

KINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023

As a result 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 special meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor, Joseph Freitas (phone), Michael Murray (phone)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, General Manager
Ray Carlson, Attorney (phone)
Shawn Corley – LIWD
Geoff VandenHuevel – Milk Producer Council (phone)

ESTABLISH QUORUM

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Manager Mills relayed that the current Board organization was Barry McCutcheon as President, Steve Dias as Vice-President and Dennis Mills as Secretary. Director Taylor made a motion that the Board organization remain the same, and Director Murray seconded the motion. the vote of all directors was as follows:

AYES: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETINGS

Manager Mills explained that he had not yet completed the minutes for several previous meetings and was still working on them.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Sebastian Silveira on system off end of Riverside Ditch
- Bill Winterberg relayed that he wanted to address the Board about water deliveries to the pits north of the RR and between 13th & Centennial. Manager Mills has been told there was dumping in the eastern pits and the Ditch Company says the system that delivers water to

them doesn't work well. Also, he wanted to sign up for parcel he is trying to farm, but there is no turnout and no well on the property.

- Chris VanderVeen of NorthStar Engineering on Live Oak East basin slough connection
- ALD Engineering - 30,000 CY of material for project near 13th & Grangeville, discussed Rose Basin
- Kyle Orth on recharge arrangement for Horseshoe Creek near Last Chance diversion
- Leta Spencer of Nuveen Natural Capital to discuss projects and management actions and landowner recharge opportunities
- David Merritt on KRCD 215 Contract
- John Doyel on SGMA question

GENERAL MANAGER

FY '22-'23 BUDGET / SALARY ADJUSTMENTS

- Salaries – Manager Mills recommended a 3% salary increase Renee Davis and himself.
- '22-'23 Budget
 - 07/01/22 LAIF Reserves = \$8768,909.71
 - Projected Income = \$3,606,000
 - Projected Expenses = \$3,733,000
 - Significant items are \$250K for water purchases, \$300K for Dutra Property, and \$275K for Construction
- Director Taylor made a motion to approve the budget and approve the recommended staff salaries. Director Murray seconded the motion and President McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote of all directors was as follows:

AYES: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

USBR FLOODWATER (SECTION 215) CONTRACT - RESOLUTION 2023-01 APPROVING A SECTION 215 CONTRACT

- 215 has not been declared yet, but sounds like it will be available in early Feb
- Cost for water is ~\$37-38/AF
- Requirement to pre-pay what is anticipated to be run monthly. If water is not run, funds will be reimbursed, likely at the end of the contract term.
- The Board discussed the possible range of delivery amounts over the next 30 days.
- Director Taylor made a motion to approve Resolution 2023-01 approving a Section 215 Contract and the prepayment for 215 water. Director Murray seconded the motion and President McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote of all directors was as follows:

AYES: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

POTENTIAL FOR KINGS FLOOD RELEASE AND BASIN PROJECTS

- The District could bet on flood release and begin delivering Peoples/Last Chance supplies for recharge, rather than delivering Section 215 water.
- Kings Flood Release:
 - Current snowpack is 110-130% of April 1 average, based on snow pillows
 - Currently at ~480 TAF in Pine Flat
 - At ~6 TAF/day inflow, Pine Flat would be to 600 TAF in 20 days, around Feb 6
 - Another storm will likely get the reservoir to the begin of flood release
 - My guess is that Pine Flat flood releases will begin in mid-February or early March
- Emergency Esajian Turnout
 - 100 cfs diversion capacity, two 60-inch turnouts and a connecting channel
 - Potential budget of roughly \$250K
 - Potential recharge of 6,000 AF in 30 days. If flood release is lengthy, recharge could be 9,000 AF in 90 days.
 - Director Taylor made a motion to approve pursuing the emergency Esajian Turnout project. Director Murray seconded the motion and President McCutcheon called for a vote. The vote of all directors was as follows:

AYES: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED:None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

EFFORTS ON COUNTY GROUNDWATER EXPORT ORDINANCE

- Water Commission Chairman made me aware in December that County staff had developed a "revised" Export Ordinance. I reviewed it, but it still had a lot of issues.
- The week I was sick, I spent one day working on the Ordinance to try to revise things so it made more sense to me.
- After I got it to a decent state I emailed to the Water Commission Chairman and asked what he thought. We met a few days later and he gave me a few minor comments, but generally supported the revisions.
- The Water Commission met Monday, Jan 9 and they passed out the revised version for commissioners to consider. Sounded like it was received well. They decided to develop two subcommittees, one for the Export ordinance and the other for recommendations on the Water Committee/WROC.
- They asked me to be the Chairman for the Export Ordinance subcommittee. The folks that volunteered for that committee are Jim Verboon, Jim Racer, Scott Sills, probably one Boswell rep and Roger Reynolds.
- The hope is that we can have the first subcommittee meeting next week.
- Revisions need to be finished by the end of February for Board of Supervisor consideration in March.

REDISTRICTING POST 2020 CENSUS

- Attorney Carlson discussed the need to redistrict the director areas post 2020 census.
- After the discussion the Board agreed to have Attorney Carlson to begin investigating the effort.

SWITCHING ELECTION FROM ODD TO EVEN NUMBERED YEARS

- Attorney Carlson discussed the need to switch the district’s election schedule from odd to even numbered years.
- After the discussion the Board agreed to have Attorney Carlson to prepare a resolution for the needed change.

ON-GOING EFFORTS

- Jared Little invoice questions - he agreed to pay for 50 AF to resolve issue.
- Signed contract for consultant services on Griswold Basin project.
- Gave a presentation to the City of Hanford's City Council on SGMA and the MKR GSA on Tuesday of this week.
- GK TAC meeting was cancelled as the consultants were not ready to present information by the time of meeting. Next meeting planned for February.

EXPENDITURE LIST APPROVAL & FINANCING STATEMENT ACCEPTANCE

On a motion by Director Taylor, with a second by Director Freitas, 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: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Michael Murray, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Steven P. Dias

TRANSFER OF FUNDS

None

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION/ANNOUNCEMENTS OR REPORTS

None.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular Board of Directors meeting was set for February 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 that Max Ribeiro had been selected to represent the District in the sale of the Dutra Ranch.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills
MIN01.19.23