

**WEST SLOPE WATER DISTRICT**  
**Special Board of Commissioners Virtual Meeting**  
**September 3, 2020**  
**Meeting Summary**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Present on Virtual Meeting: Chair Charles Conrad, Commissioners Andy Smith and Carol Wild

Management Staff: Michael Grimm, General Manager

Absent: Commissioner Michael Hoffman

Public: Two candidates for the vacant Board position (#5): Paul Schuler and Ramesh Krishnamurthy

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**1.0 – CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Conrad called to order the special meeting of the West Slope Water District Board of Commissioners at 2:24 PM, Thursday, September 3, 2020. The meeting was held through Zoom remote teleconferencing technology. The public was made aware of the meeting through the District’s website (agenda posted on website with the login information). A recording of the meeting was made through Zoom virtual meeting features for public record.

**2.0 - PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

No public comments or communications were received by the District.

**3.0 – DISCUSSION OF PROCESS TO FILL VACANT POSITION #5 ON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Chair Conrad provided a brief summary of the process the Board will be following to interview both candidates and make the appointment to fill the vacant position on the Board as agreed upon by the Board at the September 1, 2020 Special Meeting.

Mr. Paul Schuler joined the meeting and the interview began at 2:30 PM. Chair Conrad gave a brief review of the Board’s process to Mr. Schuler and proceeded to ask Mr. Schuler the eight questions agreed upon by the Board (questions included as part of this meeting summary). The interview was concluded at 2:54 PM, and Mr. Schuler left the meeting. Commissioner Wild commented she had appreciated former Commissioner Bob Rieck service to the Board because of his background with water and public finance matters. Similarly, she believes Mr. Schuler will bring similar value to the Board. Commissioner Wild mentioned she had been concerned about Mr. Schuler’s availability to attend meetings but was satisfied with his responses regarding meeting availability. Chair Conrad stated he appreciated Mr. Schuler’s extensive water experience and the passion that was demonstrated for water and for “giving back to the community”. Chair Conrad liked Mr. Schuler’s statement about his wanting to hear all concerns

but still making the best possible decision with the information that is available at the time. Commissioner Smith agreed and stated the Board would benefit from Mr. Schuler's background in water and finance. Commissioner Wild mentioned the ability of providing thoughtful responses in public meetings as a positive attribute of Mr. Schuler's personality. Commissioner Smith stated he appreciated Mr. Schuler's previous history on the Board and his willingness to serve again.

The meeting went into a brief recess at 3:05 PM until the next interview. The Board came back into session at 3:25 PM.

Mr. Ramesh Krishnamurthy joined the meeting and the interview began at 3:28 PM. Chair Conrad gave the same brief review of the Board's process to Mr. Krishnamurthy and proceeded to ask Mr. Krishnamurthy the eight questions agreed upon by the Board. The interview was concluded at 4:04 PM, and Mr. Krishnamurthy left the meeting. Commissioner Wild commented the choice to replace the vacant position is between two great candidates who are both passionate about volunteering in the community and giving back to the citizens. She stated a positive attribute for Mr. Krishnamurthy is the diversity of community groups he works with, and a negative attribute is the geographic proximity to an existing Commissioner. Commissioner Smith agreed and commented both candidates clearly are interested in public service for good intentions. He stated both candidates are thorough and thoughtful, but Mr. Krishnamurthy may have a broader view of the community by virtue of his many volunteer activities. Chair Conrad stated Mr. Krishnamurthy's diversified experiences with other organizations has merit and value for the District. Both candidates have a history of being well prepared for meetings, both seem to be good leaders and can relate to people, and both are highly qualified for the position.

Commissioner Smith shared his outlook to filling the position is determining what skillset or distinguishing elements/factors are missing from the current Board and which brings the higher value to the Board at this time. He believed Mr. Schuler's distinguishing elements are professional expertise in water and water financing while Mr. Krishnamurthy's distinguishing elements are a strong community perspective from his volunteer experience. Chair Conrad reminded the Board about former Commissioner Bob Rieck's water and water financing expertise and how it is important to him to have that level of expertise return to the Board. Commissioner Wild mentioned being wary of the Board acquiring too narrow of a focus, but agrees with the skillset of each candidate. Commissioner Smith sees strong benefits for both skill sets but agreed with Chair Conrad on what is likely needed most at this time.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to appoint Mr. Paul Schuler to the Board of Commissioners for the remaining term of Position #5. Commissioner Wild seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

#### **4.0 - ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Wild seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Chair Conrad adjourned the September 3, 2020 Special Board of Commissioners meeting at 4:30 PM.



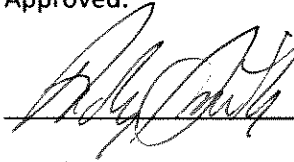
Respectfully Submitted,

Approved:




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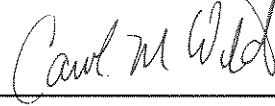
Michael W. Grimm, P.E.  
Acting Secretary



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