

About a week ago, I discovered that North Yuba Water District (NYWD) Manager, Jeff Maupin, was working behind the scenes with Yuba Water Agency (YWA) to obtain nearly a quarter-million dollar grant from YWA. Through public exposure on social media and a letter I authored and sent to the Boards of both agencies, this secretive move to hand over yet more money to NYWD was stopped.

In what appears to be an admission of guilt, and an after-the-fact attempt to cover his rear end, General Manager Jeff Maupin wrote a resolution giving himself authority to pursue any and all funding without involving the NYWD Board and then called a Special Meeting for Tuesday August 13 at 8 am to get the NYWD board to pass the self-authored resolution. This resolution will remove the NYWD Board and the public from any transparency in the grant process.

I came prepared with my remarks. Board President Eric Hansard and Vice President Terry Brown put a timer on my remarks and halted me at 3 minutes. This is a new policy that the four directors voted to approve which pertains to Director's Input. It does not and can not pertain to board discussions on passing resolutions or policies. As my remarks were cut off and I was not allowed to actually engage in a discussion of this proposed resolution, I am making my intended remarks public here. You can also watch the videos of the meetings here (<https://she-persisted.life/critics-corner-you-are-invited-to-view-the-board-meeting-videos-for-yourself/>) – decide for yourself

Special Meetings should be called for urgent situations that are not quite emergencies.

This is not an urgent situation. If any justification is present for a Special Meeting, it would be the GM's decision to reduce the top three Irrigation users to half of their allotment for no reason whatsoever, even after one of the user's pond put out a major fire. That would justify a Special Meeting. There is nothing here that could not have waited until the next regular board meeting.

The GM called this Special Meeting to vote on a resolution he authored because **he** felt it was urgent. If any board member was involved in the creation of this resolution, I am not aware of it- if this resolution was proposed by any board members, I am unaware of it. There was no prior public involvement in the development of this resolution. There has been no prior board meeting discussion whether to put this on an agenda for a vote.

This self-authored resolution gives Jeff Maupin unilateral authority over grants and removes the NYWD Board oversight of the process. May I remind you that Manager Maupin is being investigated by the State for possible fraud on a grant application. Why, with this ongoing investigation, would this board surrender oversight of grants? If you approve this resolution you are grossly irresponsible and share mutual guilt that may be rendered by investigative agencies.

Jeff Maupin has been caught overstepping his authority by the public and by me. Maupin went around the Board and behind the public's back, to request funding from YWA – a request that would result in adding almost a quarter of a million dollars more to a \$500,000 grant. On what planet do engineering plans for a ditch cost almost \$750,000.00???? The audacity of a general manager to overstep in this fashion and to overrun the costs of engineering plans by \$225K is remarkable and should be punished – not rewarded. Are these Engineering Plans – that the public and I have never seen – gold plated? This is the fourth set of engineering plans prepared for the Forbestown Ditch project. The last set - which analyzed three different options- cost \$200,000.00. One thing Jeff Maupin and this board certainly know how to do is spend, or better yet, waste, the taxpayers' and rate payers' money.

Maupin and Board President Eric Hansard were caught violating the boundaries of their authority. Now, Maupin is attempting to cover their wrongdoing, by authoring a resolution to give him the very authority he violated and calling a Special Meeting of the NYWD Board to approve it; thereby covering

his hind quarters when he goes back to YWA tomorrow to re-request this additional funding without talking to the board or informing the public. This is the essence of corruption.

I put together a resolution, based on my constituent's concerns, to prohibit the GM from doing just this- self-authoring resolutions that are not done at the direction of the board. The four directors here- sat silent, staring at the ceiling and ignored my request and resolution. This is the third such self-authored resolution Maupin has put forth.

Who is running this board? Certainly not the four of you. Why are you on this board? You refuse committees, you do nothing but sign away all oversight responsibility to the very employee you are supposed to be overseeing. Maupin writes a resolution and calls you all here and you approve the resolution? Do you work for Maupin? I thought WE were his employers. He should be admonished and his behavior curbed- his behavior should not be rewarded or covered up.

If you approve this resolution – you might as well have Maupin write the final resolution – dissolving this board - as Maupin clearly runs this board and you have gladly handed him the keys to the vault.