

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
May 15, 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 – None

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2023
- b) Special Board Meeting Minutes – May 3, 2023

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to approve the Board of Directors' April 11, 2023, regular meeting minutes and May 3, 2023, special 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 April 30, 2023, with the Board.
- b) Accounts Payable/ April 8, 2023, through May 12, 2023 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee and seconded by Director Watts to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$365,778.66. 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 April 30, 2023, including budget vs. actual.

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.

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) Consideration of Policy Governing Landowner Banking Program for 2023-2024 – Mr. Taylor presented to the Board a proposed policy regarding landowner banking during 2023-2024. The document that Mr. Taylor used to guide the conversation related primarily to landowner banking under which a landowner desires to bank its own water supplies using the District’s facilities. The Board’s discussion included broadening the policy to also cover situations where the District desires to use a landowner’s land to bank the District supplies. The Board discussed numerous terms and conditions that would apply to both situations. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Unruh to approve the Board Policy for Landowner Banking Program During 2023-24, and directed General Counsel to revise the policy document to include the additional items outlined by the Board during the discussion. Director Selvidge announced that he would obtain from the vote. The motion was passed on the following vote:

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: Jason Selvidge

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria briefed the Board on staff’s progress for Goal #3 of the District’s adopted strategic plan. Rachele reported that staff is working with a rate analysis consultant on a recommended rate.
- b) Delta Conveyance Authority Tour – Mr. Bartel reported on the Delta Conveyance Project tour he participated in on April 26, 2023.
- c) Consideration of Resolution No. 531 Flood Emergency Declaration – Ms. Echeverria reported on the Governor of California’s Executive Order N-4-23 and updated conditions. 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.

- d) Consideration of Notice of Exemption for Temporary Diversions of Kern River Flood Water to Groundwater Recharge Project – Mr. Bartel reviewed a proposed Notice of Exemption relating to the District’s application for a 180-day permit to divert Kern River flood flows, which was approved by the Board at its last meeting. Mr. Bartel noted that the NOE was to invoke the authority provided by the Governor’s Executive Order N-7-22. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to authorize staff to execute the Notice of Exemption for Temporary Diversions of Kern River Flood Water to Groundwater Recharge Project and to file the notice with the posting agencies. 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, project flows and flood damage repairs.
 - ii. Consideration of Well Equipping and Septic Replacement – Mr. Nygren reported that staff is awaiting the proposal for the equipping and septic replacement. No action was taken at this time.
- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren reported that staff has been utilizing the River Cat to stream gauge various sites in the District along with providing an update on the Kern River Intake flow meters operations.
- c) Solar Project Investigation – Mr. Taylor advised the Board that he has been investigating potential solar projects for the District. Various considerations were provided regarding a potential solar project. Mr. Taylor said that he would continue with his investigations. No action was taken.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority –
- i. Small Storage Grant Award – Mr. Bartel reported on the efforts to move forward with the Kern Fan Project small storage grant awarded by the Bureau of Reclamation.
 - ii. Construction of West Enos Ponds – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on West Enos Pilot Project approved by the GBJPA April 20, 2023, special board meeting.
 - iii. Consideration of Cash Call – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the GBJPA budget for Fiscal Year Ending (FYE) June 30, 2024, which resulted in a cash call in the amount of \$1,000,000 per entity for the projected costs in 4th quarter FYE June 30, 2023 and 1st quarter FYE June 30, 2024. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to approve a cash call in the amount of \$1,000,000 to the GBJPA for projected costs during 4th Quarter FYE June 30, 2023, and 1st Quarter FYE June 30, 2024. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the latest activities and status of EIR / response to comments.
- 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 the GSP to address deficiencies per the Department of Water Resources’ letter declaring the basin plan is inadequate.
 - ii. Consideration of Withdrawal from KGA and Execution of White Land Agreement with County of Kern – Mr. Bartel reviewed a proposed letter to the Kern Groundwater Authority from the District electing to Withdraw from the KGA upon the formation of the District’s GSA, and to implement SGMA as the Rosedale GSA. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Selvidge to authorize staff to proceed to meet all necessary requirements for the District to withdraw from the Kern Groundwater Authority, including as necessary the execution of a withdrawal agreement and/or an agreement with the County of Kern regarding the “white lands” that Rosedale will continue to administer. The motion unanimously passed.
AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
- d) Rosedale Management Area Committee – Mr. Taylor reported that there was no meeting during the prior month.
- e) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Taylor reported that no meeting had occurred during the prior month.
- f) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Bartel reported on the latest CVCAC meeting.
- g) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel reported that no meeting had occurred during the prior month.
- h) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report
- i) Kern Fan Authority – No report
- j) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – No report
- k) Committee for Delta Reliability – No report
- l) South Valley Water Resources Authority – Mr. Taylor reported the details of a recent meeting.
- m) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report
- n) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report
- o) Sites Reservoir Project – No report
- p) Association of California Water Agencies –
 - i. Consideration of Nomination for ACWA Region 7 Committee – Mr. Taylor reviewed the ACWA Region 7 nomination pack with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to nominate Trenton Taylor for ACWA Region 7 Board of Directors. The motion unanimously passed.
AYES: Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Barry Watts & Mitch Millwee

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- ii. Consideration of Designated Voter for ACWA – Mr. Taylor reviewed the ACWA voter designation form with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Selvidge to designate Trenton Taylor as the designated voter for Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District in the ACWA 2024-25 Election term. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

- iii. ACWA Conference – Mr. Pierucci, Mr. Bartel and Mr. Taylor all reported on their participation in the ACWA Spring Conference in Monterey, CA.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

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 10:00 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. Director Selvidge left the closed session meeting at 10:15 a.m. and returned at 10:35 due to a potential conflict of interest. At 11:46 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.