

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
September 16, 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 – John Gaugel, Vincent Sorena, Bryan Bone

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 August 13, 2024

A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Millwee to approve the Board of Directors regular meeting minutes of August 13, 2024. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

FINANCIAL REPORT

- a) Treasurer’s Report – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the treasurer’s report as of August 31, 2024.

- b) Accounts Payable/ August 10, 2024 through September 13, 2024 — Ms. Misuraca reviewed the accounts payable report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee and seconded by Director Selvidge to ratify and approve payment of the accounts payable in the total amount of \$5,984,253.63. 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 August 31, 2024, including the budget vs. actual.

- d) Consideration of FYE December 31, 2023 Audit and Financial Reporting – Ms. Misuraca reviewed the highlights of the BHK Accountancy Fiscal Year End December 31, 2023 Audit and Financial Report. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Watts to approve the Fiscal Year End December 31, 2023 Audit and Financial Report. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- e) 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 2023 Operations Report – Mr. Bartel reviewed the draft 2023 Operations Report with the Board. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to approve the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District 2023 Operations Report in substantially the form presented. 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 the letter regarding Fall X2 addressed to the Bureau of Reclamation and California Department of Water Resources.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Delta Conveyance Project and upcoming water rights hearings and Final EIR.
- c) Kern County Water Agency Board Meeting Update – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on recent Kern County Water Agency meeting.

MANAGER’S REPORT

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Mr. Taylor reviewed the status of Strategic Plan Goal #3 and the status on the development of a water charge to support SGMA implementation.
- b) Rosedale Recap – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the August 2024 Rosedale Recap and the analytics of the distribution.
- c) Consideration of Kern County Fair Water Awareness Campaign – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the Water Awareness Campaign. A motion was made by Director Watts with a second by Director Unruh to approve the support of the Water Awareness campaign as a Water Day Contributor in the amount of \$500. The motion unanimously passed.

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

NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None

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. Mr. Bartel also reported on the status of the new shop building.
 - 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. 7 for McCaslin/Bowling Recovery Project – Mr. Nygren reviewed Bakersfield Well and Pump’s Pay Estimate No. 7 with the Board. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Unruh to approve Pay Estimate No. 7 for \$166,565.50 with \$8,328.27 retention to be withheld. The motion was unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Watts and Millwee
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None
 - ii. Consideration of Technical Services- Dillard Survey – Mr. Nygren reported the Dillard property lines contain an error and a boundary survey needed to be completed to file with the County of Kern. A motion was made by Director Millwee with a second by Director Unruh to approve an additional \$6,600 for Pinnacle Engineering to complete the Boundary Survey for APN 104-292-09 and draft the Record of Survey and file with County of Kern. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh, Millwee and Watts
NOES: None
ABSTAINED: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on West Enos project status for Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority.
- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on workshops the subbasin has held with State Water Resources Control Board and the status on the submission of the 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Kern Subbasin.
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority – Mr. Bartel reviewed the August 26, 2024 KNDLA agenda with the Board.
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren reported the group would be meeting on September 18, 2024.

- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – Mr. Bartel reported that the sediment removal had been completed for a cost of approximately \$700,000 and briefed the Board on a proposed solution for a sand-sluicing system at the Kern River Intake.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel reviewed the email sent to the Kern County Water Agency regarding the proposed Basin 11 Turnouts improvements and requested retroactive fees upon the execution of the Joint Use Agreement.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – Mr. Smith reported the 2025 budget and a \$3/acre fee was adopted.
- 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 project has obtained a location for the Fish Friendly Diversion demonstration project.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – No report.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor reported on the latest water rights hearings and reviewed the August 16, 2024 Board Meeting Agenda with the Board.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies – No report

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

No report.

OLD OR NEW BUSINESS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the correspondence sent to the Federal Railroad Administration in support of the replacement of 2 street crossings of the BNSF Railway at Cherry Ave and Renfro Road. Ms. Misuraca directed the Board to a request from C.J. Brown and Company’s request to be placed on the audit RFP list.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CLOSED SESSION

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 9:42 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 11:35 a.m. the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:35 a.m. President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.