

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES May 1, 2020

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT (4)

Robert Motte, President
Micah Combs, Vice-President
Robert Barcellos
Riley Chaney

STAFF PRESENT (2)

Steven Stadler, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Donna Hanneman, Executive Assistant

EXCUSED NONE

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS NONE

ABSENT NONE

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS NONE

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Friday, May 1, 2020, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m., by President, Robert Motte. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

Mr. Stadler noted this meeting was being conducted in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 and the declared State of Emergency as a result of the threat of COVID-19 virus pandemic. All members of the Board of Directors were participating telephonically from remote locations. Members of the public were encouraged to use the call-in number to allow them to fully participate in the meeting without having to be present.

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; none were reported.

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III. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Stadler presented his verbal report encompassing operations, maintenance, projects and other District matters as follows:

A. OPERATIONS

▶ U.S.B.R. / Central Valley Project

- Allocations remain at 15% to South-of-Delta contractors. A "Shasta Critical Year" has been declared although the designation may change following the May forecast. Official statement is pending. Reversing the "Shasta Critical Year" designation could result in a slight increase in May CVP allocations. The California Department of Water Resources' forecast is expected May 9th.

- ▶ San Joaquin River / Riparian - If riparian allocations are decreased, water could be freed-up for CVP allocations. Mr. Stadler detailed how allocation of rights water is determined.

B. MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Replacement Wells - Development of a replacement well sited on the Main Canal was recently completed. Excellent production. Very good water quality. Pump/motors to be installed next. Mr. Stadler assured the Board that TDS is being closely monitored. He indicated he is trying to maximize well production/reliability. Older wells are being evaluated and motors are being upsized with the goal of returning wells to their original production design.

C. PROJECTS

- ▶ Lake Avenue Canal Project - Director Chaney reported he had been contacted by Tom Coleman who inquired what the cost would be for water conveyed through this project. Mr. Stadler indicated he, too, had been contacted by Mr. Coleman and will be providing information to him shortly. There was general agreement among the Board members that market conditions will, most likely, determine the price.

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IV. ACTION ITEMS

- A. RESOLUTION 2020-04 APPOINTING (APPOINTEE) TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR (05/01/2020) - As required by Government Code 1780, Mr. Stadler reported a Notice of Vacancy was posted in three places within the District boundaries on April 15th (Affidavit of Posting, Att.1). Notice was also published in the *West Side Advance* (Proof of Publication, Att.2) and an outreach email was sent April 9, 2020 (Att.3).

Subsequently, three (3) individuals expressed an interest in serving as follows:

1. Jeremy Hughes, Jeremy Hughes Farms, Clovis, CA
2. Mitch Yribarren, Fresno, CA
3. Derek Walker, Jackson Hole Farm Management, Wyoming

M/S/C (M.COMBS / R.CHANEY) to ADOPT RESOLUTION 2020-04 APPOINTING JEREMY S. HUGHES TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR (Att.4) by the following vote:

AYES: M.Combs, R.Chaney, R.Barcellos, R.Motte (4)
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
EXCUSED: None
ABSENT: None

Adjourned to Closed Session at 10:21 a.m.

Attending:

Robert Motte, President
Micah Combs, Vice-President
Robert Barcellos, Director
Riley Chaney, Director

Staff:

Steven Stadler, General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer

V. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9 - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

2 CASES

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VI. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9 - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION

A. AS DEFENDANT: 3 CASES

1. NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL, ET AL, V BERNHARDT, ET AL
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
Case No. 1:5-CV-01207LJO-GSA
2. MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY VS. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT;
JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 20CECG00507
3. AMY BEZERA VS. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 20CECG00572

B. AS PLAINTIFF: 3 CASES

1. KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION ET AL V. JAMES VERBOON ET AL
Kings County Superior Court, Case No. 15 C0304
2. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT V. KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION ET AL
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 19CECG00769
3. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT V. WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 20CECG00688

C. AS INTERVENOR: 1 CASE

1. CITY OF FRESNO, ET AL V. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
United States Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 1:16-CV-01276-MCW

VII. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8 - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

A. WATER BANKING & TRANSFERS (04/19/2018)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
San Luis Water District: Lon Martin
Other CVP Contractors: General Managers/Designees
Other Parties: The Water Agency, Water Wise

Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible water supply transactions.

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Reconvened in Open Session at 10:37 a.m.

VIII. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Stadler stated the following reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.9-CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION

AS PLAINTIFF

➤ JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT V. KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION ET AL

Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 19CECG00769

Action Taken: M/S/C (R.CHANEY / R.BARCELLOS) to AUTHORIZE SENDING CLAIM LETTERS TO ALL PUBLIC ENTITY KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION LOWER RIVER UNITS CONCERNING KINGS RIVER CHANNEL LOSS COMPENSATION FOR THE 2018-19 WATER YEAR by the following vote:

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54956.8 - CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR

➤ WATER BANKING & TRANSFERS (04/19/2018)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
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Other Parties: The Water Agency, Water Wise

Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible water supply transactions.

Action Taken: M/S/C (M.COMBS / R.MOTTE) to AUTHORIZE A WATER TRANSFER OF 1,000 ACRE-FEET OF CVP CONTRACT WATER TO A WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT LANDOWNER by the following vote:

AYES: M.Combs, R.Motte, R.Barcellos (3)

NAYS: R.Chaney (1)

ABSTAIN: None

EXCUSED: None

ABSENT: None

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IX. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 10:40 a.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 12, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Executive Assistant

Robert Motte, President

Steven P. Stadler, P.E.
General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Affidavit of Posting, Notarized April 28, 2020
2. Proof of Publication, April 15, 2020
3. Email: "James Irrigation District - Notice of Board Vacancy", Thursday, April 9, 2020, 5:12 PM
4. Resolution 2020-04 Resolution Appointing Jeremy S. Hughes to Fill a Vacancy in the Office of Director, Adopted May 1, 2020