

JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES October 15, 2020

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: (4)

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1606:

Wm. Cory Carvalho, President

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

Robert Motte

Salvador Parra, Jr.

Steven Stadler, Executive Director

INTERESTED PARTIES PRESENT:

None

DIRECTORS EXCUSED: (1)

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

Micah Combs, Vice-President

PUBLIC/CONSULTANTS PRESENT: (2)

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

Emanuele Amorelli, Business Manager

Donna Hanneman, Executive Assistant

DIRECTORS ABSENT:

None

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (James GSA) was held Thursday, October 15, 2020, in the Agency office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m., by President, Wm. Cory Carvalho. 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 a potential conflict-of-interest with items appearing on the Agenda; none were reported.

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III. MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: JULY 16, 2020

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

AYES: 4 (R.Motte, S.Parra, W.Carvalho, S.Stadler)

EXCUSED: 1 (M.Combs)

IV. FINANCIAL REPORTS

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

A. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE / INTERIM WARRANTS: JULY 17-OCTOBER 15, 2020 (Att.1)

▶ There were no Accounts Payable at this time.

▶ M/S/C (R.MOTTE / S.STADLER), to RATIFY/APPROVE Interim Warrants issued totaling \$56,827.81 UNANIMOUSLY PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 4 (R.Motte, S.Stadler, S.Parra, W.Carvalho)

EXCUSED: 1 (M.Combs)

B. CASH POSITION REPORT: SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

C. INCOME STATEMENTS: (BUDGET-TO-ACTUAL) PERIOD ENDING: SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

D. QUARTERLY REPORT OF FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS-PERIOD ENDING: SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

V. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

None presented.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- ▶ MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (MAGSA) is considering two policies: (1) water banking within MAGSA and (2) groundwater exports out of MAGSA to James Irrigation District. James Irrigation District sent a letter to MAGSA and heads of their member GSAs advising of our objections. Fresno Irrigation District and the North Kings GSA have registered their concerns as well.

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VII. REPORT ITEMS

A. ANNUAL REPORT (10/15/2020)

Mr. Stadler reported Todd Groundwater has prepared a surface groundwater report covering the last five years. As the reporting year ends September 30, staff will be taking groundwater elevation readings soon. Measurements are taken twice a year (spring/fall) and incorporated into historical records. Discussed well production relative to fluctuating groundwater levels. Mr. Stadler indicated greater demand placed on groundwater wells is directly related to fluctuating/limited CVP and Rights Water (San Joaquin River Riparian) allocations.

B. RURAL WELL OUTREACH (10/15/2020)

Due to other pressing demands, Mr. Stadler has been delayed in reaching out to owners of rural residential wells but intends to give greater focus next quarter.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. DWR SGMA GRANT SOLICITATION (10/15/2020)

The California Department of Water Resources is releasing grant solicitations for a grant with a maximum award of \$5 million. The final 2020 Proposal Solicitation Package is anticipated to be available next month, solicitation opening of Round 1 funding in mid-November, with applications due January, 2021. Mr. Stadler would like to be proactive and prepare projects for consideration. Kings Subbasin GSAs are evaluating which projects to submit. Potential submissions for James GSA are:

1. Improve Basin 2/Bypass to better capture flood water inflow/outflow
2. Storm water basin/City of San Joaquin.
3. Fresno/Carmichael Slough recharge projects

Mr. Stadler noted the James ID Board of Directors authorized an expenditure of \$25,000 to Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to support that effort to prepare now (Min: 10/13/2020).

The Kings River Conservation District requested we participate in their program; however, Mr. Stadler declined as he had some concerns about how costs would be allocated to each GSA, a single monitoring point, KRCD data reporting and he felt it might cost less and greater benefits achieved if we procured an engineer.

The Board requested Mr. Stadler inquire of KRCD if additional monitoring stations could be placed along the James Bypass rather than the lone monitoring point at the border of James ID and Tranquillity ID.

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M/S/C (S.PARRA / R.MOTTE), to AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PURSUE GRANT FUNDING IN COORDINATION WITH THE JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT.

AYES: 4 (S.Parra, R.Motte, W.Carvalho, S.Stadler)

EXCUSED: 1 (M.Combs)

A formal Resolution may be presented next meeting.

B. SUBSIDENCE MONITORING PROGRAM (02/20/2020)

Item carried forward.

Adjourned to Closed Session at 9:39 a.m.

Attending:

Wm. Cory Carvalho, President

Robert Motte, Director

Salvador Parra, Jr., Director

Staff:

Steven Stadler, General Manager, Executive Director

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: 1 CASE

1. MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY VS. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT; JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 20CECG00507

Reconvened in Open Session at 10:04 a.m.

XI. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

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

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XII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, M/S/C (S.PARRA / S.STADLER), to ADJOURN the meeting at 10:05 a.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021, UNANIMOUSLY PASSED by the following vote:

AYES: 4 (S.Parra, S.Stadler, W.Carvalho, R.Motte)

EXCUSED: 1 (M.Combs)

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman , Executive Assistant
JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Wm. Cory Carvalho, President
JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Steven P. Stadler, P.E., Executive Director
JAMES GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Accounts Payable / Interim Warrants: July 17-October 15, 2020, \$56,827.81