

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
October 10, 2023  
8:00 a.m.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

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

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

Mitch Millwee

**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 – None

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 12, 2023
- b) Special Board Meeting Minutes – September 26, 2023

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to approve the Board of Directors regular meeting minutes of September 12, 2023 and the special meeting minutes of September 26, 2023. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of September 30, 2023.
- b) Accounts Payable/ September 9, 2023, through October 6, 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 \$347,728.69. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through September 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.
- d) Ratification of Emergency Purchase of Electrical Equipment- Central Intake – Mr. Smith reviewed the damage to the Central Intake Pump Station and the electrical repairs required. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Watts to ratify the costs for emergency electrical repairs to the Central Intake Pump Station with an amount not to exceed \$30,000. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

## **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.

## **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 to develop a water charge to support SGMA implementation.
- b) Consideration of Resolution No. 531 Flood Emergency Declaration – Ms. Echeverria reported on updated water and emergency conditions. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Selvidge to continue the emergency action of Resolution 531 – declaring a flood emergency and to authorize procurement of equipment, services and supplies for such emergencies without giving notice for bids to let contracts. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

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 and the Smith ditch cleaning efforts.

- 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.
- iii. Consideration of Technical Services Agreement for Model Update – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Thomas Harder & Co. proposal to complete the October-January update of the Onyx Groundwater / Surface Water Flow Model. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Unruh to approve the Thomas Harder & Co. proposal in the amount of \$74,640 and authorize staff to execute the technical services agreement. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren reported on latest NEPA efforts to break ground on the Bowling/McCaslin recovery well project.
- c) Consideration of Technical Services Agreement for Construction Management Services- Mr. Nygren reviewed the Technical Services Agreement for Construction Management Services for the McCaslin / Bowling recovery well project. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to execute and approve the construction management agreement with Zeiders Consulting for an amount not to exceed \$180,000. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – No report.
- b) James Groundwater Banking Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the CEQA process and reported the legal team is finalizing the response to comments of the DEIR.
- c) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
  - i. Water Charge Management Action Implementation – Mr. Taylor reviewed the proposed water charge rate calculation on a 5 year average vs a 20 year average.
  - ii. GSP Deficiency Resolution – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Kern County Subbasin SWRCB Technical Meeting No. 2 presentation with the Board.
  - iii. Consideration of Reimbursement Agreements for GSP Development – Mr. Bartel reviewed the scope of work and budget for the GSP development and ongoing subcommittee work. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Watts to authorize staff to execute reimbursement agreements for the GSP development and ongoing subcommittee work for the Kern County Subbasin for a total amount not to exceed \$1,178,000 to be split between the entities. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Watts

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on the last board meeting.
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Bartel briefed the board on flow testing efforts.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – No report.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) - No report.
- h) Kern Fan Authority – No report..
- i) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – Mr. Barel gave a brief update on the JOC claim received noting it is under \$15,000 and meets the requirements of the JOC.
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability – No report.
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Fish Friendly Diversion project.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report.
- 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 reported that Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD was a recipient of the 2023 Outreach Recognition award from ACWA.

#### **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

None.

#### **OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Barel reported the Wes Selvidge basin signs have been replaced and updated with the new logo. Ms. Misuraca reported staff hosted the BCHS Agriculture Biology class for a tour of the District.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 9:30 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 9:50 a.m. the Board reconvened to open session. At 10:26 Mr. Pierucci announced the Board would re-enter closed session. At 11:38 the Board reconvened to open session and Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.