

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES July 12, 2022

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

EXCUSED

None

ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Manny Amorelli, General Manager
Walter Flores, Office Manager
Kenneth Mancini, Superintendent
Donna Hanneman, Executive Assistant

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1606

Wm. Cory Carvalho, President

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

Matthew Carvalho, C-B Ag Ops, LLC

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS

- CAL/POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO ITRC
Kyle Feist, MS, PE
- WATER WISE
Sarah Woolf
- MUJERES PODEROSAS, LLC
Amy Wolfe (Zoom)
- McMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
Matt Hurley, General Manager (Zoom)

LEGAL COUNSEL

- YOUNG WOOLDRIDGE, LLP
Alan F. Doud, Esq. (Zoom)

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT ("District") was held Tuesday, July 12, 2022, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m., by President, Riley Chaney. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

Members of the public were encouraged to access the meeting via internet/Zoom or use the call-in number to allow them to fully participate in the meeting without having to be present.

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II. RESOLUTION RENEWING USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB361

As all members of the Board of Directors were present, no action was taken to adopt this Resolution allowing the Board to conduct meetings via teleconference and/or remotely in conformity with Government Code section 54953(e) as amended by AB361.

III. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence was observed to honor the passing of EDNA SCHRAMM PARICHAN (03/07/1926-06/28/2022) former resident/landowner.

C. ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections/additions to the Agenda.

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.

IV. MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: JUNE 14, 2022

B. SPECIAL MEETING: JUNE 23, 2022

C. SPECIAL MEETING: JUNE 28, 2022

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

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

V. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

A. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Interim Warrants: June 15-July 12, 2022 (Att.1)

Interim Warrants (bills paid) with supporting invoices and Accounts Payable invoices (unpaid bills) were presented for review/approval. M/S/C (M.COMBS/J.HUGHES), to RATIFY/APPROVE Interim Warrants totaling \$1,208,828.81.

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

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2. Accounts Payable
Not available. Will be paid as Interim Warrants and presented next meeting for review/approval.
3. Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending June, 2022 (Att.2)
A listing of payroll checks totaling \$80,203.23 (net) issued to employees and Board members for pay periods ending June, 2022, was reviewed and certified by the President, General Manager and Office Manager.
4. Income Statements (Budget-to-Actual): Period Ending June 30, 2022
5. Quarterly Report of Financial Investments: June 30, 2022 Gov. Code §53646
6. Cash Position Report: June 30, 2022
7. Schedule of Long-Term Debt/Notes Payable: June 30, 2022
8. Accounts Receivable Activity Report: June 30, 2022

B. ASSESSMENTS: 2021-2022 / DELINQUENCY SALE DATE

M/S/C (J.HUGHES / R.BARCELLOS), to SET WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022, AT 10:00 A.M. AS THE SALE DATE FOR UNPAID 2021-2022 DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS. Notice will be published as prescribed in *The West Side Advance*. (Water Code §26101-26108)

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

VI. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Amorelli presented his verbal report encompassing operations, maintenance, projects and other District matters for the month of June, 2022, as follows:

OPERATIONS

- ▶ Water Deliveries: June, 2022 - Water deliveries for the month of June were 11,294 acre-feet which is 312 acre-feet more than was delivered during June, 2021. The fiscal year-to-date total deliveries are at 26,681 acre-feet which is 1,241 acre-feet more than was delivered at this time during the last fiscal year.
- ▶ Weekly TDS Readings: June 27, 2022

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- ▶ U.S.B.R. / Central Valley Project
 - Mendota Pool - Pumping reports (TDS) for the Delta-Mendota Canal Check#21 were reviewed.

- ▶ Kings River Water Association
 - KRWA Storage Operations in Pine Flat Reservoir as of July 4,, 2022, totaled 2.231 CFS-days.

AGENCIES

- ▶ Power & Water Resources Pooling Authority (PWRPA) - A large rate increase is forthcoming as PWRPA expended more last year than anticipated. Despite this increase, PWRPA rates are still less than PG&E.
- ▶ Kings Basin Coordinating Committee recently held a managers' annual meeting. The Department of Water Resources determination on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan is pending.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Mancini briefly reported that field staff are working on hyacinth control/Mendota Pool; and the usual summer maintenance activities.

