board Secretary had previously drawn names establishing the following order for the interview schedule: Scott Vail; Bobbi Bennett; Todd White; Greg Mugartegui; Kurt Oneto; Michael Roppolo; Bill Gilmore; and Steven Foster. The Board had suggested that in courtesy and fairness to the process, it would be appreciated if the applicant being interviewed be the only applicant to remain in the room.

President Girauda explained how the interview would be conducted giving each candidate fifteen minutes for an opening statement, an opportunity to answer three questions, and a closing statement. The questions were read during each interview as follows: 1) What are your interests and motivations in seeking to join the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Board of Directors? 2) What qualifications and life experiences do you have that would bring value to and enhance the operations of the El Dorado Hills Fire Board of Directors? 3) Will you seek re-election once your term is up? After some Board discussion, it was decided that after all interviews are complete, each Board member would write down their top 3 candidates. Megan would then read each director's selections and tally the results to narrow down to the top 2 candidates. Board members would then write down their top selection of the 2 remaining candidates and Megan would read each director's selection. If a majority consensus was reached, a motion would be made and carried. If not, deliberation and voting would continue.

*After all candidates were interviewed, a break was taken from 6:38 p.m. to 6:43 p.m.*

The Board reconvened and thanked the candidates commenting on how fortunate they were to have had an excellent group of candidates to choose from. Public comment was taken. Mr. Jeff Genovese, resident, encouraged the Board to appoint Mr. Mike Roppolo for the Board vacancy and Brian Wilkey, El Dorado Hills Professional Firefighters representative, encouraged the Board to appoint Bill Gilmore.

- B. Appoint applicant to fill Board Vacancy for unexpired term** – The first vote was tallied, and Bobbi Bennett and Greg Mugartegui were announced as the top two candidates. A second vote was taken resulting in a tie.

*After discussion, Director Durante made a motion to appoint Bobbi Bennett, seconded by Director White and unanimously carried (Roll Call: Ayes: 4; Noes: 0).*

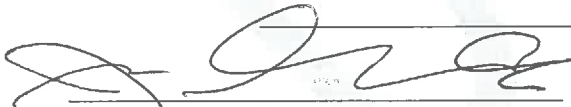
- C. Swear in new Board Member** – Bobbi Bennett was sworn in by Board Secretary Jessica Braddock and congratulated by the Board and Staff.

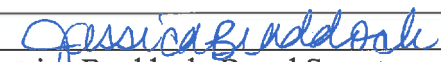
#### IV. ADJOURNMENT

*Director Bennett made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried.*

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Approved:

  
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John Graudo, President

  
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Jessica Braddock, Board Secretary