

# RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Trustees

December 15, 2016

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

**Trustees Present:** Fritz Durst, Jon Leonard, Sean Doherty and Hilary Reinhard

**Trustees Absent:** Roger Cornwell

<b>Others Present:</b>	Lewis Bair, General Manager	Hal Charter, CCWD
	Gary Marler, Superintendent	John Louden, Colusa Supervisor
	Chad Navarrot, Asst. Superintendent	Knute Meyers, CCWD
	Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary	Blair Voelz, DWD, Landowner
	Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper	Jim Mumma, Landowner
	Kevin O'Brien, Legal Counsel	Deke Dormer, Landowner
	Steve Beckley, Public Relations	Jon Segale, Public Relations

**Agenda** – It was moved by Trustee Reinhard to approve the Agenda as submitted. Trustee Leonard seconded. Vote: Approved 4 - 0.

### Open Forum

President Durst welcomed the public to the meeting. He reported on current issues facing Northern California Agriculture and the need for a strong united message to the State Water Resource Board. If we cannot all work together on issues such as SGMA and Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan the State will step in. It is very important that Northern California Agriculture get it's positive message out so that people understand what's happening on the ground.

Manager Bair reported on the State Water Resource Control Board and the Water Quality Control Plan (Plan). The Phase I of the Plan was the San Joaquin Valley. They are now looking to start Phase II, the Sacramento Valley. Phase III will include a process to assign responsibility if any "new" water is required by the Plan. The recently released Sacramento Valley Scientific Basis Report issued by State Board staff focuses on requiring 35-75% unimpaired flows for the Sacramento River from November through June of each year. This could mean massive water supply reductions. The Governor has already put together a team from his Natural Resources Department focused on developing a more comprehensive solution. There has to be one strong voice in dealing with the State Board. He reported that NCWA is working with the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to help get fish friendly habitat projects completed that will

address more comprehensive groups of stressors affecting the fisheries. NCWA wants to focus on a plan of implementation for the whole fish cycle.

Manager Bair gave a status report on SGMA. The District falls into both Yolo County and Colusa County groundwater basins. He described each County's Plan and stressed the importance that the District retain the right to be its own Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) should these planning efforts fail. Time is getting short since the GSA's have to be submitted by July 2017.

Manager Bair gave an overview of the proposed Fish Food Project and said that they were looking for volunteers for a total of 10,000 acres of rice ground. Monitoring shows that water in rice fields contain 150 times more fish food than the Sacramento River.

Manager Bair distributed a summary of the costs for an alternative office facility. He asked if any landowner had any comments before the Board takes action later in the meeting. There were no comments.

The Public Forum ended at 9:45 a.m.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

**Public Participation:** There were no further comments from the Public at this time.

**Consent Agenda** – It was moved by Trustee Doherty to approve the consent agenda, including the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on November 17 and Special Meeting December 2, 2016 as submitted. Trustee Leonard seconded. Vote: Approved 4 - 0.

**Accounts Payable** – It was moved by Trustee Leonard to approve the accounts payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$2,230,874, including a Wallace Weir project progress payment of \$1,748,104; and on-line payments issued in November to be ratified in the amount of \$577,446, including a Wallace Weir Mitigation payment of \$470,500; and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$526,298 and payments in November to be ratified in the amount of \$6,178 Trustee Doherty seconded. Vote: Approved 4 – 0.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. **Operations Report** –Superintendent Marler reported on District-wide operations. The No. 1 pump at Lateral 8 Pumping Plant had been making excessive noise and was pulled and inspected and reinstalled when no issues were found with the pump. The sump was further investigated and found to have significant sedimentation which was then removed. Mr. Marler reported that levee patrol will start tomorrow. Levee Patrol starts at River elevation of 47.6 feet for 12 hours per day and at 51.0 feet for 24-hours per day.

2. **Hearing to Review and Adopt the Proposed Water Management Plan** – President Durst opened the meeting up at 9:45 a.m. There was no public comment. The Hearing was closed at 9:53 a.m. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 16-12 in the matter of Adopting Reclamation District No. 108’s Agricultural Water Management Plan. Trustee Leonard seconded: Passed 4 – 0. RESOLUTION NO. 16-12 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

3. **Water Operations** – Manager Bair distributed copies of the flood forecast. He said that the River level is predicted to reach over 50 feet at Wilkins Slough.