VIII. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

None were presented.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE REVIEW (07/12/2022)

Conducted Biennial Review of code as adopted under Resolution 2018-04 "Adopting a Revised Conflict-of-Interest Code" on August 14, 2018, and last reviewed/re-approved July 14, 2020.

Upon staff recommendation, M/S/C (M.COMBS / R.BARCELLOS), to RE-APPROVE CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE AS ORIGINALLY ADOPTED UNDER RESOLUTION 2018-04 ADOPTING A REVISED CONFLICT-OF-INTEREST CODE, AUGUST 14, 2018 (no changes, Att.3)

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

The "2022 Local Agency Biennial Report" will be forwarded to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

B. INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS (10/26/2021)

Kyle Feitz, MS, PE, CalPoly/San Luis Obispo Irrigation Training & Research Center, appeared before the Board to review the "James Irrigation District SCADA Plan". The ITRC has recommended completing the expansion of long-crested weir installations across the District and

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possibly adding selected Main Canal flow-rate controls (SCADA). Mr. Feist urged the District to proceed with caution with SCADA applications as “it must be done well to be effective”. He also emphasized the continual high cost of SCADA O&M (estimated at 15% of purchase cost/installation annually). Estimated \$2-\$3 million for full implementation with uncertain labor savings. Mr. Feist indicated grants may be available through the USBR/WaterSmart and National Resource Conservation Service programs.

C. STRATEGIC PLANNING (02/08/2022)

Amy Wolfe, Mujeres Poderosas, LLC, reviewed her professional background and the methodology she utilizes to compile data for organizing a Strategic Plan. She estimated it will take three months to develop an action-oriented, flexible, 7-year plan. A period of inquiry/discussion followed.

M/S/C (J.HUGHES / R.MOTTE), to AUTHORIZE AMY WOLFE, MUJERES PODEROSAS, THE PROCEED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC PLAN.

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

X. REPORT ITEMS

A. DISTRICT ELECTIONS: 2022 (06/14/2022)

1. Declaration of Candidacy - Directors whose terms expire this year and wishing to retain seats must file forms with District Secretary July 18-August 12, 2022 (or August 17, 2022, if incumbent does not file). See staff for assistance.
2. Notice of Election will be published in *The West Side Advance*.

B. PROCEDURES FOR A MAJORITY PROTEST HEARING ON A PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE DISTRICT’S WATER RATE (03/08/2022) - Mr. Amorelli updated the Board on the Proposition 218 process to increase the District’s billing rate. Notices were mailed to landowners last week. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 11:17 A.M.

Directors Attending:

Riley Chaney, President

Jeremy Hughes, Vice-President

Robert Motte, Secretary-Treasurer

Robert Barcellos, Assessor-Collector

Micah Combs, Director

Staff Attending

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

Legal Counsel

• Young Wooldridge, LLP

Alan F. Doud, Esq. (Zoom)

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

3 CASES

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

A. AS DEFENDANT: 2 CASES

1. NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL, ET AL, V HAALAND, ET AL
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
Case No. 1:5-CV-01207LJO-GSA
2. CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, RESTORE THE DELTA AND PLANNING & CONSERVATION LEAGUE V UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION ET AL (06/08/2021)
United States District Court, Eastern District of California
Case No. 1:20-CV-00706 DAD-EPG

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

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

A. JAMES & TRANQUILLITY NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee

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: General Manager/Designee

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: General Manager/Designee

To Be Determined

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

D. WATER BANKING & TRANSFERS (06/22/2021)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee

McMullin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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

E. WHITE PINE RENEWABLES (04/13/2021)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee

White Pine Renewables: Evan Riley

Under Negotiation: Price, terms and conditions of possible real property transaction.

F. FRESNO COUNTY APN 030-090-24S/15.98 AC, 030-090-28S/366.07 AC (10/16/2012)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee

Landowner

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

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G. FRESNO COUNTY APN 030-090-29S (4.66 ACRES), APN 030-090-30S (2.03 ACRES) (06/11/2019)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
Landowner

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

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 12:01 P.M.

XIV. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

No reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

XV. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 12:02 p.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 16, 2022.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Executive Assistant

Riley Chaney, President

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Interim Warrants: June 15-July 12, 2022, \$1,208,828.81
2. Payroll Certification: Pay Periods Ending June, 2022, \$80,203.23 (net)
3. Resolution 2018-04 Adopting a Revised Conflict-of-Interest Code, Re-approved July 12, 2022