

KINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023

The public was able to participate either in person or through a conference call. Directors were required to meet in person, unless there was an emergency. President McCutcheon called the regular meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Joseph Freitas, Michael Murray

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, General Manager
Ray Carlson, Attorney (phone)
Mary Lou Silveira, (phone)
Shawn Corley, Lakeside IWD
Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association
John Warmerdam, Excelsior Farming

ESTABLISH QUORUM

It was determined that a quorum was present at the meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETINGS

Manager Mills explained that he had developed minutes for the special meeting of August 16, 2023. President McCutcheon asked if there was a motion regarding the minutes for the August 16, 2023 special meeting. Director Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2023 special meeting. Vice-President Dias seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the August 16, 2023 special meeting. The vote for all of the Directors was as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Michael Murray, Joseph Freitas

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

GENERAL MANAGER

RECHARGE UPDATE

Manager Mills reported on recharge totals for the Peoples, Last Chance and Lakeside systems in the District area. The amounts were recently presented to the Kings County Water Commission in late September '23.

ESAJIAN BASIN UPDATE

Manager Mills gave a report on excavation efforts by G&J Heavy Haul at the Esajian Basin and that they are completed for now. Manager Mills relayed that a payment for the excavated material would be arriving soon.

DELTA VIEW BASIN PROJECT UPDATE

Manager Mills gave a report on the Delta View Basin Project. The available grant funding for the effort in the Kaweah Subbasin is roughly \$1.3 million that must be spent by 2025. The current site being considered is owned by Joaquin Avila and is along Idaho Ave. near 5th Ave. Manager Mills reported the information from a Tulare ID TowTEM evaluation that showed portions of the property were sandy. Manager Mills discussed the initial project concept with the Board and got feedback on various aspects.

GRISWOLD BASIN PROJECT UPDATE

Manager Mills gave a report on the Griswold Basin Project. The available grant funding for the effort in the Tulare Lake Subbasin is roughly \$2.6 million that must be spent by 2025. Project plans, specifications and bid documents have been developed and are under review by District staff.

MKR GSA EFFORTS

Manager Mills gave a report on a recent implementation grant reimbursement of roughly \$1.95 million. The funding is being evaluated to determine how much should go back to the various parties submitting project costs.

Manager Mills gave a report on State Board meetings with staff in October and other discussions related to the scheduled Probationary Hearing in April '24.

Manager Mills then gave a report on planned Tulare Lake Subbasin GSP Revisions. This report included discussions of the protection of shallow domestic wells, well records from the OSWCR and local databases, local depths to the Corcoran Clay, proposed allocations from various parties, and a potential well mitigation plan. The mitigation plan concepts were discussed by the Board.

GK GSA UPDATE

Manager Mills gave a report on Greater Kaweah GSA pumping allocations in Water Year '24, planned GSP revisions, groundwater model updates related to subsidence and a potential State Board Probationary Hearing in May '24.

ON-GOING EFFORTS

Dutra Property

Manager Mills reported on efforts at the Dutra Property and the Esajian Basin.

EXPENDITURE LIST APPROVAL & FINANCING STATEMENT ACCEPTANCE

On a motion by Director Taylor, with a second by Vice-President Dias, 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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Joseph Freitas, Michael Murray

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

President McCutcheon asked if there was a motion to ratify a \$500,000 transfer and authorize another \$300,000 transfer from the District’s LAIF account to the District’s General US Bank account. Director Taylor made tha motion and Vice-President Dias seconded the motion. 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

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

None.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular Board of Directors meeting was set for November 9, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE 54956.9 (A) AND 54956.9(D)(1)

CLOSED SESSION

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

Following the Closed Session, President McCutcheon reported out of Closed Session that negotiation guidance was conveyed to Manager Mills on various topics.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MIN10.05.23