

KINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2021

As a results of the COVID-19 emergency, the public was able to participate through a conference call. Directors could choose to meet with Staff in the Board Room or participate through a conference call. President McCutcheon called the regular meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor, Joseph Freitas (phone), Michael Murray (phone)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, General Manager
Ray Carlson, Attorney (phone)
Geoff VandenHuevel, Milk Producers Council
Johnny Gailey, Delta View WA (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD (phone)
Sebastian Silviera, Griswold-LaSalle (phone)

ESTABLISH QUORUM

It was determined that a quorum was present at the meeting. At the beginning of the meeting, Directors Dias, McCutcheon and Taylor were presented.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR JULY 8, 2021 MEETING

President McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the minutes circulated in this month's Board packets. Director Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular July 8, 2021 meeting. Vice-President Dias seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the regular July 8, 2021 meeting. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Joseph Freitas, Michael Murray

COMMUNICATIONS

Manager Mills reported that:

- Manager Mills relayed that the District had received a message from Bryce McAteer at WestWater Research on conditions in the area and information related to the value of surface

water and ditch company stock. Manager Mills relayed that he had learned this kind of information was being requested from other local entities as well.

- Loves Truck Stop had recently called regarding manure hauling and potential SGMA effects on their business.
- There had been communications with DWR staff regarding District Monitor Well information and the future SkyTEM flightlines through the area.
- The State Water Resources Control Board had recently issued a curtailment order on the Sacramento-San Joaquin River watersheds. The current view is that this will limit users from the Merced River north if dry conditions persist.

GENERAL MANAGER

WATER SUPPLY AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

Manager Mills reported that conditions continued to be very dry. He reported that the local water run had been begun on June 18 and ended on July 23 for duration of 35 days. From rough numbers at this point in the year it was reported that 3,407 AF of Peoples entitlement was released from Pine Flat in June for local delivery and 6,194 AF in July. On the Peoples Main 1,510 AF was delivered to renters in June and 4,310 AF in July. On the Settlers system 960 AF was delivered to renters in June and 1,640 AF in July.

The Apex Groundwater Bank recovered 825 AF in June and 1,380 AF in July. This contribution was roughly 17% of water run locally and 24% of supplies made available to renters. The Apex recoveries extended the local water run by just under a week.

At this point Directors Michael Murray and Joe Freitas joined the meeting by phone.

LAND IQ CROPPING INFORMATION UPDATE

Manager Mills reported that the District had received a summary report and monthly data sets for May of this year. Manager Mills reported that he had combined some of the summary report information sets into a table that he displayed for the Board. Manager Mills expressed some concern relative to the amounts being reported by Land IQ and conveyed that he would be seeking some clarification from them on the estimates. A few of the Board members suggested that the estimates could be lower than expected because of the more accurate field boundaries versus previous methods.

RAMBOLL BASIN INVESTIGATION UPDATE

Manager Mills reported that he had very recently received an updated draft report earlier that morning. Staff at Ramboll has been out sick recently and this had led to significant delays.

STANFORD STUDY – SUBSIDENCE SOUTH OF HANFORD

Manager Mills reported that he had completed his review of the Stanford Study. The study attempts to take very limited confined aquifer head data and develop a model that reflects measured subsidence over a long period of time. Given the approach, it is very hard to criticize the study. The authors are not really trying to be definitive, but suggest likely relationships. The study generally determines that compaction from subsidence occurs over very long time-scales, which creates large deferred subsidence rates. Also, the study generally determines that fractionally more subsidence occurred in the aquifer above the Corcoran Clay before the year 2000 than after 2000.

MKR GSA BOARD REPRESENTATION

Manager Mills reported that Director Murray had made him aware that he was interested in ending his tenure as a Director for the MKR GSA soon. Manager Mills relayed that message to the other Board members and reported on the alternatives for the District to fill that Board position. He concluded the item acknowledging that more work was needed before an approach would be brought before the Board for consideration.

GK GSA TRANSITIONAL PUMPING

Manager Mills reported on a topic being discussed by Greater Kaweah GS parties over the last month. The effort seemed to consider seepage from canal systems as a potential source of recharge that could be "leased/rented" by white area pumpers during SGMA Implementation Period to reduce the impact of needed pumping restrictions. Greater Kaweah GSA staff wanted local districts to consider what the potential "lease/rental" cost might be. However, Manager Mills expressed concerns about whether that supply should be considered the asset of the local districts given that they generally don't own wells and don't put groundwater to beneficial use. The Board generally viewed the proposal as problematic for a number of reasons and did not consider any potential value for the supply.

NEW LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS

Manager Mills reported on three new local developments. The first was Kings County's Tentative Tract 852, which is near the District's Railsback Basin. The second was Hanford's annexation of 157 acres near the District's Smith Basin. The third was Hanford's Tentative Tract 934 on the southwest corner of Grangeville and 13th Ave. Each location was discussed and the Board generally discussed increasing local development and the potential impacts that it could have on local groundwater. Manager Mills relayed that it appeared that more information was needed from entities like the City of Hanford on the amount of water being used in new subdivisions versus the developed area and the conservation requirements levied on the developments.

ON-GOING EFFORTS

KCWD

Manager Mills reported efforts related to the Independent Ditch will be taken up after the water run is completed.

MKR GSA

Manager Mills reported that the Reimbursement Request #2 for the Round 3 Planning grant would be arriving in August. He also reported that DWR staff had finally relayed the approval of the \$50,000 of re-appropriated Prop 1 funds as being available for use in the available budget.

EXPENDITURE LIST APPROVAL & FINANCIAL STATEMENT ACCEPTANCE

On a motion by Vice-President Dias, with a second by Director Taylor, it was unanimously approved by the Board that the expenditure list and financial statement be accepted as submitted. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor, Joseph Freitas,
Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: None

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

On a motion by Vice-President Dias, with a second by Director Taylor, a \$100,000 transfer from the District's LAIF account to the District's General Union Bank account was unanimously approved by the Board. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor, Joseph Freitas,
Michael Murray

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: None

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

None.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular Board of Directors meeting was set for September 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MIN08.05.21