

Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors September 12, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District met this day in regular session both in person and by teleconference from the District office located at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

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

ATTENDANCE

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, District Manager

Jeffrey S. Row, District Secretary-Treasurer, Assessor/Collector

Nick Keller, District Engineer

Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, District Assistant Secretary

Larry Suniga Nick Gatti

Douglas Jackson Allan Lombardi Kathy Briano Terry Schuler

Numerous guests via Zoom and One tap mobile

AGENDA – There were no changes or additions made to the agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S/U Chambers, Witzel to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of August 8, 2023 as presented.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

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

MONTHLY REPORTS

Financial Reports: Controller Row reviewed with the Board reports in the meeting packet that included the July 2023 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. He also updated the Board and guests on potential FEMA reimbursement for flood expenses incurred earlier this Spring.

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

Terry Schuler entered the Board room at 9:10 a.m.

Administration Report: Manager Geivet proposed to the Board a three-person field staff crew consisting of a foreman and two ditchtenders.

M/S/U Gisler, McCowan to add a Foreman to the Salary schedule as proposed.

Operations/Water Report: Mr. Geivet and Engineer Keller brought the Board and guests up to date on current operations. After reviewing supplies and current use, they recommended Shutting down banking operations this Friday, September 15th. The further suggested that irrigation and recharge opportunities may continue until reviewed at the October meeting.

Discussion then moved to allocating the remaining supplies to District landowners for the remainder of the season. The Manager will work with District staff to prepare and notify landowners of the per acre allocation available by the end of the week.

Also included in the meeting packet as Enclosure #5.C. is a letter from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation providing notification of Central Valley Project (CVP) Restoration Fund charge/surcharge amounts for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY2024) that begins October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024.

Kathy Briano and Director McCowan departed the Board room respectively at 9:51 a.m. and 9:52 a.m.

Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA/TRA/VAWC/FWA: Manager Geivet and President Borba briefed those in attendance on the various authorities.

Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA): Nothing new to report.

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

Future Planning: The Manager briefly shared a few updates on projects on the District Water Project List that was discussed at previous meetings. Discussion moved to potential for a new turnout to supply Porter Slough Ditch from the Friant-Kern Canal, but it was noted the cost would likely be \$1.5-1.75 million.

BANKING POLICY – Discussion on a revised Banking Policy

Nothing new to report.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION – Review and consider adopting a Resolution approving the 2023-2024 Assessments

The Assessor/Collector noted that the necessary reports are not completed. This item will be tabled to the next meeting.

2022 AUDIT- Review, discuss and approve

Mr. Geivet and Mr. Row reviewed the 2022 Financial Statements as prepared by Cuttone & Mastro CPAs.

Upon motion by Director Gisler, seconded by Director Chambers, the Board approved and ordered to place on file the 2022 Financial Statements as prepared by Mr. Joe Mastro, Cuttone & Mastro CPAs, as presented, by the following vote:

AYES: Borba, Chambers, Gisler, Witzel

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: McCowan

Mr. Geivet suggested that we adjourn into closed session. All other guests departed at 10:14 a.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, the Board adjourned into closed session at 10:15 a.m.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 10:51 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 reportable action.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9] (1 Case)

No reportable action.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] Arvin-Edison Water Storage District v. PID, PID Board and Homer LLC, Kern County Superior Court, Case No. BCV-22-100617

No reportable action.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS – Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code Section 54957.1

Any reportable action was noted under the appropriate agenda item above.

ADJOURNMENT – President Borba adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

Jody A. Grswold-Bratcher, Asst. Secretary