

November 20, 2019
Regular Meeting
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: Vice President John Tobias and Directors Frank Bettencourt, Joe Tonascia and Doug Williams; President Sonny Flores was absent. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel David E. Pipal, Supervising Accountant Natalie Sullivan and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

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

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
Vice President Tobias 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**
Mr. Cattaneo stated the Closed Session item needed to be removed. Noting the removal of the Closed Session Item, a motion was made by Director Tonascia and seconded by Director Williams; 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: October 20, 2019 Regular Meeting**
- 2. **Allowance of Claims**
- 3. **Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the November Board Meeting**
With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Bettencourt and seconded by Director Williams; the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved.

REGULAR AGENDA:

- 4. **Committee/Agency Representative Reports:**
 - a) **San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tobias/Tonascia)**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, he will cover this under his Manager's Report.
 - b) **Investment Committee (Flores/Tobias)**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee received a presentation from CalPERS on how to invest the funds from OPEB. Vice President Tobias added they gave 3 options for the District to consider.

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

a) **Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported that he and Mrs. Singleton attended the quarterly meeting at Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD). Also, they attended a separate meeting which discussed the pump rebuilds SCVWD is stating need to be done. There are 12 pumps at the Pacheco Pumping Plant. Mr. Cattaneo asked SCVWD if it now costs \$1.1 million to rebuild a pump, what does a new one cost. According to SCVWD, a new one is \$800,000. Discussion ensued about the age of the pumps and what would determine whether the pumps would be rebuilt or replaced. Director Tonascia asked if there is a recycle value if the pumps are replaced and Mr. Cattaneo stated very little.

b) **Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported District staff will start the repairs at Hernandez Reservoir next week, now the Intertie work is complete.

c) **Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the Intertie Project construction is complete and staff has begun filling the ponds. The cost for the project was under \$100,000. In about 90 days, the District should be able to percolate about 2000 AF.

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

Mr. Cattaneo reviewed 2 proposed projects with the Board, which were presented at the Authority.

The first project is the San Luis Transmission Project (SLTP). In April of 2016, the PG&E contract expired, which lead the Authority to seek alternatives. There is a proposal from Duke Energy. Duke would front the money for the project. The project total megawatts would be 1200; 400 for the South of Delta, 600 for the North of Delta and 200 would be retained by Duke. This contract would be for 30 years but Mr. Cattaneo asked the Authority if this is the best option.

When the contract expired with PG&E, the Authority approached them and there were not interested. Mr. Cattaneo has asked for a workshop of the full Board of the Authority to review the options.

The second project is the Sisk Dam Raise. The Sisk Dam has seismic issues and there needs to be a 10' free board space. This does not increase the water level, but addresses the seismic issues. There is an opportunity to add an additional 10' to the dam, which could increase the storage by 130,000 AF. Mr. Cattaneo reviewed the schedule to complete the project.

Three options are being considered; 1) Bureau Project 2) Bureau and State of California Project or 3) Private Project.

The approximate cost is \$700 million. The District's share of 1.77% would equate to 2300 AF of storage, meaning the District's share would be about \$12 million or \$5400/AF.

Also, San Luis Reservoir is not likely to fill this year. If it doesn't fill, Mr. Cattaneo stated the 4388 AF the District intended to carry over is safe but that also means the allocation will be less.

e) **SGMA Update**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District held a meeting of Bolsa growers on Monday. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss water balance concerns in that area. Todd Groundwater's assumption was 1-2 crops annually in that area and provide input into the groundwater modeling that will be used in for the GSP. According to the growers, the actual is 3-4 crops annually. The Technical Advisory Committee will receive this updated information at the scheduled meeting on January 13th.

f) **Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project**

Mr. Cattaneo reported this project is moving forward, slowly at this point. SCVWD continues to work on WIIN Funding and several options for the Dam are being reviewed.

(Items #6 and #7 were removed during the approval of the agenda)

6. **CLOSED SESSION: Conference with legal counsel—
Existing litigation**

a) **Government Code 54956.9(a)**

**San Benito County Water District v. Randy McAlpine
(CL-13-00437)**

b) **Government Code 54956.9(a)**

**Randy McAlpine v. San Benito County Water District
(CU-17-00050)**

7. **OPEN SESSION:**

Report any action from Closed Session, if any

8. **Adjournment**

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

The minutes were approved at the December 18, 2019 Board Meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Sonny Flores
Sonny Flores, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro

Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk