

February 27, 2019
Regular Meeting
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, Vice President John Tobias and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Joe Tonascia and Doug Williams. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

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

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Flores 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 Tonascia and a second by Director Tobias, the Agenda was unanimously approved.
- d. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**
Mr. Novack relayed to the Board, the District is offering a free training opportunity, March 14th, on pumping efficiency.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. **Approval of Minutes for: January 30, 2019 Regular Meeting**
- 2. **Allowance of Claims**
- 3. **Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the February Board Meeting**
Director Bettencourt asked about the claim for Hernandez permit fees. Mr. Cattaneo stated it is for the hazardous materials permit required by the State.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Vice President Tobias and seconded by Director Williams; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4. **Discuss and Consider Requests from Joseph and Michelle Torquato at 505 Blossom Lane, Hollister, APN 020-340-026 and Earl and Kathie Miller at 464 Blossom Lane, Hollister, APN 020-340-025 for the District to abandon the San Felipe water service and Authorize the District Manager to sign the necessary documents to Quitclaim the District's Easement**

Mr. Cattaneo stated this item is not for San Felipe water service but is an old Hollister Irrigation District easement, which the District no longer needs.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Williams, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of the Requests from Joseph and Michelle Torquato at 505 Blossom Lane, Hollister, APN 020-340-026 and Earl and Kathie Miller at 464 Blossom Lane, Hollister, APN 020-340-025 for the District to abandon the Hollister Irrigation District easement and Authorize the District Manager to sign the necessary documents to Quitclaim the District's Easement.

5. Discuss and Consider Authorizing the District Manager Approve a Task Order for Hernandez Reservoir Dam Spillway Repair Engineering Services provided by GEI Consultants, Inc. (NTE \$83,568)

Mr. Haertel reviewed the proposed task order from GEI.

Director Tonascia asked if this task order is just for the design, which Mr. Haertel confirmed. Mr. Cattaneo added there will also be additional hydrologic analysis which is required by the Department of Safety of Dams. Mr. Haertel added the engineering department is exploring avenues for grant funding for the actual construction work that is needed. Mr. Cattaneo stated construction cost, he estimates, could be \$200,000 to \$250,000.

With no further questions, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved of the Task Order for Hernandez Reservoir Dam Spillway Repair Engineering Services provided by GEI Consultants, Inc. and Authorized the District Manager to sign the task order (NTE \$83,568).

6. Discuss and Consider Authorizing the District Manager Purchase Recycled Water Sand Media Filters based upon bid results (NTE \$36,000)

Mr. Haertel stated 2019 will be the 2nd full season for recycled water. District staff is recommending a modification to the recycled water ponds. Mr. Haertel described how the sand media filters would improve the process for the recycled water program. He added that Brigantino Irrigation is the low quote.

With a motion by Vice President Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously Authorized the District Manager to Purchase Recycled Water Sand Media Filters from Brigantino Irrigation (NTE \$ 36,000).

7. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

a) Mid Pacific Water Users Conference in Reno, Nevada, January 23 to 25, 2019 (Tonascia)

Director Tonascia stated the conference was well attended by members. Also, an interesting presentation was given on the Friant Watershed. They are working with NASA on 3D Topography and shared how accurate the results have been.

b) San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)

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

- c) **Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (Bettencourt/Flores)**
Director Bettencourt was out of town and did not attend the meeting.
- d) **Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)**
Director Flores reported WRA has new members from the City of Hollister and the City of San Juan Bautista.
- e) **Finance Committee (Bettencourt/Tonascia)**
The Finance Committee was unable to meet prior to the Board meeting.

8. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

- a) **Reach 1 Operations**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, he did not have anything to report on Reach 1 Operations.
- b) **Zone 3 Operations**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, Hernandez Reservoir is likely full; District staff will confirm this next week. Mr. Cattaneo is directing District staff to move water into Paicines Reservoir at this time. Mr. Cattaneo explained how staff operates the reservoir so as not to overrun the Paicines Canal.
- c) **Zone 6 Operations**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, San Justo Reservoir is full. The Bureau's initial allocation for Ag is 35%, but Mr. Cattaneo anticipates the final allocation could be 50% or higher. Because the District has stored water, Mr. Cattaneo reported the District allocated 70% of the contract to Ag customers. Due to the additional water, Mr. Cattaneo intends to percolate again this year. Also, Mr. Cattaneo intends to empty Hernandez Reservoir as long as the District has storage space in the basin. Discussion ensued about groundwater recharge from Hernandez Reservoir and monitoring wells in San Juan Valley.
- d) **San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, he would like to schedule Special Meeting on March 6th to consider approval of a loan agreement for SLDMWA. The Jones Plant Pumps Rewind Project will cost approximately \$6 million per pump and SLDMWA is not able to secure the funding at this time for the second pump. SLDMWA was considering putting this amount into the rates and a few members suggested fronting the funds for the project. This item was not ready to go before the Board at tonight's meeting, which is why Mr. Cattaneo is asking for a Special Meeting.

Mrs. Singleton added there will be another Strategic Meeting in March for SLDMWA.
- e) **SGMA Update**
Mr. Cattaneo asked if Board members had any comments to the Draft Plan distributed at the January meeting; there were no comments. Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is moving forward with the hydrogeologist.

f) Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District continues to work with Santa Clara Valley Water District on this project. Currently, both agencies are negotiating the allocation plan. Mr. Cattaneo added there will be a meeting on March 8th with several of the consultants working on the project. Internally, our District is working on managing risks for the project and working on a Project Management Plan. The next risk meeting is scheduled for March 1st.

9. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

The minutes were approved by the presiding board member at the March 27, 2019 Regular board meeting.

/s/Sonny Flores
Sonny Flores, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk