

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
July 9, 2024
8:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Roy Pierucci, Jason Selvidge, Gary Unruh, Mitch Millwee

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Barry Watts (Listened telephonically-did not vote)

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff / Consultants – Dan Bartel, Trent Taylor, Zach Smith, Megan Misuraca, Dan Raytis, Markus Nygren, Rachelle Echeverria
Public – Robb Stewart, Sonia Lemus, Travis Millwee, Oscar Lopez, Franz Affentranger

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2024
- b) Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2024

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Millwee to approve both the Board of Directors regular meeting minutes of June 11, 2024, and special meeting minutes of June 18, 2024. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of June 30, 2024.
- b) Accounts Payable/ June 8, 2024 through July 3, 2024 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Millwee to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$3,502,976.47. The motion unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, and Millwee
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through June 30, 2024, including the budget vs. actual.
- d) Water Charge Update – Mr. Taylor reported that farming unit changes are open for submission and staff is working through them as they are received.

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 and reviewed the compiled list of various changes in groundwater levels throughout the District.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith reported on the District’s current recharge and recovery operations.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reported on maintenance efforts throughout the District.

WATER RESOURCES REPORT

- a) State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor gave a detailed report on current state water project operations, including a review of the 8-station index graph, reservoir conditions and updated the Board on the current limitations of the project due to regulations to protect certain fish species.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Delta Conveyance Project and upcoming decision points for further participation.
- c) Kern County Water Agency Board Meeting Update – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on recent Kern County Water Agency meetings.
- d) Consideration of Amendment to Unbalanced Water Exchange Agreement – Mr. Taylor reviewed Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement for a Water Exchange Between Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District and Antelope Valley East Kern Water District noting the amendment provides a 6-year term extension to 2029. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to approve and authorize staff to execute Amendment No. 1. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the status of Strategic Plan Goal #1 and briefed the Board on staff’s efforts to meet and collaborate with the District’s partners.
- b) Rosedale Recap – Ms. Echeverria presented the latest Rosedale Re-Cap to the Board and provided an overview of the subscription analytics.

ENGINEERS / PROJECTS REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch
 - i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the status of the Onyx Ranch operations and reported that the property is in full irrigation mode. Mr. Bartel noted that staff is currently installing insulation in the new shop building.
 - ii. FEMA Disaster Relief Application – Ms. Echeverria briefly updated the Board on the status of the FEMA funding.

b) Improvement Projects –

- i. Consideration of Pay Est. No. 5 for McCaslin/Bowling Recovery Project – Mr. Nygren reviewed Bakersfield Well and Pump’s Pay Estimate No. 5 with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Unruh to approve Pay Estimate No. 5 for \$39,208 with \$1,960.40 retention withheld. The motion was unanimously passed.
AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, and Millwee
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
- ii. Consideration of Technical Services Agreement Pipeline Inspection – Mr. Nygren reviewed the proposal for construction management services for the pipeline to tie the new wells into existing District conveyance. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Selvidge to approve and authorize staff to execute a technical services agreement with Zeiders Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$50,065. The motion unanimously passed.
AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, and Millwee
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
- iii. Report on Authorization to Issue Notice of Award- McCaslin/Bowling Pipeline Project- Mr. Bartel reminded the board that staff was given authorization to issue the notice of award on the McCaslin/Bowling Pipeline project at the June 11, 2024 board meeting. He reported that a public bid opening was held on June 13, 2024 with Nicholas Construction Inc being the lowest bidder at \$999,99.00 and a notice of award was issued on June 14, 204.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel reported staff is working on the feasibility study for a Water Smart Grant opportunity coming available fall 2024.
- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency -
 - i. Consideration of MOU with Kern Water Collaborative – Mr. Smith reviewed the MOU with the Board. A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Millwee to approve the Memorandum of Understanding Between Kern Water Collaborative and Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Kern Subbasin in substantial form and authorized staff to execute upon completion. The motion unanimously passed.
AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Millwee and Unruh
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority – Mr. Bartel reported the group is continuing to work on getting the Authority organized under its Amended and Restated JPA.
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – No report.

- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on recent meetings and noted a Request for Proposal was posted for the removal of sediment piles.
- 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) – No report.
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability – No report.
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority – No report.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the latest discussions around current legislature.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on the last Sites Reservoir Board meeting.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies – No report

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

No report.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Misuraca directed the Board to the letter received from FarmPAC acknowledging the District.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 9:25 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 10:00 a.m. the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:01 a.m. President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.