

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
February 8, 2022  
8:00 a.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

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

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

None

**OTHERS PRESENT**

District Staff / Consultants - Dan Bartel, Zach Smith, Trent Taylor, Megan Misuraca, Markus Nygren, Rachelle Echeverria and Dan Raytis  
Public – Ken Bonesteel, John Gaugel, Vincent Sorena, Martin & Jeanne Varge, and Dana Munn

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Pierucci called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 11, 2022

A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to approve the meeting minutes of the January 11, 2022, Regular Board of Directors’ meeting. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of January 31, 2022. She explained to the Board the purpose of the transfers from Wells Fargo and County funds to VRB Operations account, as well as the significant debits in the VRB account.
- b) Accounts Payable/ January 8, 2022, through February 4, 2022 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee and seconded by Director Selvidge to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$2,883,277.17. The motion unanimously passed.
- AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
- NOES: None
- ABSTAINED: None
- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through January 31, 2022, with the Board.

- d) Consideration of Proposal for 2021 Audit – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the proposal from BHK Accountancy with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Unruh to authorize staff to execute the BHK Accountancy engagement letter and set a budget not to exceed \$39,000 to perform the Fiscal Year End December 31, 2021 audit and file the annual State Controllers Report on behalf of the District. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

#### **DISTRICT OPERATIONS REPORT**

- a) District Groundwater Levels – Mr. Nygren reviewed the current District water levels with reference to the District’s thresholds under SGMA in the various zones of the District’s management area.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith reviewed current operations including the projected 2021 ending balances along with projected demands for 2022.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reviewed maintenance projects that have taken place over the last month. Mr. Smith also reported that staff is currently working on updating annual lease agreements with lessees.
- d) Consideration of Fencing Contract – Mr. Smith reported that the Wes Selvidge Basin area is experiencing heavy evening and weekend trespasses by offroad vehicles. His recommendation was to install fencing to mitigate the issue. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to approve a budget not to exceed \$24,000 to construct fencing in the Wes Selvidge Basin area. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

#### **STATE WATER PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE**

- a) Update on State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on current operations and reviewed the 8-station index graph with the Board.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on the latest activities for the Delta Conveyance Project.

#### **MANAGER’S REPORT**

- a) Consideration of Continuing Emergency Action - Public Contract Code §22050(c)(1) – Res. No. 519 – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the memo to the Board describing current and expected hydrologic conditions, and the need to continue the emergency action. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to continue the Emergency Action per Resolution No. 519. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- b) Presentation of Awards to Dana Munn and Martin Varga – President Pierucci presented Mr. Dana Munn with the Water Legacy Award for 2021 and noted his extensive contributions to the Kern County water industry. President Pierucci also presented Mr. Martin Varga (who was accompanied by his wife Jeanne) with the Outstanding Engineering and Leadership Award for 2021 for his commitment and contributions to the Kern County water industry. President Pierucci also thanked Mrs. Varga for her contributions to the Kern County water industry over the years as a public affairs consultant to the Kern County Water Agency.

## **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.
- ii. Consideration of Cooperative Agreement for Onyx Interim Pilot Project – The Board considered a draft of a Cooperative Agreement for Onyx Interim Pilot Project. A motion was made by Director Millwee and seconded by Director Watts to authorize execution of the Cooperative Agreement, subject to approval of Special Counsel and the Engineer-Manager as to final form. The motion passed unanimously (with Director Selvidge not present in the Board Room).

Ayes: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Millwee & Watts (Director Selvidge not present)

NOES: None

Abstained: None

b) Improvement Projects

- i. Scada Improvements – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on the status of the Scada Improvements.
- ii. Houghton Weir – Consideration of Pay Estimate and Notice of Completion – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on the status of the Houghton Weir project, which was reported to be in the final stages of completion. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to approve Pay Estimate No. 5 for WM Lyles Co. in the amount of \$88,065.47 with \$4,403.27 retention withheld. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to authorize staff to record a Notice of Completion, subject to approval of the Engineer-Manager as to substantial completion of the project. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- iii. McCaslin Ponds- Consideration of Bids – Mr. Nygren reviewed the bid process for the McCaslin Pond construction and the final bid abstract. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Selvidge to authorize staff to execute an agreement

with Gilliam & Sons in the amount of \$975,072.07 for the construction of recharge and pond levees on the McCaslin property. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel reported on the latest activities, and Mr. Taylor reported on DWR activities relating to the JPA.
- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority – Mr. Bartel gave a brief report on the latest activities and noted the 2022 draft budget included in the Board pack. Mr. Bartel reported that the full JPA Board would be meeting soon.
- c) Kern Groundwater Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the latest activities and the Department of Water Resources’ comments on the Kern Subbasin GSP documents and the incomplete determination regarding the GSP.
- d) Rosedale Management Area Committee
  - i. Consideration of SGMA Budget – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the SGMA budget with the Board and noted the White Land responsibility of \$4/acre. A motion was made by Director Unruh and second by Director Watts to accept the budget and direct staff to invoice White Lands \$4/acre for the 2022 SGMA activities. The motion was unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None
- e) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren gave a brief report on activities noting his appointment of Vice Chair.
- f) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Bartel gave a brief report on activities noting the approval of a consultant contract to prepare a pre-expansion analysis.
- g) Pioneer Project – No report.
- h) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- i) Kern Fan Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the January 26, 2022 Board meeting.
- j) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – None
- k) Committee for Delta Reliability – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on latest activities.
- l) South Valley Water Resources Authority – No report.
- m) Valley Ag Water Coalition – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on latest activities.
- n) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on latest activities.
- o) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on recent activities.
- p) Association of California Water Agencies – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report.

#### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

No report.

**OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Bartel presented the plaque received from the California Highway Patrol recognizing the District's contribution of used office equipment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CLOSED SESSION**

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 9:36 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. Mr. Selvidge left the closed session and meeting at 11:38 a.m. At 11:42 a.m., the Board reconvened to open session and Mr. Raytis announced that no reportable actions were taken in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m.