

BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ROSEDALE-RIO BRAVO WATER STORAGE DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING  
May 20, 2025  
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, Megan Misuraca, Zach Smith, Dan Raytis & Rachelle Echeverria

Public – Vincent Sorena, John Gaugel & Steve Jackson

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2025

A motion was made by Director Unruh with a second by Director Selvidge to approve the Board of Directors' April 8, 2025 regular meeting minutes. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

a) Treasurer's Report – Ms. Misuraca reported that staff has initiated the audit process for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. Following continued research into alternative GASB 75 reporting methods for Other Post-Employment Benefits, the team will proceed with a more cost-effective approach, resulting in an estimated savings of approximately \$12,000. Ms. Misuraca also presented the treasurer's report as of April 30, 2025, to the Board, highlighting significant payments.

b) Accounts Payable/ April 5, 2025 through May 16, 2025 — 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 \$697,090.24. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- c) Revenue and Expenditures Report – Ms. Misuraca presented the Revenue and Expenditures Report, comparing budgeted figures to actuals through April 30, 2025. She noted April assessment income is reflected in the report in addition to 96% of budgeted water charge income that was received in April.
- d) Water Charge Update – Mr. Taylor reported that water charge invoices were mailed via certified mail on April 14, 2025.
  - a. Consideration of Appeal to Water Charge Invoice – The Board opened the floor to anyone who desired to speak on the appeal; no comments were received. Mr. Taylor provided the Board with various documents and information related to the appeal from a water charge invoice filed on behalf of landowner Texas Municipal Plans Consortium. The Board discussed the details of the appeal and the farming activities conducted on the property during calendar year 2024. It was the Board’s opinion that the water use information submitted in support of the appeal was unreasonable. A motion was made by Director Selvidge with a second by Director Unruh to deny the appeal and to authorize staff to inform the landowner of the denial. The motion unanimously passed.  
 AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAINED: None
  - b. Consideration of Delinquencies – The Board considered the status of various delinquencies. No action was taken.

#### **OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

- a) District Groundwater Levels – Mr. Nygren presented groundwater levels in relation to the District’s minimum thresholds under SGMA, noting that the graphs have been updated to reflect the new Minimum Thresholds and Measurable Objectives based on the Kern Subbasin’s revised plan calculation method.
- b) Operations Report – Mr. Smith provided an update on the District’s water supplies and recharge and recovery operations.
- c) Maintenance Report – Mr. Smith reported on maintenance efforts throughout the District including mowing, weed control and reported staff has issued encroachment permits for the removal of sand piles from the East Allen Ponds and Wes Selvidge Basins.
- d) Consideration of Purchase of Mower Deck – Mr. Smith reported that staff has been renting a mower deck and a skid steer loader to support maintenance efforts throughout the district. After reviewing the associated rental costs, it was determined that purchasing a mower deck would be more cost-effective than continuing to rent one. However, the ongoing maintenance costs of a skid steer loader make purchasing one less practical. In accordance with the Board’s direction to forgo the purchase of a flail mower and instead pursue a rotary mower deck, a motion was made to authorize staff to purchase a rotary mower deck with a budget not to exceed \$7,000. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Milwee

#### **WATER RESOURCES REPORT**

- a) State Water Project Operations – Mr. Taylor provided a detailed report on current State Water Project operations, including an analysis of the 8-station index graph and reservoir conditions and snow water content reports.
- b) California Delta Conveyance Project – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on the Delta Conveyance Project schedule and ongoing funding discussions, noting that the Newsom administration has verbally indicated its intent to fast-track the project.
- c) Kern County Water Agency Board Meeting Update – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on the recent Kern County Water Agency meeting.

