

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Special Landowner/Water User Meeting

December 8, 2015

President Durst called the Annual Landowner/Water User meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

Trustees Present: Fritz Durst, Roger Cornwell, Michael Miller and Jon Leonard

Trustees Absent: Sean Doherty

Others Present: Lewis Bair, General Manager
Bryan Busch, Assistant Manager
Chad Navarrot, Operations Manager
15 Landowners/Water Users (See Attached List)

President Durst opened the meeting with introductions and welcomed the Landowners and Water Users.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Water Measurement Program – Manager Bair reviewed the current status of the Water Measurement Program. During 2014 the District measured about 50 percent of the District and in 2015 the entire District to test the District measurement system.

Manager Bair introduced Mr. Brandon Ertis, David's Engineering. Mr. Ertis gave a presentation on the Water Measurement Program, beginning with the State legislation, SBX7-7, that requires the District to bill Water Users in part by volumetric. He reviewed how data is collected, the 2015 data and reviewed sample Water User invoices based on this data. The District collected data from 431 measurement box facilities and 90 meters for a total of 10,400 measurements throughout the irrigation season.

Mr. Ertis reviewed the proposed water rate structure. One third of the water rate is based on acreage, same for all crops; one third of the water rate is based on the estimated applied water rate (Est AW) specific to crop; and one third of the water rate is based on the actual volume delivered to the field. Sample invoices were distributed to Water Users for their review and comments. There was discussion regarding how the invoicing should be done, single invoice, two

installments or three installments. It was the consensus of the Landowners and Water Users that the District bill the water in three installments: 1) bill for total acreage; 2) bill for estimated applied water rate (Est AW); and 3) bill for volumetric.

Manager Bair reviewed the Proposition 218 process. The District will be sending out a memo that explains what the rate increase is and why the increase is being made. The District will then hold a hearing where each Landowner has an opportunity to protest the adoption of the proposed rate structure. If a majority of landowners protest the proposed rate the new rate cannot be adopted. Manager Bair asked Landowners if they would have an interest of being able access real time water data and if so, would they be willing to pay the cost, about \$0.40 per acre. The Board will further discuss the Water Measurement program and take action at the December Board meeting.

2016 Water Supply Outlook – Manager Bair reviewed the Shasta Reservoir data, showing dry and wet years compared to where we are at this time. He reported that the SWRCB is proposing to set a minimum Shasta Reservoir storage of 1.6 million acre-feet on Oct 1, 2016. If 2016 continues to be a dry year, this could have significant impact on how the California Water system is operated and it is simply too early to issue this sort of mandate.

Manager Bair reported on the groundwater conditions, surface water storage and projected rainfall trends. Generally, it was shaping up as one of the toughest years for water supply considering the very conservative approach of fishery agencies in light of the last two years of winter run salmon juveniles.

With the forecasted rainfall it may allow additional decomp water within the next week for Water Users still interested in flooding their field. If interested, please contact Bryan Busch, since this will be a very short window since the District closes for the Holidays. The Board has authorized the Decomp Water rate to be cut by 50 percent if we can divert gravity water.

Manager Bair reviewed some of the concerns related to water diversions for 2016. He said that he was told that there will be no compromise on the River temperature for the fish, and that the Delta Smelt will require more water to flow through the system. He said that he will be attending a meeting tomorrow with the Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and the fishery agencies to initiate operations planning for 2016.

Manager Bair reported on upcoming statewide water challenges and the potential for a State-wide water solution for 2016. These would include the Cal Water Fix (BDCP), Bay Delta

Water Quality Control Plan, Central Valley Project and State Water Project Operations and Settlement Contractor litigation. He encouraged all Landowners and Water Users to get involved in these issues. President Durst suggested that useful water information links be added to the District's webpage for Landowner/Water User convenience.

RD108 Office Remodel – Manager Bair reported that the District is considering remodeling of the office to include a Boardroom where the parking structure is at an estimated cost of \$400,000. The Board is seeking comments from Landowners before taking action on this matter.

President Durst reported that the Board is looking to hire a Public Relations consultant to get the District's story out to the Public.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lewis Bair
Secretary/Manager