

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
January 12, 2021

8:30 a.m.

NOTE: This meeting was conducted by teleconference pursuant to and in conformance with Executive Order N-29-20 relating to public meetings during the State of Emergency that was declared as a result of COVID-19.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Roy Pierucci, Gary Unruh, Jason Selvidge, Mitch Millwee, Barry Watts

DIRECTORS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff & Consultants - Eric Averett, Dan Bartel, Zach Smith, Megan Misuraca, Markus Nygren, Rachelle Echeverria, Dan Raytis, Jennifer Spaletta, Karen Northcutt, Jennifer Jacobus
Public – Doug Gosling, Monica Tennant, Lauren Jue, George Capello, Richard Iger, Robert Hartsock, Colin Pearce, Dana Munn, Garrett Busch, John Gaugel, Craig Carnes, Rick Iger, Holly Melton, Sarah Spano, Robbie Hull, Mark Mulkey

CALL TO ORDER

President Pierucci called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

PUBLIC HEARING- Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project State Clearinghouse #2018021061

8:30 a.m.

President Pierucci provided an overview and explained the process for the public hearing, after which he opened the public hearing on the matter of the Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project - State Clearinghouse #2018021061 at 8:31 a.m. The public hearing proceeded as follows:

- a) Presentation of Final Environmental Impact Report Findings - Mr. Bartel provided a PowerPoint presentation covering matters relating to the proposed project location, objectives, and description. Ms. Northcutt of Northcutt and Associates provided an overview and of the environmental review process and described the Finding of Facts for the Final Environmental Impact Report of the Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project - State Clearinghouse #2018021061. Following Ms. Northcutt's comments, Ms. Jacobus of Environmental Science Associates explained the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program components and requirements.
- b) Public Comment - At the conclusion of the above presentation, President Pierucci invited any members of the public to provide comments on the proposed project. Richard Iger from Provost & Pritchard asked a question regarding how project losses would be handled in both Lake Isabella and in the river channel. Mr. Bartel responded to Mr. Iger's question. No further comments were received from the public. Mr. Bartel discussed those additional written comments that were received after the statutory comment period had passed and directed the Board to those areas where the specific comments were addressed in the FEIR. Mr. Bartel

advised the Board that the public comments received after the statutory public comment period and during the Public Hearing do not constitute significant new information, do not identify a new environmental impact that has not been previously analyzed, and do not significantly alter the conclusions or the analyses of the potential impacts of the proposed project that were provided in the Final EIR distributed to the public. The public hearing was closed at 9:12 a.m.

At 9:12 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session to discuss potential litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2). At 9:20, the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken during closed session.

- c) Consideration of Resolution No. 513- Certifying FEIR and Project Approval – Mr. Averett reviewed Resolution 513 in the matter of Consideration of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project; Adopting Written Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; Adopting Mitigation, Monitoring and Reporting Program; Approving the Project; and Authorizing the Filing of a Notice of Determination to Proceed with the Project. Mr. Averett recommended that the Board adopt the resolution with the addition of a WHEREAS clause stating as follows: WHEREAS, the public comments received by the RRBWSD since the publication of the Final EIR and during the Public Hearing do not constitute significant new information, do not identify a new environmental impact that has not been previously analyzed, and do not significantly alter the conclusions of the analyses of the potential impacts of the proposed project that were provided in the Final EIR distributed for public review. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to adopt Resolution 513 Certifying the FEIR and approving the Onyx Ranch South Fork Valley Water Project subject to the addition of a WHEREAS clause as suggested by Mr. Averett. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

At 9:24 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would take a 5-minute break. The Board reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

CONSENT ITEMS

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – December 08, 2020

A motion was made by Director Millwee and seconded by Director Watts to adopt the Consent Items. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Mr. Averett reviewed the treasurers report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to accept the treasurers report as presented. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.
 AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts
 NOES: None
 ABSTAINED: None
- b) Accounts Payable/ December 05, 2020 through January 08, 2021 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Selvidge and seconded by Director Unruh to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$6,973,838.77 and holding the approval of check #15628 and 15629 until agenda item 5b. as set forth in the Accounts Payable report provided to the Board. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.
 AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts
 NOES: None
 ABSTAINED: None
- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Mr. Averett reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through 12/30/2020 with the Board.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS REPORT

- a) District Water Levels & Hydrographs Report – Mr. Smith reviewed the current District water levels with the Board.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith reviewed current operations and projected demands for the beginning of 2021.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reviewed maintenance projects that have taken place over the last month.

