

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES June 28, 2022

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Riley Chaney, President
Jeremy Hughes, Vice-President
(9:00-9:50 a.m.)
Robert Motte, Secretary-Treasurer
(Arr.10:06 a.m.)
Robert Barcellos, Assessor
Micah Combs

LANDOWNERS / GROWERS

None

PUBLIC / CONSULTANTS

- PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP
Brian Ehlers, PE (Zoom)
Eric Abrahamsen, PE (Zoom)
- RINCON CONSULTANTS, INC.
Annaliese Miller (Zoom)

EXCUSED

None

ABSENT

None

LEGAL COUNSEL

- YOUNG WOOLDRIDGE, LLP/ CLOSED SESSION
Alan F. Doud, Esq. (Zoom)
- BARTKIEWICZ KRONICK & SHANAHAN / CLOSED SESSION
Ryan S. Bezerra, Esq. (Zoom)

STAFF PRESENT

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT ("District") was held Tuesday, June 28, 2022, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 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.

II. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - June 28, 2022

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.

III. ACTION ITEMS

A. RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE FINAL INITIAL STUDY-MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR PROJECT #2 AND APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT (06/28/2022)

▶ Rincon Consulting, Inc. - CEQA

- Annaliese Miller, Sr. Environmental Planner/Project Manager, with Rincon Consulting, provided a PowerPoint Presentation on Solar Project #2 which summarized the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process and outlined documentation and Board actions required to move forward with the project.

M/S/C (J.HUGHES / R.BARCELLOS), to ADOPT RESOLUTION 2022-12 FOR ADOPTION OF INITIAL STUDY/ MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND MITIGATION MONITORING AND REPORTING PROGRAM FOR THE JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT SOLAR PROJECT #2 AND APPROVAL OF PROJECT.

(Att.1)

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

EXCUSED: 1 (R.Motte)

ABSENT: None

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 9:01 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

Consultants:

- Provost & Pritchard Consulting

Brian Ehlers, PE (Zoom)

Eric Abrahamsen, PE (Zoom)

Legal Counsel

- Bartkiewicz Kronick & Shanahan

Ryan S. Bezerra, Esq. (Zoom)

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - June 28, 2022

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

2 CASES

V. 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

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - June 28, 2022

VI. 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 (06/22/2021)

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 (06/20/2021)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee

McMullin Area 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 land lease.

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: Marilyn Fay Briggs, Trustee, Daniel Briggs

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

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - June 28, 2022

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 9:52 A.M.

VII. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION

No reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

VIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 9:53 a.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 12, 2022.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Executive Assistant

Riley Chaney, President

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution 2022-12 Adoption of Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the James Irrigation District Solar Project #2, and Approval of Project, Adopted June 28, 2022