#### **MANAGER’S REPORT**

- a) Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Echeverria provided a brief update on staff’s efforts toward Goal #5, ensuring that key responsibilities within the agency are sustainable and efficient.
- b) Rosedale Recap – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the April 2025 Rosedale-Recap that was sent out highlighting the section announcing Kern Subbasin Community Outreach Events. Mr. Bartel provided a brief report on the Shafter Outreach event that Rosedale staff attended.
- c) Consideration of Technical Services CEQA McCaslin Groundwater Recharge Project – Ms. Echeverria reviewed the Rincon proposal for the CEQA Addendum to the Stockdale Integrated project and the Tom Harder proposal to complete the groundwater impact analysis for the McCaslin North project. A motion was made by Director Millwee, seconded by Director Selvidge, to approve an amendment to the Rincon contract, adding \$6,578 for technical services related to the CEQA Addendum (revising the total contract amount to \$124,154), and to approve the Tom Harder proposal in the amount of \$45,380 to complete the groundwater analysis for the McCaslin North Project. The motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

#### **ENGINEER’S / PROJECTS REPORT**

- a) Onyx Ranch
  - i. Operations Report – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on Onyx Ranch operations and reported project flows over the last month.
- b) Improvement Projects – Mr. Nygren briefed the Board on the status of improvement projects throughout the district and design efforts for upcoming improvements. Mr. Nygren also reported staff is expecting to apply for additional WaterSmart Grant opportunities.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a) Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority – Mr. Bartel briefed the Board on the last board meeting reporting the FYE June 30, 2026 budget was approved for \$4,713,248 and the bid opening for the West Enos and Stockdale North equipping project resulted in the Board’s approval of the low bid from Bakersfield Well and Pump in the amount of \$5,622,221.

- b) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act / Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District Groundwater Sustainability Agency –
- i. 2025 GSP Amendment– Mr. Bartel highlighted the changes made in the 2025 GSP amendment and reported on the latest Subbasin coordination efforts.
  - ii. Consistency of Development Project with Groundwater Sustainability Plan Letter – Mr. Taylor reviewed the proposed Consistency of Development Project with Groundwater Sustainability Plan with the Board.
  - iii. Consideration of Land IQ Proposal – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Land IQ proposal with the Board. A motion was made by Director Selvidge and a second by Director Unruh to approve the District’s participation of \$20k per year with an additional \$20k for field level data for a total cost of \$40k. The motion unanimously passed.  
 AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAINED: None
- c) Kern Non-Districted Lands Joint Power Authority – Mr. Bartel reported on the latest Kern Non-Districted Land Authority efforts.
- d) Kern Fan Monitoring Committee – Mr. Nygren reported on the latest Board meeting.
- e) Cross Valley Canal Advisory Committee – No report.
- f) Pioneer Project Committee – Mr. Bartel reviewed the Pioneer Project presentation with the Board and reported the Pioneer Project Plan amendment is in the works.
- g) Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority (KRWCA) – No report.
- h) Kern Fan Authority – Mr. Bartel reported briefly on the group’s discussion on the Pioneer Project Plan amendment.
- i) Joint Operating Committee (JOC) – No report.
- j) Committee for Delta Reliability – Mr. Taylor reviewed the agenda with the Board.
- k) South Valley Water Resources Authority – Mr. Taylor briefed the Board on Fish Friendly Diversion projects status reporting the pilot project is set to begin construction in the summer of 2025 with operations beginning in the fall of 2025.
- l) Valley Ag Water Coalition – Mr. Taylor gave a brief report on various bills before the legislature. Mr. Raytis described the local input on the County Board of Supervisors’ consideration of whether or not to support AB 1413 and 1466. Mr. Raytis reported that a motion to the Board of Supervisors to support the bills died for lack of a second.
- m) Kern Integrated Regional Water Management Plan – No report.
- n) Sites Reservoir Project – Mr. Taylor reported that staff is reviewing the recently release benefit analysis.
- o) Association of California Water Agencies –
- i. Consideration of Nomination for ACWA Region 7 Committee – Resolution 549 – A motion was made by Director Unruh and seconded by Director Millwee to adopt Resolution 549 – Nominating Trent Taylor as a Member of the Association of California Water Agencies Region 7 Board Member. A roll call vote was taken and the motion unanimously passed.

AYES: Directors Pierucci, Selvidge, Unruh and Millwee

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

- ii. Conference Update – Mr. Bartel gave a brief report on the Spring 2025 ACWA Conference and various meetings with banking partners.

**ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

None.

**OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Misuraca pointed the Board to the offers received from Agape Land for various District parcels.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**CLOSED SESSION**

During the meeting, the Board met in closed session, as follows: At 10:35 a.m. President Pierucci announced the Board would meet in closed session. At 12:10 p.m. the Board reconvened to open session. Mr. Raytis reported that the Board did not take any reportable action during the closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:15 p.m. President Pierucci adjourned the meeting.