

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES June 9, 2020

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT (5)

Robert Motte, President
Micah Combs, Vice-President
(Arr.10:10 a.m.)
Robert Barcellos
Riley Chaney
Jeremy Hughes

STAFF PRESENT (4)

Steven Stadler, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
Emanuele Amorelli, Business Manager
Donna Hanneman, Executive Assistant
Kenneth Mancini, Superintendent (Arr.10:12 a.m.)

EXCUSED

None

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

None

ABSENT

None

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS (1)

Young Wooldridge, LLP
Alan F. Doud, Esq.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Tuesday, June 9, 2020, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m., by President, Robert Motte. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

II. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None were presented.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed to honor the passing of the following:

1. ALGROULEFF (07/07/1924-05/12/2020) WWII aviator, landowner, grower, owner of Grouleff Aviation.
2. BETTY JEAN GROPPETTI (05/02/1933-05/10/2020) former landowner, long-time San Joaquin resident.
3. HARLEY FLOYD YAGER (09/01/1941-03/27/2020) former resident/landowner, grower.

C. ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections/additions to the Agenda.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

D. 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.

III. MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: MAY 12, 2020

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / R.BARCELLOS), to APPROVE as written by the following vote:

AYES: R.Chaney, R.Barcellos, M.Combs, J.Hughes, R.Motte (5)

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

In accordance with Water Code §24273, Mr. Amorelli presented reports as follows:

A. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Interim Warrants: May 13-June 9, 2020 (Att.1)

2. Accounts Payable (Att.2)

Interim Warrants with supporting invoices and Accounts Payable invoices were presented for review/approval.

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / J.HUGHES), to RATIFY/APPROVE Interim Warrants totaling \$179,663.25 and APPROVE Accounts Payable totaling \$71,220.13 by the following vote:

AYES: R.Chaney, J.Hughes, R.Barcellos, M.Combs, R.Motte (5)

3. Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending May, 2020 (Att.3)

A listing of payroll checks totaling \$72,675.15 (net) issued to employees and Board members for pay periods ending May, 2020, was reviewed and certified by the President, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer and Business Manager.

4. Income Statements (Budget-to-Actual): Period Ending May 31, 2020

5. Cash Position Report: May 31, 2020

6. Accounts Receivable Activity Report: May 31, 2020

V. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

None were presented.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

VI. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Stadler presented his verbal report encompassing operations, maintenance, projects and other District matters for the month of May, 2020, as follows:

OPERATIONS

▶ Water Deliveries: May, 2020

Water deliveries for the month of May were 7,320 acre-feet which is 1,649 acre-feet more than was delivered during May, 2019. The fiscal year-to-date total deliveries are at 13,173 acre-feet which is 380 acre-feet more than was delivered at this time during the last fiscal year.

▶ Weekly TDS Readings: June 1, 2020

▶ U.S.B.R. / Central Valley Project

Allocations remain at 20% to South-of-Delta contractors.

▶ San Joaquin River / Riparian

The USBR has rescinded its "Shasta-critical" designation for 2020 after spring rains produced Shasta Lake inflows which exceeded their projections. The District was previously allotted 3,000 acre-feet of rights water for delivery January-July. By rescinding the Shasta-critical designation, the District's Schedule II allocation was increased to a full supply at 9,700 acre feet.

▶ Kings River

• Entitlement Water

May 31, 2020, KRWA Storage Operations in Pine Flat Reservoir, KRWA Storage Adjustments and Kings River Headgate Diversions for May 25-June 1 reports were reviewed. The District has earned roughly 3,800 acre-feet of entitlement which was attributed to a surge in runoff. It is doubtful that more will be earned this year.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

▶ Work Order Status: May, 2020

▶ Christmas Holiday Leave Days: 2020

The Employee Handbook states, "The dates for the Christmas holiday will be provided to all employees." Mr. Stadler proposed designating December 24th, 25th, 30th and 31st as the four days allotted for the 2020 Christmas holiday. Mr. Stadler would like to close the office for two weeks between Christmas and New Years like last year which would require

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

employees to use personal leave time for December 21-23 (3 days) and December 28-29 (2 days). No objections were stated.

VII. REPORT ITEMS

A. MENDOTA POOL GROUP 20-YEAR EXCHANGE PROGRAM (09/12/2000)

In the recently renewed 20-year exchange program between the USBR and the Mendota Pool Group, Mr. Stadler reported the USBR tightened monitoring requirements of Pool Pumpers. They are to report water quality daily with a weekly report provided to the District. The Board requested Mr. Stadler provide reports for Board meetings.

B. LAKE AVENUE CANAL FEASIBILITY STUDY (06/11/2019)

Mr. Stadler reviewed the "Lake Avenue Canal Preliminary Design Report" (June 2020) prepared by Summers Engineering, Inc., Hanford, CA, envisioning a distribution system to deliver flood/excess water to growers east of the District's boundary as conveyed from the Eastside Canal located within the James Bypass. Following a brief discussion, it was the general consensus that the Board will wait until partners make a firm commitment before pursuing this matter further.