Manager Bair gave an update on the SGMA process with both Yolo and Colusa Counties. It was his recommendation that the District work with both Yolo and Colusa County on SGMA governance with the intent to form a single GSA. The hope was that a single GSA would reduce governance and costs to landowners. The Board agreed as long as legal counsel was comfortable that District GSA authority would be preserved if the single GSA direction failed to materialize. It was moved by Trustee Doherty to proceed with Yolo County with a joint GSA provided it has language that allows the District to exit and form its own GSA at any time if it so chooses. Trustee Leonard seconded. Passed 4 – 0. It was further moved by Trustee Doherty to proceed with Colusa County with a joint GSA provided it has language that allows the District to exit and form its own GSA at any time if it so chooses.

4. **Projects** –

- **KLOG** – The District went into Closed Session with Legal Counsel at 10:40 a.m. regarding significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 54956. The Board came out of Closed Session at 10:50 a.m. and President Durst announced that no action was taken.
- **Wallace Weir** – Manager reported that the storm waters overwhelmed the Project Site one week before the Project was completed. Significant numbers of adult salmon immediately started jumping over the structure and made their way into the

Colusa Basin Drain once water starting flowing without the barrier in place. The Project will now be completed once waters recedes in 2017.

- **Mid-Upper Sacramento Flood Emergency Response Program** – Manager Bair reported that the Project was now in Phase II. Deployable flood fight containers are being purchased and stocked with flood fight tools and supplies in preparation of a flood event. Both the District and SRWSLD will receive a container. The costs of the containers and supplies will be paid by the State through the grant.

**5. District Management Staffing** – Manager Bair announced that Meegan Nagy and Bill Vanderwaal have been hired as Deputy General Manager's for the District replacing and augmenting the previous Assistant Manager duties. Meegan will work a 65% work week. She has significant flood control experience and will be taking the District lead on flood control issues. Bill Vanderwaal has a background including the private sector and US Bureau of Reclamation. He will be full time and will take be the District lead with SGMA, Sites and other water supply issues.

**6. 2017 Preliminary Budgets** – Manager Bair reviewed the draft 2017 Irrigation Budget. He said that the Finance Committee reviewed the income over expenses and recommended that the District use reserves to cover the deficit balance. The deficit is primarily driven by dramatic increases to Project Water costs as a result of the drought. The 2017 Irrigation Budget will require \$750,000 to balance the budget. This budget assumes that there will not be any water transfers in 2017.

Manager Bair reviewed the 2017 Preliminary Project Budget. He reviewed the income and expense of each Project. There was discussion regarding the Water Measurement Project. This Project has been completed and it was recommended that costs be moved to the Maintenance Fund Budget. Water Measurement Project Income should be changed to Meter Rental Income.

Manager Bair reviewed the 2017 Maintenance Fund Budget. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty to adopt the Preliminary Irrigation Fund, Project and Maintenance Budgets with the suggested amendments.

The Board reviewed the 2016 Budget to actual costs and the following amendments were recommended: Membership & Fees to \$190,000; Shop Tools & Supplies to \$47,000; Back Levee Maintenance to \$170,000; Tract 6 Farms to \$330,000; KLOG to \$245,000; Supplemental Groundwater Wells; and Wallace Weir to \$8.5 million. After further discussion, it was moved by

Trustee Leonard to approved the recommendations to amend the 2016 as listed above. Trustee Doherty seconded. Passed 4 – 0.

**7. Office Remodel** – The Board reviewed the Office remodel options which considered the possibility of moving the administration portion of the office to Knights Landing. It was the consensus of the Board to remodel the existing office facility and not relocate. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty to move forward with the office remodel at the existing locations. Trustee Leonard seconded. Passed 4 – 0.

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

**NCWA Report** – President Durst reported on current NCWA leadership. Mr. David Guy is very engaged with the Water Quality Plan.

**Sites JPA** – President Durst gave a status report of the Sites Project. He said that the Reservoir Committee (Water Buyers) will be meeting tomorrow. The JPA is trying to have the Proposition 1 application submitted by mid-June.

**Communications Consultant** – Mr. John Segale reported on the tour for the LA Times reporter. He said that the tour was received well. He reported that he has several other writers that would like to come out to the District.

**Manager's Report** – Manager Bair asked the Board if they would like to hold an annual Landowner/Water User meeting. It was the consensus of the Board to hold an Annual Landowner/Water User meeting on February 23 at 10:00 a.m.

**Attorney's Report** – The Board went into Closed Session with Legal Counsel at 12:10 p.m. regarding one personnel issue pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 54956. The Board came out of Closed Session at 12:23 p.m. and President Durst announced that the Board increased the General Manager's salary by 3 percent and awarded him a performance bonus.

The Board recessed at 12:25 p.m. for lunch.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lewis Bair  
Manager