STATE WATER PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

- a) Update on State Water Project Operations – Mr. Averett noted the initial SWP remains at 10%.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – No report.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Consideration of Resolution No. 516 - Acquisition of Water from the Federal Government – Mr. Averett reviewed Resolution No. 516 with the Board authorizing the acquisition of “Section 215” water from the federal government. A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Millwee to adopt Resolution 516 – Consenting to Signing a Contract for Temporary Water Service Between the United States and Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD in respect to water made available pursuant to Section 215 of the Reclamation Reform Act. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.
 AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts
 NOES: None
 ABSTAINED: None
- b) Consideration of Acquisition of 4% Water – Mr. Averett briefed the Board on the acquisition of 2017 Pioneer and Berrenda Mesa Project 4% reserve water. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to ratify the purchase of 6,869AF of 2017 4% Reserve

water and authorize the payment of accounts payable check numbers 15628 and 15629 in the amount of \$566,073.56. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ENGINEERS / PROJECTS REPORT

a) Onyx Ranch

- i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel gave an update on staff activities including water operations and flows to the Board.

b) Drought Relief Project

- i. Status Report – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Project Status Report covering the activities through the end of December 2020.
- ii. Stockdale East Wells - Consideration of Pay Estimate – Mr. Bartel gave a brief report on Stockdale East Wells project activities noting there was no pay estimate at this time. No action was taken on this item.

c) Recharge and Conveyance Projects – Mr. Bartel reported on the latest environmental compliance efforts.

d) Consideration of Technical Services Contracts for Routine Services – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the annual efforts by AECOM and GEI for the District. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to enter into consulting agreements with AECOM and GEI to perform various technical work for the District in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 for each agreement. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Groundwater Banking Authority –

- i. Presentation of Final Environmental Impact Report Findings- State Clearinghouse #2020049019 – Mr. Averett provided the Board with an overview the Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project and the Joint Powers Authority that was formed to construct and implement the project. Mr. Averett provided a description of the components of the project and noted that the JPA had prepared the FEIR as the lead agency and that the Board would be considering the FEIR and the project as a responsible agency. Mr. Averett stated that the details and the objectives of the project and the JPA's consideration of potential environmental effects were described in detail in the FEIR, which was included in the Board package. Mr. Averett generally described the project's components, including recharge basins, recovery wells and water conveyance facilities, as well as a new turnout at the California Aqueduct to convey water between the project facilities and the California Aqueduct. Mr. Averett also described the various water sources that could be used for the project, including surface water from the State Water Project, Central Valley Project, Kern River and other available water sources that would be recharged and stored for subsequent recovery

and use. Mr. Averett noted that the details of the JPA's compliance with CEQA with respect to the EIR were included in the Board memo on this item. Mr. Averett generally described the comments that were received by the JPA on the Draft EIR, and noted that the JPA reviewed all the written comments received and prepared detailed responses to comments directed to any significant environmental issues. Mr. Averett noted that on December 28, 2020, the JPA adopted a resolution certifying the Final EIR and approving of the project. He also noted that prior to the JPA's meeting, two comments were received on the EIR and the process from the Kern Water Bank and the Kern County Water Agency. Those comment letters were also provided to the Board. Mr. Averett noted that the JPA considered those additional comments and did not make any changes to the EIR in response to the additional comments. Mr. Averett described Rosedale's role as a responsible agency and Rosedale complies with CEQA in that role. Mr. Averett called the Board's attention to the Findings and Facts in Support of Findings for the Project that were adopted by the JPA, which were attached as Exhibit "1" to the Draft Resolution, and the associated MMRP, which was attached as Exhibit "2" to the Draft Resolution.

Public Comment – Mr. Averett requested public comment. One comment was received from Rick Iger commending the District on the project and thoroughness of the environmental review on the project. No additional comments were received.

- ii. Consideration of Resolution No. 514- Certifying FEIR and Project Approval (Responsible Agency) – Mr. Averett reviewed and recommended adoption of Resolution #514 in the matter of the Consideration of the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project; Adopting Written Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act; Adopting a Mitigation, Monitoring, and Reporting Program; Approving the Project; and Authorizing the Filing of a Notice of Determination to Proceed with the Project. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to adopt Resolution No. 514 as presented and approve the project as a responsible agency. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority- Appointment of Director and Alternate – Mr. Averett gave a brief report on the latest James Water Bank Authority Operations Committee meeting. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to appoint Director Millwee as the Director for James Water Bank Authority and Director Watts as the alternate. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern Groundwater Authority- Consideration and Appointment of Representative and Alternate – Mr. Averett briefed the Board on the latest Kern Groundwater Authority activities. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to appoint Director Unruh as the

District's representative for the Kern Groundwater Authority and Director Selvidge as the alternate. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- d) Rosedale Management Area Committee – No report.
- e) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – No report.
- f) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – No report.
- g) Pioneer Project – No report.
- h) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- i) Kern Fan Authority – No report.
- j) Banking Projects Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – No report.
- k) Committee for Delta Reliability – Director Pierucci briefed the Board on the latest activities and meeting of the Committee for Delta Reliability.
- l) South Valley Water Resources Authority – No report.
- m) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report.
- n) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- a) Consideration of Resolution 515 – Ordering Election Not be Held and Requesting Appointment of Directors to Divisions 2 & 3 of the District- Mr. Raytis noted that the District published a Notice of Election in the Bakersfield Californian and received one nomination petition for each division director with a term expiring in 2021. Mr. Raytis describe the process for the District when only one person is nominated for a vacant seat on the Board of Directors. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Selvidge to adopt Resolution 515- Ordering Election Not be Held and Requesting Appointment of Mitch Millwee to Division 2 and Gary Unruh to Division 3. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Selvidge, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Averett called to the Board's attention a letter received by the California Water Data Consortium thanking the District for its support.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:33 a.m. Director Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 12:25p.m., the Board reconvened to open session.

Mr. Raytis reported that no reportable action was taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.