C. MANNING AVENUE BRIDGE PROJECT (06/16/2019)

Mr. Stadler noted Fresno County has not executed agreements associated with their plan to replace bridges spanning the James Bypass. PG&E plans to relocate their gas line this winter.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. RESOLUTION 2020-05 AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE KINGS BASIN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (06/09/2020)

- ▶ Mr. Stadler noted this item was listed as Resolution 2020-07 on the Agenda and should be corrected to read Resolution 2020-05.
- ▶ James Irrigation District has been an "interested party" in the Kings Basin Water Authority since 2012. As such, the District was successful in obtaining matching grant funds through their Integrated Regional Water Management Plan to support activities associated with construction of the Southwest Groundwater Banking Project. As the Kings River Basin Water Authority revised and adopted the Kings Basin IRWMP on October 17, 2018:

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / J.HUGHES), to ADOPT RESOLUTION 2020-05 AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE KINGS BASIN INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN. (Att.4)

AYES: R.Chaney, J.Hughes, R.Barcellos, M.Combs, R.Motte (5)

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

B. DISTRICT ELECTIONS: 2020 (06/09/2020)

1. RESOLUTION 2020-06 CALLING GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION (06/09/2020)

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / M.COMBS), to ADOPT RESOLUTION 2020-06 CALLING GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTION: (Att.5)

AYES: R.Chaney, M.Combs, R.Barcellos, J.Hughes, R.Motte (5)

The Fresno County Clerk-Elections Department will be notified accordingly (Elections Code 1580).

2. DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

Directors whose terms expire this year (R.Chaney, M.Combs, J.Hughes) and wishing to retain seats on the Board must file their Declaration of Candidacy forms with the District Secretary (July 13-August 7, 2020, or August 12, 2020, if incumbent does not file). Staff will assist.

C. WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE (06/09/2020)

Discussed placement of insurance Workers' Compensation insurance coverage for the policy year July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021. The Zenith policy is in its third year at which time the District usually re-evaluates placement unless markets suggest otherwise. Mr. Stadler reassured the Board that the District's agent, Walter Mortensen Insurance/Insurica (formerly Turner & Associates), re-evaluates our coverage annually.

D. ENERGY MANAGEMENT (06/09/2020)

Mr. Stadler indicated he would like to engage the services of a consultant to assist with energy management activities to access PG&E usage data on a calendar month basis. The data will be used to improve monitoring of pump and well performance. No action taken.

Director Jeremy Hughes suggested PG&E and PWRPA rates be compared as he has found PWRPA rates to be 33% less than PG&E and suggested Mr. Stadler investigate the feasibility of converting all wells to PWRPA power.

E. WATER MARKETING (06/09/2020)

With increased allocation of Rights water, Mr. Stadler explored various options with the Board. It was the general consensus to market up to 2,500 acre-feet of 2020 CVP Contract Water.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

Adjourned to Closed Session at 11:08 a.m.

Attending:

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

Staff:

Steven Stadler, General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer

Counsel

Alan F. Doud, Esq., Young Wooldirdge, LLP

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

2 CASES

X. 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 VS. 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

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

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

D. AS CLAIMANT: 1 CASE

1. PG&E CORPORATION AND PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (04/14/2020)
United States Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California
San Francisco Division, Chapter 11 Case No. 19-30088 (DM) (Lead Case)
(Jointly Administered)

XI. CLOSED SESSION: GOVERNMENT CODE §54957 - PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

A. TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER (1)

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

A. SOUTHWEST GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROJECT (11/13/2012)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
Fresno Irrigation District: Bill Stretch

Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions/Department of Water Resources Proposition 84 Grant Application

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

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
Various CVP Contractors: General Managers or Designees
Other Parties: Landowners, Growers or Their Agents/Designees

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

C. CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT (CVP) REPAYMENT CONTRACT (06/11/2019)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler, Scott K. Kuney, Esq., Alan F. Doud, Esq.

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: Michael Jackson, P.E.

Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of water supply contract

Reconvened in Open Session at 11:58 a.m.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

XIII. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Stadler stated no reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

XIV. CHANGES TO EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OR BENEFITS (SB1346)

Pursuant to California SB1346, the Board will orally report a summary recommendation in Open Session and discuss proposed changes in salary or benefits for chief executive officers, their assistants, deputies and department heads justifying the changes prior to voting.

A. **► TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER (1)**

1. STEVEN P. STADLER, P.E.

M/S/C (R.MOTTE / M.COMBS), to INCREASE ANNUAL GROSS EARNINGS FROM \$180,180 TO \$200,000 EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2020.

AYES: R.Motte, M.Combs, R.Barcellos, R.Chaney, J.Hughes (5)

XV. WORKSHOP: ETHICS TRAINING

Alan Doud, Esq., Young Wooldridge LLP, conducted an Ethics Training Class. Attending were:

James Irrigation District

Reclamation District No. 1606

Board of Directors:

Robert Motte
Micah Combs
Robert Barcellos
Riley Chaney
Jeremy Hughes

Board of Trustees:

Gerald W. Kinnunen
Wm. Cory Carvalho

Staff:

Emanuele Amorelli
Kenneth Mancini
Donna Hanneman

///

///

///

///

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES - June 9, 2020

XVI. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 1:45 p..m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Executive Assistant

Robert Motte, President

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Interim Warrants: May 13-June 9, 2020, \$179,663.25
2. Accounts Payable: \$71,220.13
3. Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending May, 2020, \$72,675.15 (net)
4. Resolution 2020-05 Authorizing Adoption of the Kings Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, Adopted June 9, 2020
5. Resolution 2020-06 Calling General District Election, Adopted June 9, 2020