

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Regular Meeting Of the Board of Trustees

August 18, 2016

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, August 18, 2016 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

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

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present:

Lewis Bair, General Manager	Jordon Navarrot, RD108 Staff
Bryan Busch, Asst. Manager	Steve Beckley, PR Consultant
Gary Marler, Superintendent	Ryan Fulton, Davids Engineering
Chad Navarrot, Asst. Superintendent	
Kevin O'Brien, Legal Counsel	
Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary	
Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper	

Agenda – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell to approve the Agenda as submitted. Trustee Doherty seconded the motion. Vote: Approved 5 - 0.

Open Forum

President Durst welcomed the public to the meeting. Manager Bair introduced Mr. Ryan Fulton, Davids Engineering. Mr. Fulton gave a presentation on the Internet based Water Measurement Program. He demonstrated the program, showing water usage information that Landowners and Water Users will be able to access through the Program.

President Durst reported that the Board held a Board Workshop to discuss District management staffing needs. He said that Assistant Manager Busch has taken an opportunity to transition to the General Manager position with Reclamation District No. 2068 and will be leaving the District October 1. The Board, legal counsel and Sister District Presidents reviewed and prioritized all current activities and the management time required for these efforts. He reviewed the process that the Board went through. He stated that the Board's initial recommendation was to replace the Assistant Manager with both a policy leader level position as well as a technical support position. He said that the District will be sending out a letter with further information for both Landowners and Water Users review, with the Board taking final action at the September Board meeting.

Manager Bair reported that the District is applying for Proposition 1 funding that would ask landowners to modify their rice decomposition, flooding to produce water rich with fish food that would be flushed back to the River. The proposed project would focus on the flooding of 5,000 acres, hold the water for approx. 3 weeks, and then release it back into the River up to three times each winter. This two-year Project will benefit fish, birds and document the potential success of returning fish food to the river water and the benefits to birds and the challenges that the District experiences operating during the winter. Participating Landowners would be paid on a per-acre basis to cover their costs.

The Public Forum ended at 9:50 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 July 21, 2016 and Special Meeting held on August 9. Trustee Leonard seconded. Vote: Approved 5 - 0.

Accounts Payable – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell to approve the accounts payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$860,229 and on-line payments issued in July and August to be ratified in the amount of \$22,513; and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$691,437 and payments in July to be ratified in the amount of \$84,501, and payments issued in August to be ratified totaled \$1,091. Trustee Reinhard seconded. Vote: Approved 5 - 0

2015 Financial Audit Report – Mr. Norm Newell, Smith and Newell Accountants, presented the 2015 Financial Audit Report. He reviewed the District's financial position and reported that the District was in good financial standing. Mr. Newell also reviewed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement with the Board. It was also noted that the District received more than \$750,000 in federal grant funding, so a Single Audit report was also required. Trustee Doherty moved to accept the 2015 Financial Audit Report as submitted. Trustee Cornwell seconded. Vote: Approved 5 – 0.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Operations Report** – Assistant Superintendent Navarrot distributed copies of the Operation's Report for Board review. He reviewed the concept for the traveling trash-rack planned

for Rough & Ready Pumping Plant. A lot of this project will be completed by District staff, with Davis Machines doing the pile driving. Manager Bair also gave a status report on the Bullock Bend material placement on Tract 6 roads. The material was found to be powdery and staff is currently looking to see what can be done to improve the road condition.

Assistant Superintendent, Navarrot reported that Landowner Joe Lauwerijssen contacted the District regarding the sediment material pile adjacent to his field on Landowner Moore's property. He would like use of the material and is seeking District approval and cost-share to move the material. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that staff work with Landowners Lauwerijssen and Moore regarding this issue and report back.

2. 2016 Water Operations – Manager Bair reported that the current releases at Keswick Dam is 10,500 cfs. In September, the releases will decrease to 9,500 cfs. Staff is currently working with both Colusa County Water District and Dunnigan Water District on a future 5-year water transfer.

Manager Bair reported that the District received a significant 2015 O&M deficit invoice from USBR. It was the consensus of the Board to hold payment on this invoice until legal counsel and Settlement Contractor's Group discuss this issue.

3. Project Reports

Wallace Weir Project - Manager Bair reported that the contractor on the Wallace Weir has been issued the Notice to Proceed and is currently mobilizing his equipment with work to start on Monday.

