

Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors November 10, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District met this day in regular session in Porterville, California. Consistent with Executive Order N-29-20 and social distancing directives, the meeting was conducted by teleconference only, with no physical location for the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

President Borba called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Borba, Gisler, Chambers, McCowan, Witzel

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, District Manager

Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, District Secretary

Michael Knight, City of Porterville

Steve Etchegaray

Tim Allan

Trelawney Bullis, Sun Pacific

Bill Wallace

AGENDA – No changes or additions were made to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – President Borba asked if there was any public comment.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S/U Chambers, Gisler to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting held October 13, 2020 as presented.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M/S/U Chambers, Witzel to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the District as presented.

MONTHLY REPORTS – Financial Reports: Treasurer Griswold-Bratcher reviewed with the Board the September 2020 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. Also included in the meeting packet is the BNY Mellon bank statement as of September 30, 2020 as a quarterly update.

Manager Geivet congratulated the Board on successful closing of the District's refinance efforts earlier this month securing a much lower interest rate and saving the District significantly.

M/S/U Chambers, Gisler to accept the financial reports as presented and to place the reports on file.

SUN PACIFIC FARMING RECHARGE FACILITY PROJECT – Status report on Sun Pacific Farming Recharge Facility Project

Mr. Geivet noted that he would like to jump ahead to Agenda Item #7. He reviewed with the Board and guests the documents provided by Sun Pacific Farming in regards to their proposed project. After some discussion, it was decided to set a public hearing for the next Board meeting and accept comments up through the Friday before the public hearing. He also noted that we will send an email to our customer/interested party distribution list with a Sharefile link to the project documents and reports.

M/S/U Chambers, Gisler to set the date for a Public Hearing on the Sun Pacific Farming Recharge Facility Project on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 9:00 AM at the regularly schedule PID Board of Directors meeting; and to accept written comments until close of business on Friday, December 4, 2020 on the CEQA Documents for the project.

Administration Report: The Manager alerted the Board and guests to an error on the bill form of the recently mailed 2020-21 Assessments. This error only affected roughly 200 parcels that partook of this summer's Allocated Recharge program. Continental Utility Solutions Inc (CUSI) is working on the fix right now and expects to have the correction to us by the end of the day so that we can reprint and remail to those that were affected.

Operations/Water Report: Manager Geivet reported that our next project will be to work on the annual Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID) reconciliation.

Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA, TRA, VAWC & FWA: Mr. Geivet reminded the Board about the upcoming Friant Water Authority (FWA) retreat slated for next week. The focus remains on canal capacity fix progress. There was also some discussion about canal turnout issues due to subsidence.

Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA): The Manager shared that the ETGSA website is being populated with use data that will likely be shared soon with landowners.

Success Reservoir Enlargement Project (SREP) Update: Nothing new to report.

Future Planning: Manager Geivet again noted that feasibility studies are done. He brought up the possibility of some landowner meetings to see if there is interest to spend

a little money for the CEQA process in hopes that it would lend favor for grants when they become available.

GRIFFITH FARMS – Discuss extending the term on the Griffith Farms lease agreement and the potential to re-negotiate the rent

Mr. Geivet brought the Board up to date on a recent meeting with the Griffith Farms representative. After some discussion, it was suggested that an Ad Hoc meeting be set to discuss and bring recommendations back before the Board at a future meeting.

All guests departed the online Board Zoom meeting at 9:47 a.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 54956.9, the Board adjourned into closed session at 9:48 a.m. The Board adjourned from closed session at 10:24 a.m.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] City of Fresno, et al. v. United States of America, Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 16-1276L

No action taken.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2 (RELATING TO ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA)

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT - President Borba adjourned the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Secretary