

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Trustees

May 19, 2016

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 19, 2016 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

Trustees Present: Fritz Durst, Jon Leonard, Roger Cornwell and Sean Doherty

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present:	Lewis Bair, General Manager	Deke Dormer, Landowner
	Kevin O'Brien, Legal Counsel	Cameron Kaelin, Landowner
	Chad Navarrot, Operations Manager	Gardner Armstrong, Landowner
	Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary	Blair Volez, Landowner
	Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper	Hilary Reinhard, Landowner
	John Segale, Public Relations	Rob Meyer, Landowner Rep.

Agenda – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Open Forum

President Durst welcomed the public to the meeting. Manager Bair reported on the proposed operation of Shasta Dam. NMFS is seeking to hold more water behind the dam for temperature control for the Salmon run, while US Fish and Wildlife Service is seeking additional delta outflow for the Delta smelt. He explained the potential these regulatory actions could have on District diversions. Manager Bair reported that the Sac River Contractors are assembling a team of fishery experts to better understand what can be done to help fish and minimize impacts to water supplies.

Manager Bair gave a brief report on the on-going election process to fill the seat left vacant by Trustee Miller. Both nominees gave a brief report on their backgrounds.

The Public Forum ended at 9:30 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION

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

Consent Agenda – After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to approve the consent agenda, including the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on April 21, 2016 with one correction, and the May Financials for both Maintenance and Irrigation Funds as presented.

Accounts Payable – After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to approve the accounts payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$503,034 and on-line payments issued in April and May to be ratified in the amount of \$30,481 and payments issued in April in May to be ratified in the amount of \$48,044; and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$32,009 and payments in May to be ratified in the amount of \$4,708.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Operations Report** – Operations Manager Navarrot reported that the irrigation season is going smoothly. Staff is currently disking the firebreak along the back levee and Sister District levees in preparation of burning the levees. The River gates at Rough & Ready Pumping Plant have not come in yet. Because of the time taking to get the gates, this project could be held over to next year.

2. **Water Measurement Meter Policy** – Manager Bair reviewed the proposed amended Meter Policy. It was recommended that if there is a disagreement with the Superintendent regarding non-compliance or estimated delivery volumes, the appeal will go to the General Manager and if it is not resolved there, it will go before the full Board. Once the issue has been resolved, the Water User will have 30 days to make payment or a 5 percent penalty and one-percent monthly interest will be charged. Should there be an issue with meter installation non-compliance, the Water User will be given 90 days to correct the meter installation to District standards or the Water User/Landowner will be billed \$10 per acre, per month, for the ground being serviced by that meter with Board description to eliminate water deliveries. It was the consensus of the Board for staff to amend the Meter Policy for the June Board meeting.

3. **Knights Landing Outfall Gate Project** – Manager Bair reported that was an unanticipated migration of carp from the Colusa Basin Drain through the KLOG facility. A facility operation meeting has been setup that will help to define actions to take during future unforeseen circumstances. Manager Bair reported that the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors will take action soon to support \$100,000 of the District's KLOG out of pocket costs.

4. Wallace Weir Project – Manager Bair gave a status report on the Wallace Weir Project. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 16-07 in the matter of recognizing public comments, finding no significant project impacts and adopting the mitigated negative declaration and the mitigation and monitoring plan. It was further moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 16-08 in the matter of authorizing the Manager to proceed with the Project and delegating authority to award the contracts to do so, not exceeding DWR funding.

5. Alternative Water Supply Report – Manager Bair recommended the Board prepare a Alternative Water Supply study at an estimated cost of \$40,000 to inform landowners of costs to replace potential future water supply shortages. The Study would provide an example water shortage and the costs to replace the shortage with fallowing, groundwater, additional surface water or a combination. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to authorize Manager Bair to move forward with the Alternative Water Supply Report. Manager Bair was also directed to reach out to landowners that had shown an interest in the subject.

6. Office Remodel – Manager Bair reviewed the proposed plans for the office remodel which was laid out using string in the location of proposed construction. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to approve the submitted office plans with one change in the roof pitch on the south side of the building. It was further moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell to adopt and file the Notice of Exemption for the office remodel.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 11:05 a.m. to conference with legal counsel regarding three anticipated litigations (Water Fix Comments, Settlement Contracts and El Dorado Pumping Plant) pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 54956.9. The Board came out of Closed Session at 11:25 a.m. and President Durst announced that no action was taken.

INFORMATION REPORTS

NCWA Report – Trustee Cornwell gave a report of current activities of NCWA. Issues that NCWA continues to work on include the Salmon Program, Cal Water Fix, State Board issues and Communications.

Sites JPA – President Durst gave a status report of the Sites JPA. He said that the JPA is seeking to have district approve the Sites Project Agreement. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to approve the Sites Project Agreement. President Durst reported that the State Water Contractors are anticipated to express interest in a substantial portion of the remaining water available from Sites Reservoir. President Durst reported on his attendance on a trip to WDC to seek support for Sites. Sites JPA is also seeking low interest RIFIA funding from the federal government which is very similar to what is provided for transportation projects.

Communications Consultant – Mr. John Segale gave a report of current communications efforts on behalf of the District.

Manager's Report – President Durst left the meeting prior to this discussion due to a possible conflict of interest. Manager Bair reported that the District was notified by Bank of America that they no longer wanted the District's accounts, due to new regulations that require a much higher reserve for public funds held by the banks. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to follow staff recommendations to move both Bank of America and Wells Fargo Bank Accounts to River City Bank.

Manager Bair reported on the progress of hiring a new Superintendent. He hopes to have the new position filled early July.

Manager Bair reviewed the Prop 1 project that would create food for fish that would be pumped back into the River. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to resubmit the Prop 1 Project that would create fish food to be pumped back into the Sacramento River.

Manager Bair reviewed the power costs for the District in comparison to what the costs would be with PG&E. The District is currently saving approximately \$41,000 per year.

RECESS

At 12:15 p.m. the meeting recessed for lunch. Those present at the meeting were invited to join the Board for lunch. The meeting reconvened at approximately 12:39 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lewis Bair
Manager