



**Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors
October 10, 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, Gisler, McCowan, Witzel

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Chambers

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, *District Manager*
Jeffrey S. Row, *District Secretary-Treasurer, Assessor/Collector*
Aubrey A. Mauritsen, *District Legal Counsel*
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, *District Assistant Secretary*
Chris Eriksen, *District Operations Forman*
Nick Gatti
Douglas Jackson
Allan Lombardi
Kathy Briano
Terry Schuler
Bill Wallace
Mike George, *Sun Pacific*
Numerous guests via Zoom and One tap mobile

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

Mr. Geivet asked that we adjourn into closed session for no more than one hour to take advantage of District Legal Counsel's time as she is only available first thing. All guests departed the Board room and Zoom meeting at 9:01 a.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, the Board adjourned into closed session at 9:02 a.m.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 9:57 a.m.

Guests were permitted back into the Board room and Zoom meeting at 9:58 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 – 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.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] *Setton Pistachio of Terra Bella, Inc. v. Porterville Irrigation District*, Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. PCU301703

No reportable action.

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

District customer Briano commented on the shoddy appearance of ponds in the District, but did note that the main yard around the District office looks good.

District customer Lombardi inquired about closed session item involving the Setton Pistachio lawsuit.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S/U Gisler, Witzel to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of September 12, 2023 as presented.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M/S/U Gisler, Witzel 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 August 2023 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. He also noted that the new California Asset Management Program (CAMP) account is up and running as well as updated the Board and guests on potential FEMA reimbursement for flood expenses incurred earlier this Spring.

Administration Report: Manager Geivet introduced the new Foreman Chris Eriksen who was brought on to implement a maintenance program. The Board asked for monthly progress reports.

Operations/Water Report: Mr. Geivet updated the Board on current operations and reviewed District water schedule submitted to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Enclosure #5.C.1.). Considering remaining supplies and current demand as reported on the Water Billing Recap (Enclosure #5.C.2.), he is predicting we may need to shut down around October 18th. Further discussion resulted in trying to extend that date as long as possible. The Manager will reach out to Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID) to work a

potential swap and will then work with District staff to solidify that date before notifying District water users of the District's end of irrigation season.

Also included in the meeting packet was Enclosure #5.C.3. reporting rainfall totals for the current year going back through the 1960's. The report reflects that the rainfall water year is October-September. The total rainfall for October 2022 – September 2023 was an impressive 18.96 inches which increased the five-year average to 9.93 inches.

Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA/TRA/VAWC/FWA: Manager Geivet briefed the Board and guests on the various authorities noting that there is not much going on with Friant Water Authority (FWA) or Tule River Authority (TRA).

Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA): The Manager shared that ETGSA has their billing out for the 3rd quarter.

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

Future Planning: Mr. Geivet referenced the District Water Project List discussed at previous meetings with brief updates on a few of the projects.

BANKING POLICY – Discussion on a revised Banking Policy

A brief discussion was held about the current Banking Policy outlining fees and leave behind for District bankers, more specifically the extraction fees and the need to collect on future extractions/transfers.

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

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District, acting as Board of Equalization, reviewed proposed changes to the Assessed Valuations for the 2023-24 Assessment year. District staff noted there were few changes in comparison to prior years.

Upon motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Director Gisler, the following Resolution was passed and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10-01

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE ASSESSMENT FOR 2023-24 FOR PORTERVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District have met this day as the Board of Equalization in regular session; and

WHEREAS, Jeffrey S. Row, Assessor of the District, has filed the Assessment Book for assessment year 2023-24 showing the Assessed Valuation of \$1,481,533 for individual billed parcels, plus \$136,402 for properties covered

under the Agreement between the City of Porterville and the District concerning City payment in-lieu assessments, for a total Assessed Valuation of \$1,617,935; and

WHEREAS, no person has requested, in person or in writing, an equalization of the assessed valuation of their property; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the assessments for the assessment year 2023-24 heretofore prepared and filed with the Secretary by the Assessor are approved.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of October 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:	<i>Borba, Gisler, McCowan, Witzel</i>
NOES:	<i>None</i>
ABSTAIN:	<i>None</i>
ABSENT:	<i>Chambers</i>

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Porterville Irrigation District, an irrigation district organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, and that the foregoing Resolution

was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of said District at a Zoom meeting thereof duly and regularly held by the Porterville Irrigation District at Porterville, California on the 10th day of October 2023, at which meeting a quorum of said Board of Directors was at all times present and acting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in whole or any part thereof, and remains in force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the Porterville Irrigation District this 10th day of October 2023.

/s/ Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Secretary
Porterville Irrigation District

SKID STEER AND EXCAVATOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASE – Discuss purchase of used Skid Steer and Excavator

Mr. Eriksen reviewed equipment proposals from Berchtold Equipment Company of Delano included in the meeting packet as well as handed out another from Joe Torres obtained after the packet was distributed. Lengthy discussion ensued on the best equipment for District tasks as well as trade in potential for the older backhoe.

M/S/U McCowan, Gisler to authorize up to \$300,000 (three hundred thousand) for acquisition of appropriate equipment; which may include skid steer, excavator, truck and dump trailer; to implement an effective maintenance program.

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION, STEVEN R SKILES– Discuss and vote on Resolution for Mr. Skiles

Mr. Geivet announced that Mr. Skiles retired from the District last month after 23 years of employment at the District.

Upon motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Director Witzel, the following Resolution was passed and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10-02

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION, STEVEN R. SKILES

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District have met this day in regular session; and

WHEREAS, ***STEVEN R. SKILES*** has served as Ditch tender and has been a faithful employee of the Porterville Irrigation District since 2000; and

WHEREAS, ***MR. SKILE'S*** leadership and devotion to the Porterville Irrigation District has greatly enhanced the success of the Board of Directors and the Porterville Irrigation District;

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District hereby commends ***STEVEN R. SKILES*** for his long and dedicated service to the Porterville Irrigation District, and wishes his continued success in all his future endeavors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Directors requests that a certified copy of this Resolution be presented to ***STEVEN R. SKILES*** as a sign of sincere appreciation on behalf of the Management, Employees and Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 10th day of October 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: ***Borba, Gisler, McCowan, Witzel***

NOES: ***None***

ABSTAIN: ***None***

ABSENT: ***Chambers***

/s/ Eric L. Borba
Eric L. Borba, President

/s/ David E. Gisler
David E. Gisler, Vice-President

/s/ Timothy J. Witzel
Timothy J. Witzel, Director

/s/ Edwin L. Chambers
Edwin L. Chambers, Director

/s/ Joseph "Brett" McCowan
Joseph "Brett" McCowan, Director

/s/ Sean P. Geivet
Sean P. Geivet, General Manager

ATTEST:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Row
Jeffrey S. Row, Secretary

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Porterville Irrigation District, an irrigation district organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of said District at a Zoom meeting thereof duly and regularly held by the Porterville Irrigation District at Porterville, California on the 10th day of October 2023, at which meeting a quorum of said Board of Directors was at all times present and acting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in whole or any part thereof, and remains in force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Seal of the Porterville Irrigation District this 10th day of October 2023.

/s/ Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Secretary
Porterville Irrigation District

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 11:33 a.m.



Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Asst. Secretary