

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Trustees

April 21, 2016

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 21, 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

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| Others Present: | Lewis Bair, General Manager | Steve Beckley, Consultant |
| | Bryan Busch, Assistant Manager | Kevin O'Brien, Legal Counsel |
| | Chad Navarrot, Operations Manager | Larry Mandelburg, Consultant |
| | Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary | John Segale, Public Relations |
| | 13 members of Public (List Attached) | Steve Beckley, Pubic Relations |

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

Open Forum

President Durst welcomed the public to the meeting. Manager Bair reported that the District received two nominating petitions, Hilary Armstrong Reinhart and Rob Meyer, for the one open seat on the Board. There will be an all-mail-in election, held on June 14.

Manager Bair reported that the Board was in the process of assessing the management team of the District. Mr. Larry Mandelberg was contacted to help the Board review the positions of general manager, assistant manager and superintendent and to help determine if another position is needed. Mr. Mandelberg reviewed a chart illustrating the current responsibilities of the three management personnel at the District and highlighted that both Manager Bair and Superintendent Navarrot were taking on more than 1.5 positions worth of estimated workload. Should the Board choose to bring on a new position, Superintendent Navarrot would take on the position of assistant superintendent position focusing on implementing District field work and heading up the District SCADA repair/maintenance. The Board is seeking Landowners and Water Users comments and participation in this evaluation process.

Manager Bair reviewed the proposed Water Measurement Meter Policy. He said that all field level water deliveries would go through a District measurement box or meter. Pre-existing meters that met District standards will be turned over to the District and replaced as needed at District

expense. This process will result in all meters complying with the District standard. The Policy will also include a rental program. The initial meter rental cost will be \$500 for the 2016 water season. In response to a question regarding dispute resolution, Manager Bair reported that if the matter cannot be resolved at staff level, it would come before the full Board.

The meeting was opened for questions. Landowner Fred Durst requested that the District look into the issue of not all landowners paying for drainage coming into the District.

The District's representatives to the NCWA Water Leadership Program gave a report on their last meeting. The emphasis was on saving fish with resolution taking sacrifice on both sides. Attorney O'Brien commented that 20 years ago the emphasis was on fish screens and now it is eco systems, who knows where we will be in another 20 years.

The Public Forum ended at 9:20 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 Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to approve the consent agenda, including the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on March 17, 2016 with one correction, and Tract 6 Committee Meeting held on March 10, 2016 as submitted.

Accounts Payable – After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to approve the accounts payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$777,301 and on-line payments issued in April to be ratified in the amount of \$102,856 and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$515,903 and payments in April to be ratified in the amount of \$1,239.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Operations Report** – Operations Manager Navarrot reported that gravel has been put down on 7.5 miles of the Back Levee under the Flood System Repair Program (FSRP). This project has a State cost-share of 85 percent, District cost-share of 15 percent with a total estimated cost of about \$23,000 per mile. He reported that the Rubicon Database crashed and is now back up and running. The District has hired a Waterman for System A, Edward Rainey.

- 2. Management Staff** – Mr. Larry Mandleburg reviewed the proposed new structure of the management team for the District and the proposal to add a new position. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved, to authorize Manager Bair to hire a new management position. Manager Bair reported that he hoped to start interviews by June. He invited the Board to participate in this process.
- 3. Water Measurement Policy** – Manager Bair reviewed the Water Measurement Policy. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to adopt the Interim Water Measurement Meter Policy as is and to amend the Policy at the May Board Meeting to include a process when we have missing meter data.
- 4. Office Remodel** – Manager Bair reported that the Office Remodel Committee met to review draft drawings of the Office Remodel. Two drawings were reviewed, one included the current office and the carport only, with the second including the outside vault storage building. Superintendent Navarrot expressed his concern about the shop access by large trucks if the remodel was extended to the outside vault storage building. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to design the office remodel with the inclusion of the outside vault storage building. Manager Bair was directed to review traffic concerns expressed by the Superintendent and report back at the May Board meeting.
- 5. District Residence** – Trustee Cornwell reported that the plans to complete a rear patio for the Manager’s Residence was never completed during original construction due to concerns over the total construction costs. After further discussion, Manager Bair was directed to do a cost estimate and bring it back to the May Board meeting for further discussion.
- 6. Adopt Notice of Exemption for District-wide Maintenance** – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to adopt the Notice of Exemption for District-wide Maintenance and to file it with both Yolo and Colusa Counties.
- 7. USGS Giant Garter Snake Monitoring in Tract 6** – Assistant Manager Busch reported that the State has been currently monitoring the Giant Garter Snakes in Tract 6 and River Garden Farms. They would like to extend the study on part of Tract 6. It was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to authorize staff to enter into an agreement with USGS regarding monitoring of the Giant Garter Snake upon legal approval with the addition of an option to withdraw at any time.

8. Appointment of an Ad Hoc Committee to Draft an Agreement for Local Water Transfer Agreement with Colusa County Water District (CCWD) and Dunnigan Water District(DWD) – After further discussion, President Durst appointed Trustees Cornwell and Doherty to an ad hoc committee to meet with CCWD and DWD in respect to water transfers, with Trustee Cornwell as the Committee Chair.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 10:30 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 11:15 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. He said that NCWA has voted to oppose the “Dam Train” legislation due to concerns over water rights. NCWA is also very involved in the Salmon Action Plan. The next NCWA meeting will be on May 18.

Sites JPA – President Durst gave a status report of the Sites JPA. DWR is not resisting the Sites JPA as the CEQA lead or protesting transfer of the water rights.

Communications Consultant – Mr. Steve Beckley reported on current media activities. Mr. John Segale reported on his current Public Relation activities.

Assistant Manager’s Report - Assistant Manager Busch reported on the Flood System Repair Project and reported that a meeting has been setup regarding the critical erosion sites within the District. The SGMA process is moving forward. Yolo County WRA is seeking letters of support for a boundary adjustment. The adjustment will split the District into two basins, but make the Yolo County area more manageable. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved, to authorize Manager Bair to sign a letter of support for the WRA boundary adjustment.

Assistant Manager Busch gave a report on PWRPA. He said that the District holds about 4,000 lower tier renewable credits that have little or no value. PWRPA is offering to purchase these credits for \$1 per credit. It is his recommendation that the District sale these credits to PWRPA. It was the consensus of the Board to sell the renewable credits to PWRPA for \$1 per credit.

Manager's Report – Manager Bair reviewed the total costs of the KLOG Project. He then presented an update on the Wallace Weir Project which included completion of the 60 percent design. The estimated cost of the Project is now about \$11.5 million. A grant modification will be completed to cover the full cost of the Project.

Manager Bair reported that the Strain/West construction project has been completed. An interim Drainage Agreement has been drafted and signed by all parties to allow for temporary pumping.

The ACWA Conference will be held May 3 through May 5 in Monterey. Manager Bair asked if any Board member would like to attend. The invitation was also extended to the two candidates for the open Board seat, Hillary Reinhart and Rob Meyer.

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 12:45 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