

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES July 14, 2020

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT (5)

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

STAFF PRESENT (3)

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

EXCUSED

None

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

None

ABSENT

None

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS

None

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Tuesday, July 14, 2020, 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, Robert Motte. 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 additions/corrections 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. MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 9, 2020

M/S/C (M.COMBS / R.CHANEY), to APPROVE as CORRECTED (redlined) by the following vote:

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

CHANGES TO EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION OR BENEFITS (SB1346)

A. TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER

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) (4)

NAYS: R.Chaney (1)

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

A. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Interim Warrants: June 10-July 14, 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 (M.COMBS / R.CHANEY), to RATIFY/APPROVE Interim Warrants totaling \$676,598.63 and APPROVE Accounts Payable totaling \$633,494.50 by the following vote:

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

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

A listing of payroll checks totaling \$75,128.78 (net) issued to employees and Board members for pay periods ending June, 2020, was reviewed and certified by the President, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer and Business Manager.

4. Income Statements (Budget-to-Actual): Period Ending June 30, 2020

5. Quarterly Report of Financial Investments: June 30, 2020 Gov. Code §53646

6. Cash Position Report: June 30, 2020

7. Schedule of Long-Term Debt/Notes Payable: June 30, 2020

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8. Accounts Receivable Activity Report: June 30, 2020

9. Workorder Status Report: July 1, 2020

B. ASSESSMENTS (07/14/2020)

Sale date for delinquent parcels was set for Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.; notice will be published in *The West Side Advance* (Water Code §26105)

Mr. Stadler noted Chicago Title Company has processed a number of recent property sales but neglected to collect assessments in the process. He notified Chicago Title of this problem.

V. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

► DIRECTOR, RILEY CHANEY noted Austin Ewell contacted him wanting to discuss the Mendota Pool Group Exchange Program. Mr. Stadler stated that the matter should be discussed in Closed Session as it pertains to existing litigation and the Mendota Pool Group is a party to that litigation.

VI. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

A. OPERATIONS

- ▶ Water Deliveries: June, 2020 - Water deliveries for the month of June were 10,603 acre-feet which is 144 acre-feet less than was delivered during June, 2019. The fiscal year-to-date total deliveries are at 23,776 acre-feet which is 236 acre-feet more than was delivered at this time during the last fiscal year.
- ▶ Weekly TDS Readings: July 6, 2020
- ▶ U.S.B.R. / Central Valley Project
 - Mendota Pool - Pumping reports for the Mendota Wildlife Area, Delta-Mendota Canal Check #21 and Mendota Pool Degradation were reviewed.
- ▶ Kings River Storage Operations in Pine Flat Reservoir: July 8, 2020

B. MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Wells - Mr. Stadler reported 2/3 of the District's wells have been tested and repairs are needed. Well D-40/Main Canal is 35 years old and may require replacement.

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- ▶ Welding Truck - The 2020 Chevrolet welding truck has been delivered. Labor strikes and the COVID19 pandemic caused lengthy delays in the manufacturing process. (Min: 10/08/2019)

C. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- ▶ District Invoices / Statements to be E-mailed - Invoices and statements are being e-mailed to growers requesting the service. Messrs. Hughes and Chaney inquired if a grower portal couldn't be developed on the District's website where growers could access their accounts and irrigation data. Mr. Stadler indicated it would be expensive to update our water accounting program but will investigate and report.

Messrs. Hughes & Chaney volunteered to serve as an ad hoc committee to investigate automation for the District and offered to provide reports to the Board for evaluation.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

A. CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT REPAYMENT CONTRACT (05/16/2018)

Mr. Stadler has solicited offers for financing the unpaid balance of the CVP repayment contract. He explored the potential for a Special Meeting in August with action slated for September to approve the contract plus Notice of Exemption, and Validation Action.

B. POWER & WATER RESOURCES POOLING AUTHORITY (07/14/2020)

Discussed moving electrical loads from PG&E to PWRPA service. Mr. Stadler investigated with PWRPA and learned in order for the District to add load, intervening facilities at 2,000 volts and 500 KW in demand would need to be constructed. The District has no loads that meet that criteria but it may be possible to aggregate load. Mr. Stadler also offered that the District could make a request and see if it's accepted. M/S/C (J.HUGHES / R.CHANEY), to:

1. REQUEST transfer of two wells from PG&E service to PWRPA; and
2. INVESTIGATE availability of WAPA power.

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

C. RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1606 MANAGEMENT & LICENSE AGREEMENT (04/10/2018)

Upon recommendation of the General Manager, M/S/C (R.CHANEY / J.HUGHES), to AUTHORIZE THE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE THE RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1606 MANAGEMENT & LICENSE AGREEMENT.

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

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D. AGENCY APPOINTMENTS (12/10/2019)

1. James Groundwater Sustainability Agency

M/S/C (R.CHANEY / M.COMBS), to APPOINT SALVADOR PARRA, JR. to the James Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors (replacing Thomas Chaney).

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

E. CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE REVIEW (07/14/2020)

Upon recommendation of the General Manager, M/S/C (M.COMBS/R.CHANEY), to RE-APPROVE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE AS ADOPTED OCTOBER 14, 2014 UNDER RESOLUTION 2014-07 (no changes).

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

The "2020 Local Agency Biennial Notice" is due August 3, 2020, and will be forwarded to the Fresno County Board Supervisors. (Gov. Code §87306.5)

VIII. REPORT ITEMS

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

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

Adjourned to Closed Session at 11:02 a.m.

Directors:

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

Staff:

Steven Stadler, General Manager, Secretary-Treasurer

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

3 CASES

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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

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)

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

A. JAMES & TRANQUILLITY NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
Tranquillity Irrigation District: Danny Wade
Kings River Lower River Units: Scott Sills

Under Negotiation: Price, terms & conditions of possible real property and/or water supply transactions

B. 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

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

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: Steven Stadler
Various CVP Contractors: General Managers or Designees

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

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

XII. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

There were no reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

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XIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 12:00 p.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 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: June 10-July 14, 2020, \$676,598.63
2. Accounts Payable: \$633,494.50
3. Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending June, 2020, \$75,128.78 (net)