

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES February 2, 2021

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT (4)

Riley Chaney, President
Jeremy Hughes, Vice-President
Robert Barcellos
Micah Combs

STAFF PRESENT (3)

Manny Amorelli, General Manager
Donna Hanneman, Executive Assistant
Kenneth Mancini, Superintendent (Arr.10:12 a.m.)

EXCUSED (1)

Robert Motte

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

None

ABSENT

None

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS (1)

•WATER WISE

Sarah Woolf

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Tuesday, February 2, 2021, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m., by President, Riley Chaney. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

II. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

B. ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections/additions to the Agenda.

C. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST [FPPC §87105]

Directors were given an opportunity to identify potential conflicts-of-interest with items appearing on the Agenda.

- ▶ Director Riley Chaney noted a potential conflict-of-interest with Agenda Item V.A., SOLARINSTALLATION, as the property in question is owned by his father, and stated he would be recusing himself from discussing and/or voting on the matter.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - February 2, 2021

III. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Directors reported on meetings and/or conferences attended on behalf of the District as follows:

PRESIDENT, RILEY CHANEY

Correction: Motte

- ▶ Mendota Pool Group - Messrs. Chaney, ~~Hughes~~, and Amorelli, accompanied by Ms. Woolf attended a "meet and greet" at the District office with MPG representatives. Another meeting may be scheduled late February.
- ▶ Kings River Water Association workshop was attended by Messrs. Chaney, Motte and Amorelli. KRWA policies and procedures were reviewed.
- ▶ Consultation Services - A Zoom meeting was attended by Messrs. Chaney, Barcellos and Amorelli yesterday to introduce Sarah Woolf to counsel, Alan Doud, and to familiarize him with her role in District activities.

VICE-PRESIDENT, JEREMY HUGHES

- ▶ Power & Water Resources Pooling Authority (PWRPA) - Mr. Hughes contacted Cori Bradley and Bruce McLaughlin inquiring if PWRPA power could be made available for growers. They noted test cases are currently active. He requested they evaluate the District to see what can be done to maximize use of PWRPA power.

IV. WORKSHOP: 2021-2022 FISCAL BUDGET

Mr. Amorelli distributed drafts of the 2021-2022 Fiscal Budget projecting a deficit of \$1+ million. It was noted a similar deficit was projected last year which was later remedied by the sale of 4,500 acre-feet of CVP contract water. The 2021-2022 Budget draft was predicated on a 10% CVP contract supply. Specific points were discussed as indicated:

- With the recent pay-off of the CVP Construction Costs, the need to classify land as full-cost and/or excess ground with their requisite billing rates is nullified; all irrigations can be billed at a single rate.
- Impacts to irrigation sales based on projected cropping patterns, especially fallowed row-crop land as well as planting of new pistachios which take little water, continues to be a concern.

The following information was requested for presentation at the February 9, 2021, Regular Meeting:

- ▶ Cost Comparisons / PWRPA vs. PG&E Wells
Report comparing the cost of operation of PWRPA versus PG&E wells

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - February 2, 2021

▶ Proposition 218 / Assessment Rate Increase

Sarah Woolf was authorized to contact Provost & Pritchard for their assistance in estimating the time and cost required to proceed with a Proposition 218 assessment ballot proceeding seeking voter approval of an assessment rate increase.

▶ Annual "Deposit"

Consult legal counsel to ascertain whether the District could legally charge an annual "deposit", that would decline as grower charges accumulate (in effect pre-paying for water). A "deposit" would help the District's cash flow.

▶ Irrigation Billing Rate

The Board proposed the District's billing rate be increased to \$140.00 per acre-foot and the budget adjusted accordingly. This increase would not require a Proposition 218 majority protest proceeding as it is within the escalation guidelines of Resolution 2011-02 enacted February 15, 2011.

▶ Mendota Pool Storage

Considering the severe cutback in CVP allocations, the Board urged Mr. Mancini to begin storing water in the Mendota Pool for later withdrawal to supplement limited supplies later.

V. REPORT ITEMS

A. SOLAR INSTALLATION (02/02/2020)

President Riley Chaney noted his father, Larry Chaney, is farming APN #030-080-36 which is irrigated by outlets E-30 and E-31. The almond trees are 5 years old and some are planted on the District's parcels #030-080-17T, #030-080-13T. With the Board's concurrence, Larry Chaney would remove trees and install solar on his irrigation/filtration system on District APN 030-080-17T.

AFTER STATING THE REASON FOR THE ABOVE REQUEST, PRESIDENT RILEY CHANEY EXITED THE MEETING PRIOR TO ITS DISCUSSION.

General discussion ensued. The Board was generally supportive of this request and will make a final determination at the Regular Meeting on February 9th.

PRESIDENT RILEY CHANEY RETURNED TO THE MEETING.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - February 2, 2021

VI. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, M/S/C (J.HUGHES / R.BARCELLOS), to ADJOURN the meeting at 11:57 a.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 4 (J.Hughes, R.Barcellos, M.Combs, R.Chaney)

EXCUSED: 1 (R.Motte)

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Executive Assistant

Riley Chaney, President

Manny Amorelli, General Manager