

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

SACRAMENTO RIVER WEST SIDE LEVEE DISTRICT

Minutes of the Joint Annual Meeting

February 23, 2017

President Durst called the RD108 Annual Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at the Grimes Scout Cabin, Grimes, Colusa County, California.

Trustees/Commissioners Present: Fritz Durst, Roger Cornwell, Sean Doherty, Jon Leonard, Hilary Reinhard, Tom Ellis

Trustees Absent:

Others Present:	Lewis Bair, General Manager	Jordon Navarrot, Staff
	Meegan Nagy, Deputy Manager	Justin Correa, Staff
	Bill Vanderwaal, Deputy Manager	Barry O'Regan, Consultant
	Gary Marler, Superintendent	Elizabeth Avelar, KSN
	Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary	(29 Landowners/Water Users
	Steve Beckley, Public Relations	see attached)

Reclamation District No. 108

President Durst opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. He introduced Mr. Jordon Navarrot who is in charge of the Water Measurement Program.

1. Field level Water Measurement Program and Access Options – Mr. Jordon Navarrot reported on the Water Measurement Program. During 2016, every field was measured every five days and attained a high level of accuracy. Mr. Navarrot reviewed the water report that is part of the invoice and stressed the importance that Water Users work closely with District Watermen on water changes to maintain accuracy. Mr. Navarrot then reviewed the Remote Tracker Program step by step that allows Water Users to review water use on a real-time basis. If you have not already signed up for the Remote Tracker, please contact Cathy in the District office. Manager Bair reported that the Measurement Program fulfills the State's SBX7 measurement requirement.

2. Activities Related to District Surface Water Supplies – Manager Bair reported on a few of the Water Rights challenges that are currently facing the District. The CalWaterFix, which is the proposed water tunnels. The Sacramento Valley has worked together to review the Project proposal. A protest was submitted when they requested that the point of diversion be changed from South of the Delta to North of the Delta. We also have a lot of concern on how the tunnels would be operated especially since the environmental documents do not match allowable operation.

Manager Bair also reviewed the status of the State Water Resources Control Board's process to update the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan which sets tributary flow and Delta outflow requirements. This process started in the San Joaquin Valley where unimpaired flows are currently proposed to be set at 40 percent of what the assumed normal runoff would be from December through June. This is estimated to result in about 200,000 new fallowed acres in dry years. The State Board is now in the process of making recommendations for the Sacramento Valley and the proposed Plan looks very similar to the San Joaquin Valley concept. Manager Bair stated that he felt this process was the biggest threat to our water supply, the economy and the environment in the Sacramento Valley at this time. As an alternative, Governor Brown has hired former Department of Interior Secretary Babbit to work with an alternative solution that would achieve the environmental objectives without reduced tradeoffs.

Manager Bair reported on the Salmon Action Plan. He reviewed the current projects being done by Settlement Contractors and how they benefit fish and our environment.

3. Alternative Water Supplies – Deputy Manager Vanderwaal gave an update on the SGMA process in both Yolo and Colusa County. The deadline for having the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) setup is June 30, 2017, with the Plan completed by January 31, 2022 and the groundwater basin must be in a sustainable state by 2042. The GSA will be required to file a status report to Department of Water Resources (DWR) every five years. RD108 falls in both Yolo and Colusa County. Yolo County proposes to form a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) with one vote per agency and all participants providing funding. Colusa County is preparing a Memorandum of Agreement just in case the more detailed JPA is not complete by the June 30 date. They propose one vote per seat with funding discussions in process. The estimated cost of the first two years of the process is about \$450,000 for each County. The estimated cost to RD108 will be about \$1 per acre for the initial two years. President Durst reported that the District was working on a groundwater in lieu water recharge program with Dunnigan and Colusa County Water Districts. This water transfer will save the District the cost of water not used and will help the neighboring water districts reduce groundwater use.

Deputy Manager Vanderwaal reported on the Sites Reservoir Project. The cost to build Sites is estimated to be \$4.6 billion, with proposed State Proposition 1 funding of up to 50%. He reviewed the list of investors and their commitment of water. RD108 currently has paid a cost share which reserves 20,000 acre-feet from the Project. At some point, District Landowners, will be asked to vote on this or an adjusted commitment. In preparation of this decision, the District is preparing an analysis of the costs associated with fallowing, using groundwater or using water from Sites as

well as possible combinations. Mr. Vanderwaal asked that any Landowner that would like to participate on this study to contact him.

President Durst thanked the Landowners and Water Users for attending the meeting and turned the meeting over to President Ellis of the Sacramento River West Side Levee District at 11:20 a.m.

Sacramento River West Side Levee District

President Ellis opened the meeting and welcomed attendees. He reported that the Tisdale Weir is flowing. He noted District concerns about the performance of our local weirs and bypasses emphasizing how important they are to the system performance. RD108 provided a flood fighting training for landowners in the District and it is hoped that this will be an annual training. As part of the training, training films were used to make a quick lesson on how to flood fight. The films were all completed under a Regional Flood Planning Grant. Please check RD108's web page for a link to the training films.

1. Summary of Flood Season Operations – Superintendent Marler reported that the District has been on levee patrol since the first of January for a total of 44 days and counting. The District patrols from the Colusa bridge to Knights Landing which is an eight-hour roundtrip. Superintendent Marler thanked the volunteers that went through the flood fighting training. He also asked Landowners and Water Users to contact the District if they have any concerns about conditions of the levee.

Deputy Manager Nagy reported that both the State and Yolo County has declared a flood emergency and the District has been submitting cost for possible reimbursement through the State or possibly PL84-99 funds that the District would be eligible for since we completed a SWIF.

2. Summary of Draft Central Valley Flood Plan 2017 Updates – Deputy Manager Nagy gave an update on the draft 2017 Central Valley Flood Plan Update. One concern is that the Plan includes ideas for new funding sources for system repairs since bond money is running out. The District is currently tracking this process closely.

3. Flood Protection Improvements – Deputy Manager Nagy reported that the State did an inventory of levees in the valley and identified areas that were either serious or critical. One critical site is Missouri Bend about 5 miles upstream of Knights Landing. Of those sites, DWR asked if

the districts would be willing to enter into a cost-share agreement for repairs. The local cost share would be 15 percent.

The District has been supporting Colusa County on the Small Communities Program which would include Colusa, Grimes and Princeton. The Program looks for ways to provide 100-year flood protections for small communities. DWR should be awarding \$500,000 grants for feasibility studies for selected applicants this Spring, if selected the studies will be fully funded.

Ms. Nagy reported that Colusa County has not been mapped by FEMA, but it is coming. There is an effort to find solutions for agriculture structures in the floodplain. The District is also working with the Feather River Group on a Management Plan for the Sutter Bypass.

4. Open Discussion on Flood Issues – Ms. Elizabeth Avelar, KSN Engineering, gave a report on the Mid-Upper Sacramento River Regional Flood Response Program (Response Program). The Response Program is a six-county effort for a total cost of \$1.2 million to improve flood preparedness through regionally and integrated flood emergency response plans, unified flood fight commands and a training program, most of which was used during the January/February storms. Currently RD108 staff is outfitting containers with flood fighting supplies that will be issued to the participating flood fight agencies in our region.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the Boards, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lewis Bair
Manager