

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES

September 12, 2024

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Riley Chaney, President
Robert Motte, Vice-President
Robert Barcellos
Wm. Cory Carvalho
Andrew Groppetti

PUBLIC

None

CONSULTANTS

- LIGHTHOUSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS, LLC / CLOSED SESSION
Andy Lynch (Zoom)

EXCUSED

None

LEGAL COUNSEL

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

ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Special Meeting of the Board of Directors of JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT (“District”) was held Thursday, September 12, 2024, in the District office located at 8749 Ninth Street, San Joaquin, California. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by President, Riley Chaney. A quorum was at all times present and acting.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public were not present.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

None stated.

4. ADDITIONS / CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no corrections/additions to the Agenda.

5. 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.

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - September 12, 2024

ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 1:03 A.M.

Directors Attending:

Riley Chaney, President

Robert Motte, Vice-President

Robert Barcellos, Director

Wm. Cory Carvalho, Director

Andrew Groppetti, Director

Staff Attending

Manny Amorelli, General Manager

Consultants:

• Lighthouse Public Affairs, LLC

Andy Lynch

Legal Counsel

• Young Wooldridge, LLP

Alan F. Doud, Esq. (Zoom)

Brett A. Stroud, Esq. (Zoom)

• Bartkiewicz Kronick & Shanahan

Ryan S. Bezerra, Esq. (Zoom)

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

- a. SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OR (3) OF SUBDIVISION (D):

4 CASES

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

AS DEFENDANT: 3 CASES

- a. 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

- b. 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

- c. MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY V JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT (08/13/2024)

Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 24CECG03049

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - September 12, 2024

AS PLAINTIFF: 2 CASES

- d. KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION ET AL V. JAMES VERBOON ET AL
Kings County Superior Court, Case No. 15 C0304
- e. JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT V. MCMULLIN AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
Santa Clara County Superior Court, Case No. 23CV417565

AS INTERVENOR: 1 CASE

- f. CITY OF FRESNO, ET AL V. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
United States Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 1:16-CV-01276-MCW

8. 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, operations & maintenance.

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: MCMULLIN AREA GSA (06/22/2021)

Negotiating Parties: James Irrigation District: General Manager/Designee
McMullin GSA: Matthew Hurley, General Manager

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

JAMES IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES - September 12, 2024

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 2:15 P.M.

9. REPORT ON ACTIONS TAKEN DURING CLOSED SESSION Gov. Code 54957.1

No reportable actions were taken during the Closed Session.

10. ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Board, M/S/C (A.GROPPETTI/W.CARVALHO), to ADJOURN the meeting at 2:16 p.m., until the next Regular Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: 5 (A.Groppetti, W.Carvalho, R.Barcellos, R.Motte, R.Chaney)

APPROVED BY:

Riley Chaney, President

Manny Amorelli, General Manager