Prop 1 California Rice Commission Joint Project – Manager Bair reported that the District submitted a joint funding application for Management of Rice Fields for Water Supply, Flood Management and Eco System Benefit and is looking for support for this Project and authorization to enter into agreement with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for Proposition 1 Funding. It was moved by Trustee Doherty to support the Management of Rice Fields for Water Supply, Flood Management and Eco System Benefit Project and to authorize Manager Bair to enter into agreement with DWR for Proposition 1 funding and to do all things to move the Project forward. Trustee Cornwell seconded. Vote: Approved 5 – 0.

Distribution System Improvement Project – Manager Bair reported that the District has applied for USBR (\$750,000) and Proposition 1 Funding (\$1.5 million) to automate 26 canal lateral structures and construct 2 pipelines connecting a groundwater well to the distribution system and replacing the second to serve the North Steiner Pumping Plant service area. The District's cost-share for this Project would be \$750,000. It was moved by Trustee Cornwell to authorize Manager

Bair to enter into both grant funding agreements for the District's Distribution System Improvement Project and to do all things to move this Project forward. Trustee Leonard seconded. Vote: Approved 5 – 0.

4. Board Committees – President Durst reviewed the Standing Committees. The revised list of Standing Committees is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Attorney's Report – Attorney O'Brien gave a status report on the pending NRDC litigation. He reported that we are currently waiting on the judge to make his determination on our motion to dismiss. It is hoped that he should make his determination by September.

Attorney O'Brien gave a status report on the CalWater Fix. The Water Board has started their Water Right Hearing to determine if they will approve the change in points of diversions. This will be a very slow process.

Attorney O'Brien reported that the USBR sent a letter to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding Section 7 Consultation, addressing coordinated long-term operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP).

NCWA Report – Trustee Cornwell gave a report of current activities of NCWA.

Sites JPA – President Durst gave a status report of the Sites Project. The JPA has commitments for 50 percent available water, with the idea that the State would be the beneficiary of the other 50 percent with Prop 1 funding. Additional Northern California entities have joined the Sites Project and will pay their share of the planning costs this year helping to offset some of the anticipated planning costs for RD108.

Communications Consultant – Mr. Steve Beckley gave a report on current communication efforts.

Manager's Report – Manager Bair reported that the ACWA Fall Conference will be held November 30 through December 2. Please notify Cathy Busch if you would like to attend.

Manager Bair reported that the District received a letter from River Garden Farms, regarding El Dorado Bend Pumping Plant maintenance project. This matter will be discussed at the September Board meeting.

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 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Lewis Bair
Manager

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

2016 Board of Trustees

Standing Committees

Capital Outlay Committee

Jon Leonard
Sean Doherty
Roger Cornwell

Finance Committee

Roger Cornwell
Fritz Durst

Tract 6 Committee

Jon Leonard
Sean Doherty

Personnel Committee

Sean Doherty
Hilary Reinhard

Groundwater Committee

Fritz Durst
Roger Cornwell
Hilary Reinhard

PWRPA

Lewis Bair
Hilary Reinhard - Alternate

Sites Joint Power

Fritz Durst
Sean Doherty – Alternate

NCWA Board of Directors

Roger Cornwell –Director
Jon Leonard - Alternate

Water Resource Agency (WRA)

Roger Cornwell
Hilary Reinhard

ACWA Health Benefit Authority

Roger Cornwell
Fritz Durst - Alternate

Retirement Plan Trustees

Sean Doherty
Lewis Bair

AD HOC COMMITTEES

2016 Office Remodel

Jon Leonard
Tom Ellis
Hilary Reinhard
Chad Navarrot

Groundwater Management Plan Committee

Hilary Reinhard - Chair
Fritz Durst
Roger Cornwell
Todd Tommeraason (L&M)
Mark Faye - 735-6412
Tim Doherty 681-8204
Scott West 682-0093
Kim Gallagher
George Tibbitts
Roger Moore 218-2604
Bryan Busch

Communication Groups

Fritz Durst: Tom Ellis, Scott Monckton, Darrel Aoki and Harold Armstrong
Jon Leonard: George Tibbitts, Gary Driver, Kim Gallagher
Sean Doherty: Tom Charter, Blair Voelz, Hafeez Rehman and Derek Strain
Starr West, Mark Andreotti and David Dummar
Roger Cornwell: Mark Faye, Rodney Schreiner, Bill Geer and David Alves

Hilary Reinhard: Pete/Keri Andreotti, Cameron Kaelin

NOTE: The General Manager is an ex-officio member of all committees