

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, GROWERS & LANDOWNERS
ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

March 21, 2024

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOMING REMARKS

The 2024 Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, Growers and Landowners of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT was held Thursday, March 21, 2024, at the offices of the District at 8749 9th Street, San Joaquin, California 93660. (Attendance Roster: Att.1) The meeting was called to order at 12:38 p.m., by General Manager, Manny Amorelli.

2. OTHER BUSINESS / PUBLIC COMMENTS

General Manager, Manny Amorelli expressed his appreciation to everyone for attending and for their continued support.

Superintendent, Kenneth Mancini and crew, were thanked for their efforts in preparing for this event. Kenneth Mancini and Board members Robert Barcellos and Robert Motte were also thanked for their assistance in helping prepare an excellent meal.

3. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

The following individuals were introduced and recognized for their service to the District.

NEW EMPLOYEE

Mirian Esparza, Office Clerk

20 YEARS

Danny Gutierrez, Maintenance

40 YEARS

Kenneth Mancini, Superintendent

4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

WATER SUPPLY

- ▶ U.S.B.R. CVP Contract initial allocation has been set at 15%. This allocation did not consider impacts of late winter rains/snowfall. An updated announcement is expected shortly and will be shared with growers/landowners.
- ▶ San Joaquin River Riparian, Schedule II - Full allocation this year.
- ▶ Section 215 Surplus Water may be available and will be discussed at the next Board meeting on April 9th.
- ▶ Kings River Flood Releases are not anticipated this year.

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PROJECTS

- ▶ On-Farm Recharge - One hundred acres was recently purchased for on-farm recharge.
- ▶ Main Canal Project - Working with consultants on a long-range plan to rebuild aging Main Canal infrastructure, increase canal capacity and remove constrictions to improve north-south flow. The Project will be financed with District assessments and, possibly, grants.
- ▶ Lateral K Dual-Use Solar/Recharge Project - Recently Assemblywoman, Esmeralda Soria, visited the District & attended the grand opening of this project.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- ▶ Grower Rebates based on water usage for the 2023-24 Water Year at \$12.50/acre-foot were recently mailed.
- ▶ Main Canal Project Reserve - Funds have been reserved for this project.
- ▶ STORM Water Resource Management Software / Online Portal - E-mails were recently sent to growers with login information. The new portal will enable users to view water usage, order and/or cancel orders and, soon, payments may be submitted electronically. Growers were requested to follow-up e-mailed orders submitted on Saturday/Sunday with a phone call to the Ditchtender for verification as office staff is not available to provide electronic confirmation. Two workshops will be scheduled in the near future to familiarize users with the process.

GENERAL COMMENTS

- ▶ Growers & Landowners were strongly encouraged to provide feedback to the District and staff. Mr. Amorelli encouraged the free exchange of ideas, comments, stating "We're here to work together".

5. BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Riley Chaney commented that the 2024-2025 Budget was based on a billing rate of \$185.00/acre-foot at a 30% USBR CVP Contract allocation. Due to uncertainty, he encouraged growers to update their crop plans with the District, especially fallowed acreage, to help staff more accurately develop budget forecasts.

6. QUESTION & ANSWER SESSION

There were no inquiries noted.

7. CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Amorelli again expressed his appreciation to everyone for attending. He affirmed his commitment to work with neighbors and maintains an open-door policy. Ideas/comments are always welcome.

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8. ADJOURN

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was ADJOURNED at 12:49 p.m.

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Donna Y. Hanneman, Secretary

Riley Chaney, President
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Attendance Roster: March 21, 2024