

August 29, 2018  
Regular Meeting  
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Joe Tonascia, and Directors John Tobias, Frank Bettencourt, and Bob Huenemann; Vice President Sonny Flores was absent. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pival, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Tonascia called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Tonascia led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board; rebuttal will be limited to 3 minutes; no new business agenda items will be heard after 8:00 p.m.**
- c. Approval of Agenda**  
With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**  
There were no public comments.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 1. Approval of Minutes for: July 25, 2018 Regular Meeting**
- 2. Allowance of Claims**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the August Board Meeting**

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Huenemann; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

### **REGULAR AGENDA:**

- 4. Consider Resolution Authorizing the Board President to Execute a Warren Act Contract with the United States to allow for conveyance of Non-Project Water acquired by District and Approve Deposit Payments of \$33,880 for Energy Costs and Fees**

Mr. Cattaneo stated for the District to utilize Non-Project water, it requires the District have a Warren Act Contract in place. Warren Act contracts have a 5 year term and our current one has expired. Mr. Cattaneo stated this is for transfers from Yuba and others when available. There is nothing that has changed in the contract from our previous one and the deposit that is being requested is used against future costs.

Director Huenemann asked if this is only for 800 AF of water. Mr. Cattaneo replied, no, it is for an unlimited amount of available water. He further added, it is basically the same contract that all South of Delta contractors must use.

With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, Resolution #2018-10 *A Resolution of the Board of Directors Authorizing the Board President to Execute a Warren Act Contract with the United States to allow for conveyance of Non-Project Water acquired by District and Approve Deposit Payments of \$33,880 for Energy Costs and Fees* was unanimously approved.

**5. Consider Amending Resolution #2008-19 regarding the District Manager's Authority to Execute Documents on behalf of said District and to Conduct certain banking transactions**

Mrs. Singleton stated in 2008, when Mr. Cattaneo became the District Manager, the Board approved a resolution which authorized him signing authority on behalf of the District. Heritage Bank has requested that we amend out resolution to state that Jeff Cattaneo, as District Manager, has signing authority for banking transactions and can designate signatories as needed. This is consistent with our current practice.

Director Tobias asked if there is a maximum amount. Mrs. Singleton stated currently under a separate Board approved purchase policy that Mr. Cattaneo has the authority for a maximum purchase amount of \$30,000 without Board approval. This resolution was amended to be clear that it covers banking transactions.

With no other questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Huenemann, Resolution #2018-11, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Amending Resolution #2008-19 regarding the District Manager's Authority to Execute Documents on behalf of said District and to Conduct certain banking transactions* was unanimously approved.

**6. Consider Resolution Setting Forth its Intentions Regarding Percolation of San Felipe Project Water for Water Contract Year 2018-2019**

Mr. Cattaneo stated he would have brought this item to the Board sooner, but waited for the final water allocation from the Bureau. The Bureau has again limited the District's carry over water to approximately 3600 AF. Mr. Cattaneo stated the District will be transferring 2500 AF of M & I water to Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) which is excess water for SBCWD which is to be transferred back at a later date The District does have needs in terms of water to both manage the basin and to comply with SGMA (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act). He will continue to percolate, approximately 2000 AF of Ag water and 2000 AF of M & I water.

Director Huenemann asked if that will leave any unused water. Mr. Cattaneo replied it may as it will depend how much water is returned from customers. If that is the case, he will return to the Board to increase the amount of percolation.

Director Bettencourt asked about storing more water in Semi Tropic. Mr. Cattaneo stated no, the District won't be using Semi Tropic this year. Because we use SCVWD's storage space, they have to have extra storage space, but there are also costs involved such as:

10% loss, a put and take fee, which is \$150/AF each way and also an annual maintenance fee of \$7-8/AF.

With no further questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Tobias and seconded by Director Bettencourt, Resolution #2018-12, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Setting Forth its Intentions Regarding Percolation of San Felipe Project Water for Water Contract Year 2018-2019* was unanimously approved.

**7. Staff Report on new website**

Mr. Cattaneo thanked Mr. Novack and Mrs. Singleton for their hard work on getting the new website up and running. Mr. Novack reviewed the new website for the Board.

Director Huenemann asked if the Agendas for the Board and Committee Meetings could be changed to show the newest on the top. Mr. Novack agreed to look into this change.

**8. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:**

**a) San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)**

Mr. Cattaneo will cover this under his Manager's report.

**9. District Manager/Engineer's Report:**

**a) Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported SCVWD is closing out the Pacheco Rehabilitation Project and it is close to budget. Staff is reviewing change orders, which were \$800,000 but about \$600,000 was eliminated from the budget, so it should be close. Also, Mr. Cattaneo reported there are about 1-2 pump rebuilds each year, which should total about \$500,000-600,000 each. The District staff is asking SCVWD to look at the historical cost of rebuilds.

**b) Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff is planning for repairs at the spillway at Hernandez Reservoir. Now that the reservoir is empty, staff can remove the other hydraulic cylinder and have it repaired. Also, normal operations continue such as mowing and dealing with rodent issues.

**c) Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff is percolating 5 cubic feet per second (cfs) in Tres Pinos, 5 cfs at Union Road and about .8 cfs at Los Viboras, daily. There will be another scheduled shut down in November, which will affect subsystems 7-10. The shutdown will be shorter than last year's as the District can now isolate the shutdown. During a corrosion inspection today, it was determined Sub 7 needs some attention. Mr. Cattaneo added District staff will work with the growers' schedules to lessen the impact of the shutdown.

Director Tobias stated the District had a significant presence off of Highway 156. Mr. Cattaneo reported we had a CorBan pipe fail next to a turnout. The District was fortunate to get a section from Westlands or we would have been out for about a month. Mr. Cattaneo added Dave Meraz has ordered CorBan pipe sections and couplings to have on hand for future repairs.

**d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Authority is still working through cost reallocation negotiations. Westlands Water District is requesting to reduce their costs. Mr. Cattaneo stated some structure change is likely.

Director Bettencourt asked if they are looking for a new manager. Mr. Cattaneo replied the Authority is looking for a new manager, not Westlands.

**e) SGMA Update**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met about 2 weeks ago. Also, Iris Preistaf, Todd Groundwater, is working on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) draft. The next meeting of the TAC will be in October and there will also be a public workshop in November.

Mrs. Singleton stated the District is working with the State on the grant agreement to clarify the scope and budget, which will minimize reporting and be easier for both the State and the District.

Mr. Cattaneo added SGMA information is now available on our webpage.

**f) Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is moving forward with SCVWD on this project. There is a meeting scheduled for next week to discuss starting the design and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) work. Mr. Cattaneo stated there likely be 4 agreements between our District and SCVWD in the future.

**10. Adjournment**

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

*/s/Sonny Flores*  
Sonny Flores, Vice President

*/s/Natalie Sullivan*  
Natalie Sullivan, Acting Recording Secretary