

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
August 13, 2024
8:00 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

District Staff / Consultants – Dan Bartel, Trent Taylor, Zach Smith, Megan Misuraca, Dan Raytis, Markus Nygren, Rachelle Echeverria
Public – Ken Campbell, 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 July 9, 2024

A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Millwee to approve the Board of Directors regular meeting minutes of July 9, 2024. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

a) Treasurer’s Report – Mr. Lukens of Arbitrage Management Group briefed the Board on the District’s investments with AMG and the projections of the investment market. Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of July 30, 2024.

b) Accounts Payable/ July 4, 2024 through August 8, 2024 — 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 \$1,133,828.81. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the current Revenue and Expenditures Report through July 31, 2024, including the budget vs. actual.

d) Water Charge Update – Mr. Taylor reported that staff is continuing to work on updating farming unit change requests.

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.
- d) Consideration of Declaration of Surplus Equipment (F450) – Mr. Smith reported that with the authorization and purchase of the new spray rig truck last month, the old Ford F550 will no longer be needed. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to deem the Ford F550 with VIN ending 17405 as surplus and authorize staff to sell the vehicle. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee 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, including a review of the 8-station index graph, reservoir conditions and updated the Board on the recent fire that threatened impacting Oroville Dam operations.
- 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.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the status of Strategic Plan Goal #2 and introduced staff’s suggested revision to align with the District’s most recent water deficit calculation. The Board discussed the revision and directed staff to continue to develop potential water sources available during certain hydrological conditions at a lower priority.
- b) Rosedale Recap – Ms. Echeverria reported the re-cap will be distributed the 2nd week of August and will contain information regarding the recent press release on SGMA.

ENGINEER’S / PROJECTS REPORT

- a) Onyx Ranch
 - i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the status of the Onyx Ranch operations and reported on the USGS verified flow rate.
 - ii. FEMA Disaster Relief Application – Ms. Echeverria briefly updated the Board on the status of the FEMA funding and staff’s efforts to provide additional documentation as requested.

- b) Improvement Projects –
 - i. Consideration of Pay Est. No. 6 for McCaslin/Bowling Recovery Project – Mr. Nygren reviewed Bakersfield Well and Pump’s Pay Estimate No. 6 with the Board. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to approve Pay Estimate No. 6 for \$325,88.00 with \$16,294.40 retention to be withheld. The motion was unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Watts and Millwee
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern River Intake Sand Sluice Project Update – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on a proposed plan by Meyers Civil Engineering to mitigate sand at the Kern River Intake. Staff will continue discussions and bring a proposal back to the Board for approval.
- d) Solar Project Update – Mr. Taylor updated the Board on the status of the solar project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the August 5, 2024 Board meeting.
 - i. Consideration of Cash Call – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the budget to actual as of June 30, 2024 and 1st and 2nd quarter FYE June 30, 2025 projected costs. A motion was made by Director Selvidge and seconded by Director Unruh to approve the District’s \$1.5 million portion of the \$3 million cash call for the Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority. The motion unanimously passed.
 - AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINED: None
- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the July 30, 2024 stakeholder meeting.
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority – Mr. Bartel reported on the formation of the group and reported Mr. Watts was appointed to the chair position.
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – No report.
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on recent meetings and noted that the sand removal process had started, and the Pioneer inlet project was completed.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel reviewed the August 8, 2024 agenda with the Board.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – Mr. Smith reported the budget sub-committee meeting would be August 29, 2024.
- 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 – Mr. Taylor reported the Fish Friendly Diversion publication is being released.

- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor reported the water rights hearings are beginning.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies – No report

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

No report.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Affentranger stated they had available rip-rap available if the District is interested.

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:25 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 11:01 a.m. the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:02 a.m. President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.