

October 30, 2019
Regular Meeting
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, October 30, 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, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan 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**
Noting the request of the District Manager to move Agenda item #7 ahead of Agenda item #6, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded 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: September 25, 2019 Regular Meeting**
2. **Allowance of Claims**
3. **Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the October Board Meeting**
4. **Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, Ending September 30, 2019**

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

5. **Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Update given by Todd Groundwater**
Iris Priestaf and Gus Yates, of Todd Groundwater, gave the Board an update on where the District is in the GSP process, via a PowerPoint presentation.
6. **Consider Approval of Resolution to make an application to the State Department of Water Resources to obtain a Grant under the 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Planning – Round 3 Grant pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 and/or the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for all Act of 2018**

Mr. Cattaneo stated this item is related to the GSP. The State has made additional grant funds available for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan (SGMA). The total available funds is \$1.2 million. Mr. Cattaneo stated there are two components to the Grant funds. 1) \$800,000 for monitoring wells, which the District needs in the south management area and the Bolsa area. (10 monitoring wells would cost approximately \$80,000 each) 2) Planning for management and recharging of the basin, particularly in the Fallon/McCloskey Roads area, so the District can more fully utilize CVP water when it has extra water available.

In order to apply for the grant funds, the State requests a resolution of the Board of Directors, per Mr. Cattaneo.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Tobias and seconded by Director Williams; Resolution #2019-13, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District to make an application to the State Department of Water Resources to obtain a Grant under the 2019 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Planning – Round 3 Grant pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 and/or the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for all Act of 2018* was unanimously approved.

7. Consider Approval of Purchase of 1 vehicle and Authorize District Manager to sign all necessary documents (NTE \$48,000 total)

Mrs. Singleton stated that the Board has established a protocol of replacing District vehicles when they exceed 150,000 miles. Currently, one vehicle is in excess of 160,000 miles. Because the lead time is lengthy, staff is recommending the Board authorize the purchase of a new vehicle through the State procurement program. For the Board's review, a bid for a new truck, which includes a utility box and a crane, is included. Mrs. Singleton stated the Board would be approving a vehicle purchase not to exceed \$48,000.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the purchase of 1 vehicle and authorized the District Manager to sign all necessary documents, not to exceed \$48,000.

8. Consider setting the September, November and December Board Meeting dates for 2020

Mrs. Mauro reviewed the proposed Board Meeting date changes for 2020, due to holidays and the San Benito County Fair.

With a motion by Vice President Tobias and a second by Director Bettencourt, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the change for the September, November and December Board Meetings. The 2020 dates are: September 23, 2020, November 18, 2020 and December 16, 2020.

9. Consider Authorizing Director Attendance at the 2019 ACWA/JPIA's Board of Directors' Meeting on December 2, 2019, San Diego, California

Director Bettencourt expressed interest in attending the JPIA Board of Directors' Meeting.

10. Consider Authorizing the District Manager (or his Designee) and Director Attendance at the 2019 ACWA Fall Conference, December 3 through December 6, 2019 in San Diego, California

Directors Tonascia, Tobias and Flores all expressed interest in attending.

11. Staff Report on Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting

Mrs. Singleton stated the District received the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 6th year in a row. She indicated that while it is an effort by everyone at the District to accomplish this, Natalie Sullivan is the person who did a substantial amount of the work for this award. Mrs. Singleton further explained the process of submitting the financials and added what a significant achievement this is for the District.

12. Board Discussion on District response to outages

Mr. Cattaneo stated staff is reviewing the current practice of how District customers are notified when there is a subsystem or Hollister Conduit outage on weekends or holidays. Staff had prepared several options for the Board to review.

Director Tonascia suggested a no reply text program, might be helpful. Mr. Cattaneo stated it would be a pre-prepared message that would be text, voice mail and e-mail compatible.

Director Tobias asked if all of the sub-systems could be loaded. Mr. Cattaneo added there a lot of details that would need to be worked out.

Discussion included the notification of County Dispatch and the consideration of having a phone app for ease of use. Mr. Cattaneo stated he will direct staff to pursue options for this and report back to the Board when more information was available.

13. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

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

Mr. Cattaneo stated he will report on this item, under his Manager's Report.

b) Water Resources Association (Flores/Bettencourt)

As per Director Flores, general business was discussed.

14. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

As per Mr. Cattaneo, Aaron Baker has been promoted to Deputy Operating Officer at Santa Clara Valley Water District.

b) Zone 3 Operations

As per Mr. Cattaneo, District staff will return to the Hernandez Spillway repairs in the next couple of weeks. He also reported that releases from Hernandez and Paicines Reservoirs are complete.

c) **Zone 6 Operations**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, District staff have completed the Intertie at Wright Road and have now begun laying the pipe at the percolation ponds. If all goes well, this should be complete sometime next week. Also, the District continues to percolate at the Frog Pond on Los Viboras Road as well as at Tres Pinos Creek and Union Road.

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

As per Mr. Cattaneo, WIIN Act negotiations continue and a meeting was held yesterday in Fresno, attended by Mr. Cattaneo and Mrs. Singleton. The negotiations could take another nine months or so. To meet the WIIN deadline, all contract negotiations need to be completed by December 2021. If the District is successful, the District's customers would no longer need to fill out the RRA forms and there would no longer be full cost water. If the negotiations are successful, the District will be required to pay off the in-basin capital costs, which would be approximately \$3 million.

e) **SGMA Update**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, this has already been covered.

f) **Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, SCVWD is looking into Federal funding in addition to the State funding they have already secured. Geotechnical work has begun and the type of dam options are being reviewed.

15. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the November 20, 2019 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/John Tobias

John Tobias, Vice President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro

Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk