

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Of the Board of Trustees

March 15, 2018

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2018 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

Trustees Present: Fritz Durst, Roger Cornwell, Todd Miller and Hilary Reinhard

Trustees Absent: Sean Doherty

Others Present:

Lewis Bair, General Manager	Steve Beckley, PR
William Vanderwaal, Deputy Manager	John Loudon, Colusa Co. Supervisor
Kevin O'Brien, Legal Counsel	Derick Strain, Landowner
Gary Marler, Superintendent	Donita Hendrix, DWD
Cathy Busch, Secretary	Scott West, Landowner
Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper	Deke Dormer, Landowner
Jordon Navarrot, Staff	Blair Voelz, Landowner
David Alves, Poundstone Bros. Rep.	Starr West, Landowner
Tom Charter, Landowner	Cameron Kaelin, Landowner
Tom Ellis, Landowner	Don Huff, Jr, Landowner
Vicent Andreotti, Landowner	Kim Gallagher, Landowner
Joe Lauwerijssen, Landowner	Bill Driver, Landowner

Agenda – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell to approve the agenda as submitted. Trustee Reinhard seconded. Approved 4 – 0.

Open Forum – President Durst welcomed guests to the Open Forum. President Durst opened discussion on the proposed management of Dunnigan Water District (DWD). He reported that the District Board held a Board workshop and invited DWD Board Members and Manager for discussion on RD108 activities with a portion of the meeting to discuss how Dunnigan activities might be integrated. There was discussion regarding what should be included in a Management Agreement, such as remedies when the two Boards hold contrary positions. It was the consensus of the Board to draft a Management Agreement that landowners in both districts could review before any action is taken. DWD Manager will be retiring in September, so there is some urgency to this issue. There was some concern by RD108 attending landowners that this process should not be at a cost to the District and that DWD pays its own costs. Mr. Blair Voelz, DWD Board President, compared the management process to custom farming, whereby RD108 billed DWD for time and materials.

Manager Bair reported that he was contacted by several landowners in respect to District use of privately owned groundwater wells. They reviewed the Groundwater Easement that has been used in the past when the District constructed a groundwater well on private property. Manager Bair recommended that the District appoint an Ad hoc Committee that included landowners to review and recommend terms for a Groundwater Well Program that includes privately owned groundwater wells and/or District wells constructed on private property. President Durst appointed Trustees Reinhard and Miller to sit on the Groundwater Well Ad Hoc Committee with Trustee Miller as the Chair. Landowners who requested to be on the Committee are: David Alves, for Poundstone Bros.; Kim Gallagher, Vicent Andreotti, Tom Ellis, Bill Driver, Derek Strain, Deke Dormer, Joe Lauwerijssen, Blair Voelz, and Starr West. Deputy Manager Vanderwaal will be contacting the Ad hoc Committee to setup the first meeting.

President Durst reported on a site visit to the Yakima Valley in Washington. The Yakima Valley shares many of the same characteristics and challenges of the Sacramento Mainstem. It has taken them 30 years to end the fighting and to work cooperatively on a plan to develop an action plan to manage water supply and the environment. Their management efforts now include groundwater recharge and fish restoration. All landowners pay a fee for groundwater and are limited on the amount of groundwater they can use. Collected funds are used for groundwater recharge projects. They have also seen their steelhead and salmon fish population restored. Manager Bair reported that he was contacted by the Roosevelt Ranch regarding possible water service and RD 108 could have an opportunity to assist in similar environmental benefits as Yakima. These lands are within the District's service area boundaries, but currently not being served surface water from RD108.

Manager Bair reported on the 2018 Water Supply. Based on the March 1 rain totals, the District is projected to have a 75 percent water supply. Rain totals since March 1 could increase it to 100 percent year. In respect to concern about groundwater recovery, Deputy Manager Vanderwaal reported that the groundwater tables in the District recover pretty quickly.

The Public Forum ended at 9:15 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION

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

Consent Agenda – It was moved by Trustee Miller to approve the consent agenda, including the Minutes of the Board Meeting held on February 15, 2018. Trustee Reinhard seconded. Vote: Approved 4 - 0.

1. Accounts Payable – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell to approve the accounts payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$1,574,535; on-line payments issued in February and March in the amount of \$392,461, and transfers between the River City Bank account to Money Market Fund in the amount of \$200,000 to be ratified. Irrigation Fund in the amount

of \$293 and checks to be ratified in the amount of \$918. Trustee Reinhard seconded. Approved 4 – 0.

2. **On-line Payment Vendors** - It was moved by Trustee Reinhard to add the following vendors to the on-line payment program: Roll Call, Wallace Safe & Lock, Davison Drug, PWRPA, Steve Beckley, Sherwin Williams and The Ferguson Group. Trustee Cornwell seconded. Approved 4 – 0.
3. **Audit Agreement for 2018 to 2020** – Manager Bair reported that the Service Agreement with Smith & Newell for annual audit service will end after the 2017 audit. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell to enter into a three-year agreement for financial auditing services through 2020 with Smith and Newell. Trustee Miller seconded. Approved 4 – 0.

