

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
April 11, 2023
8:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

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 – March 14, 2023

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to approve the Board of Directors’ March 14, 2023 regular meeting minutes. 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 March 31, 2023 with the Board.

- b) Accounts Payable/ March 11, 2023, through April 7, 2023 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts and seconded by Director Millwee to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$234,054. 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 March 31, 2023 including budget vs. actual.

- d) Consideration of Budget and 2023 Assessment Level – Ms. Misuraca reported the status of the development of the preliminary 2024 budget for consideration in determining the assessment level. No action was taken at this time.

- e) Consideration of Investment of Funds – Ms. Misuraca reported that the AMG Investment from August 2022 has matured with a return of approximately \$584,000. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to re-invest \$12,000,000 over a 6-month term with expected returns of 3-4%. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, 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) Gooselake Realignment– Mr. Bartel reported on repairs required at the Gooselake realignment, noting that the landowner is acknowledging its responsibility for repairing the damage to the facility.

WATER RESOURCES REPORT

- a) State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor gave a detailed report on current state operations. Mr. Taylor also reviewed the 8-station index graph and reservoir conditions with the Board.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – No report.
- c) Ratification of Agreement for purchase of Kern River Water with City of Bakersfield – Mr. Taylor reviewed the details of the agreement with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Unruh to ratify the letter agreement dated March 16, 2023, with the City of Bakersfield for the purchase of Kern River Water up to 20,000AF. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- d) Ratification of Water Exchange Agreement with Cawelo WD – Mr. Taylor reviewed the details of the agreement with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to ratify the water exchange agreement with Cawelo Water District dated March 30, 2023. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- e) Consideration of Agreement for Purchase of Kern River Water with Buena Vista WSD – Mr. Taylor presented the agreement and reviewed the details with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to execute the

agreement for purchase of Kern River Water between Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD and Buena Vista WSD. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- f) Kaufer Land Lease – Mr. Taylor reported that the three year land lease with Rosedale-Kern Properties has been executed.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria briefed the Board on staff’s progress for Goal #2 of the District’s adopted strategic plan.
- b) Consideration of Resolution No. 531 Flood Emergency Declaration – Ms. Echeverria reported on the Governor of California’s Executive Order N-4-23 and on current water conditions throughout the region and the state. She discussed the need for the District to take immediate actions on projects to facilitate maximum beneficial use of anticipated supplies. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to adopt Resolution 531 – declaring a flood emergency and to authorize procurement of equipment, services, & supplies for such emergencies without giving notice for bids to let contracts. A roll call vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ENGINEERS / PROJECTS REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch
- i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the status of the Onyx Ranch operations, current flows and flood damage.
- ii. Ratification of Flood Damage Repairs – Mr. Bartel reported that in an effort to prevent delays in operations, emergency repairs were made to Onyx ranch facilities. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to ratify the emergency repairs by Hafenfeld Ranch with an estimated cost of \$50,000. The motion unanimously passed.
- AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAINED: None.
- iii. Consideration of Drilling of Domestic Well – Mr. Bartel presented the Consolidated Testing Laboratories proposal to drill an 8” domestic well at Onyx Ranch. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to authorize staff to execute the proposal from Consolidated Testing Laboratories for the drilling and construction of an 8” domestic water well in an amount not to exceed \$66,000. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren reported that staff installed a 36” water structure on the Kaufer property to reach an additional 55 acres with supplies the District had on hand. Mr. Nygren also reported that piezometer drilling would begin along the CVC to comply with KCWA shallow groundwater operating guidelines.
- c) Solar Project Investigation- Mr. Taylor reported on discussions with White Pine Renewables for proposed solar projects within the district.
- d) Ratification of CVC Temporary Pump Stations- Mr. Bartel reported in an effort to utilize additional ground for recharge projects staff started the process to get CVC temporary pump stations. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to ratify the proposal from Cal West Rain to build the pump discharges in the amount of \$33,600 and to approve an additional budget of \$25,000 for the necessary earthwork to complete the site in a total amount of \$58,600. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the upcoming agenda for the GBJPA.
 - i. Small Storage Grant Award – Mr. Bartel reported the Kern Fan Project was awarded 4.7 million dollars in the small storage grant by the Bureau of Reclamation.
 - ii. Construction of West Enos Ponds – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the status of the construction of West Enos Ponds.
- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority – Mr. Bartel reviewed a letter sent to Buena Vista Water Storage District regarding the diversions through the temporary facilities constructed by Buena Vista WSD.
- c) Kern Groundwater Authority-
 - i. Update of Plan to Address GSP Deficiencies – Mr. Bartel and Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the efforts to update plans to address deficiencies per the Department of Water Resources.
- d) Rosedale Management Area Committee –
 - i. Consideration of Transfer Program to Rosedale Management Area White Lands – Mr. Taylor reviewed section 7.5 of the Adaptive Management Actions of Rosedale’s Groundwater Sustainability Plan with the Board. A motion as made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to make up to 5,000AF of recharged groundwater supplies in 2023 available to interested Rosedale Management Area White Lands landowners for the purchase price of \$450/AF. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- e) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – No report.
- f) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – No report.
- g) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Outline of the Kern County Water Agency- Kern Water Bank Authority Joint Use Terms.
- h) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- i) Kern Fan Authority – No report.
- j) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – Mr. Bartel reported the claim filed in October 2022 was approved in the amount of \$3,900.
- 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 – No report.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

- a) Consideration of Election of Officers of Board of Directors - A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to re-elect all officers in their current position. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:01 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.