

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
August 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, Rachele Echeverria & Jennifer Spaletta (via telephone for closed session only).

Public – Vincent Sorena & Franz Affentranger, Marie Millan

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2023

b) Special Meeting Minutes – July 25, 2023

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to approve the Board of Directors' July 11, 2023 regular and July 25, 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 July 31, 2023 and reported the Fiscal Year End December 31, 2022 audit was underway and that staff has implemented Positive Pay security measures on the Tri-Counites Operations bank account to assist in capturing fraud in a timely manner.

b) Accounts Payable/ June 10, 2023, through July 7, 2023 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Selvidge and seconded by Director Watts to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$463,492.54. 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 July 31, 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 water project operations. Mr. Taylor also reviewed the 8-station index graph and reservoir conditions with the Board.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor gave a brief status report on the DCP project.
- c) Update on Landowner Banking Programs – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest landowner banking program updates and reported that the Wonderful program is set to be operating this month.
- d) Consideration of Water Banking Agreement with TLBWSD- Mr. Taylor reviewed the banking agreement with the Board. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to approve and authorize staff to execute the Water Banking and Exchange Agreement with Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District and Los Angeles County Sanitation District. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

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 ensuring that key responsibilities within the agency are sustainable and efficient.
- b) 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 Millwee to continue the emergency action of 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. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Watts & 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, noting that flows have continued since the pause was lifted on July 5, 2023. Mr. Bartel also reported that the Onyx Store and Cabin were in the final stages of escrow and would be closing within a few days.
 - ii. FEMA Disaster Relief Application – Ms. Echeverria briefed the Board on the process and current status to receive funds from FEMA for the repairs required from the flooding at Onyx Ranch.
- b) Improvement Projects –
 - i. Consideration of Well Bid – Mr. Nygren reported that staff held a public bid opening for the drilling of McCaslin and Bowling recovery wells. Bakersfield Well and Pump (Zim Industries) was the only bidder on the project. Staff reviewed the proposal in detail and aligned it with the engineers’ estimate and recommend that the Board accept the proposal. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Selvidge to approve the proposal from Bakersfield Well and Pump (Zim Industries) in the amount of \$3,470,494.00 and authorizing staff to execute a notice to proceed and necessary contract documents to complete the project. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None
 - ii. Consideration of Technical Services Agreement- Mr. Nygren reported that a final well design will need to be completed for the McCaslin and Bowling recovery wells. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Unruh to authorize staff to execute a Technical Services agreement with Thomas Harder and Company with a budget not to exceed \$54,940. The motion unanimously passed.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority –
 - i. Stockdale North Conceptual Layout- Mr. Bartel reviewed the 30% conceptual plan design with the Board.
 - ii. CEQA Lead Agency Agreement- Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the CEQA Lead Agency Agreement between California Department of Water Resources and Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority.
- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority –
 - i. 90% Conveyance Plans- Mr. Bartel reviewed the 90% conveyance plans for the James Groundwater Banking project with the Board.
- c) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- i. Water Charge Management Action Implementation – Mr. Taylor reported that staff is continuing to work with counsel and AECOM to complete a rate study; and noted that a special board meeting will be held to review when complete.
- ii. GSP Deficiency Resolution – Mr. Bartel reviewed the 3 main deficiencies with the Board and reported on the efforts to update the GSP to address deficiencies per the Department of Water Resources’ letter declaring the basin plan is inadequate noting revised GSPs are required by the end of 2023.
- iii. Consideration of Technical Services Contract for GSP Drafting – Mr. Taylor reviewed the proposals received for the development of a revised groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to execute a technical services contract with EKI Environmental & Water Inc. with a budget not to exceed \$198,000. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – No report.
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – No report.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest activities.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report
- h) Kern Fan Authority – No report
- i) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – Mr. Smith reported staff is working on a claim received by a landowner.
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report.
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the groups latest efforts.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest bills and measures.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest activities.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the candidates for the President and Vice President roles for the 2023 election.

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 9:44 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 11:15 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 11:15 a.m.