

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2023
8:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Roy Pierucci, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Jason Selvidge

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff / Consultants – Dan Bartel, Trent Taylor, Megan Misuraca, Markus Nygren, Dan Raytis, Zach Smith, Rachelle Echeverria & Jennifer Spaletta
Public –John Gaugel

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2023

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of February 28, 2023 with the Board.
- b) Accounts Payable/ February 11, 2023, through March 10, 2023 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board and noted a discrepancy due to a Kern County Water Agency Invoice that was displayed on the AP but was voided. A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Watts to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$1,444,416.31. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Unruh, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through February 28, 2023 including budget vs. actual.
- d) Consideration of Biennial OPEB Valuation – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the proposal for the FYE 2022 and 2023 OPEB Valuation with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Unruh to set a budget not to exceed \$14,250 and to authorize staff to engage Foster and Foster to complete the FYE 2022 and 2023 Actuarial Valuation and GASB 75 report. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Director Pierucci, Unruh, Millwee and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

- a) District Groundwater Levels – Mr. Nygren advised the Board of current groundwater levels with reference to the District’s minimum thresholds under SGMA.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith reviewed water conveyance and recharge operations and estimated balances with the Board.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reviewed maintenance projects that have taken place over the last month.
- d) Consideration of Encroachment Permit – This item was tabled and no action was taken so that staff could further consider the landowner’s request.

WATER RESOURCES REPORT

- a) State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor gave a detailed report on current state operations, noting that the Table A allocation should be increased to at least 75%. Mr. Taylor also reviewed the 8-station index graph and reservoir conditions with the Board.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the status of the Delta Conveyance Project.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria briefed the Board on staff’s progress for Goal #1 of the District’s adopted strategic plan.
- b) Staff recognition – Mr. Bartel advised the Board that Mr. Nygren passed his Fundamentals of Engineering exam and Mr. Bartel achieved 10 years of service to the District.
- c) Update on 2023 Irrigation Deliveries – Mr. Taylor reported on 2023 requests for surface deliveries in-lieu of pumping water.

ENGINEERS / PROJECTS REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch
 - i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the status of the Onyx Ranch surplus property sales in addition to operations, project flows and flood damage. Mr. Bartel reported that he would be investigating sources of funds to assist with flood damage.
 - ii. Conservation Easements – No report.
- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren gave a brief report on current East Superior improvements, SCADA implementation efforts and the possible need for replacement 63” repair coupler to prevent down time.
- c) McCaslin Property Update – Mr. Bartel reported McCaslin River Ranch LLC has exercised the put-option on the McCaslin 80 acres and the District will be opening escrow to complete the purchase.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel advised the Board on the latest activities.

- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the design efforts for the project.
- c) Kern Groundwater Authority – Mr. Bartel and Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest activities and a planned meeting with DWR/SWRCB regarding the inadequate determination regarding the Kern Subbasin and the GSPs.
- d) Rosedale Management Area Committee – Mr. Bartel provided a year-end 2022 update on Management Area activities.
- e) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on activities.
- f) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Bartel reported on the CVC Advisory Committee meeting.
- g) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the latest activities.
- h) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- i) Kern Fan Authority – No report.
- j) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – Mr. Bartel reported on the JOC Operating Committee meeting.
- k) Committee for Delta Reliability – No report.
- l) South Valley Water Resources Authority – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Fish Friendly Diversion Project
- m) Valley Ag Water Coalition – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on the last meeting.
- n) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- o) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Sites Reservoir Project.
- p) Association of California Water Agencies – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest committee meetings and reviewed the request for letters of support for ACWA’s recommendations on the Climate Resilience Infrastructure Investment spending breakdown.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

No report.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:15 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 11:55 a.m. the Board reconvened to open session and Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.