BUSINES ITEMS

1. **Operations Report** – Superintendent Marler reported on District-wide maintenance. Pump No. 5 at Wilkins Slough Pumping Plant has been repaired and reinstalled and is ready for the 2018 water year. Water deliveries started on February 20 and remained in service for about a week before being shut off due to rain.

Water Measurement Online Program – Jordon Navarrot reported on the use of the Water Measurement Online Program. During 2017 the District had seven active users that logged in 40 times. He also reported that the program cost for 2018 was reduced by \$2,060. Also, the Watermen will be distributing program flyers to Water Users this year to encourage their use of the program. It was suggested that Mr. Navarrot offer an interactive class at the District for Landowners, Water Users and staff.

2. **Landowner's Privately-Owned Groundwater Wells** - Manager Bair reported that he sees three issues that Landowners are asking about: 1) Landowners with groundwater wells that they would like to turn over to the District for operation; 2) Landowners who would like to have a wheeling agreement with the District so that they can move groundwater to areas within the District but away from the groundwater well location; and 3) Landowners who would like to participate in water transfers. The Committee will also have to review issues that could come up since the District is located in two separate groundwater basins. It was Trustee Reinhard's recommendation that the District have an action plan for this process that is flexible so it can adjust as issues arise.

3. **Office Annex Project Update and Proposed 2018 Budget Amendment** – Deputy Manager Vanderwaal reported that he is projecting a cost of \$76,000 to complete the asphalt pavement of the parking lot, landscaping, post electrical revisions and adding window blinds, framing for artwork and additional shelving and furniture. It was moved by Trustee Reinhard to complete the Office Annex Project as submitted for a total cost of \$1.237 million with the exception that the asphalt is not to exceed \$51,000. Trustee Reinhard seconded. Approved 3 – 1 with Trustee Miller opposing.

4. Consideration of Management of Dunnigan Water District – Manager Bair reported that the District will work with Dunnigan Water District (DWD) to draft an agreement between the two Districts for management and operation of DWD. It will then be sent for legal review by both legal counsels and then to District landowners prior to each Board taking any action. There was some concern regarding the cost to DWD. It was stressed that DWD will need to pay all their own costs and that RD108 landowners do not carry any of the cost burden for them. This cost could be a significant increase to DWD landowners.

5. Policy Review and Approval to Submit for Legal Review – The Board reviewed for legal review the following policies: Employee Handbook policies for use of mobile radios, smoking, and performance evaluations. The Board directed staff to further review the alcohol-drug free workplace and discipline policies further prior to submitting to legal counsel. The Board further directed staff to move forward with a policy for firearms for Board and legal review. The potential firearms policy should include intensive background checks and firearm training. Consensus of the Board was ditchtenders sometimes might need firearms to control rodents in waterways and on levees.

INFORMATION REPORTS

1. NCWA Report – Trustee Cornwell reported on current NCWA activities. He reported that April 4, Attorney O'Brien will be giving a presentation on SGMA at the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento.

2. Sites JPA – President Durst reported that the California Water Commission is receiving pressure to review how the cost-benefit ratio was determined for projects submitted for Prop 1 funding. Deputy Manager Vanderwaal reported that the Reservoir Committee is currently working to determine cost estimates and financing options. The Risk Management Work Group received the draft unmitigated Risk Report from AECOM last week and is in the process of determining mitigation strategies for the most critical and immediate risks.

3. Public Relations Consultant – Mr. Steve Beckley reported on Public Outreach through Twitter and Facebook. The Board went through Mr. Beckley's District pictures starting to select what they would like mounted and framed for the office building.

4. Deputy Manager's Report - Deputy Manager Vanderwaal reported on groundwater available for transfer from the County Line and Tract 6 Groundwater wells, which is estimated to be approximately 5,660 acre-feet over the allowable transfer window. He reviewed a worksheet showing the income to the District at different prices. The District did not accept the terms for a south of Delta water transfer. This is the initial year of a 5 year In-lieu Water Transfer with DWD & Colusa County WD (CCWD) which provides 10,000 acre-feet of Project Water to the two Districts.

5. Manager's Report – Manager Bair had nothing further to report.

6. Closed Session – The Board went into Closed Session at 12:00 p.m. to discuss anticipated litigation and significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Subdivision (d) of Section 4956.9 (CalWaterFix Comments, Settlement Contracts, NRDC, SWRCB Settlement Process, Voluntary Agreement, KLOG and Personnel Issue). The Board came out of Closed Session at 12:30 p.m. and President Durst announced no action taken.

RECESS

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:30 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