

June 30, 2021
Regular Meeting
5:02 p.m.

On March 18, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, which enhances State and Local Governments' ability to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic; this meeting was conducted with some members participating via conference phone. Because of this, all voting was done by roll call vote.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, June 30, 2021 at 5:02 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Doug Williams, Vice President Joe Tonascia and Directors Sonny Flores, Andrew Shelton and John Tobias. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Michael Craig, and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro. Participating remotely were: District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem and Finance Manager Natalie Sullivan.

CALL TO ORDER

President Williams called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Roll Call**
Mrs. Mauro called roll. President Williams, Vice President Tonascia and Directors Flores, Shelton and Tobias were all present at the District.
- c. 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.**
- d. Approval of Agenda**
As per Mr. Cattaneo, we are removing the Closed Session Item from tonight's agenda. Noting that amendment, Vice President Tonascia made a motion to approve the agenda and Director Tobias seconded the motion; it was approved by 5 affirmative votes; Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.
- e. 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: May 26, 2021 Regular Meeting
June 16, 2021 Special Meeting**
- 2. Allowance of Claims**
- 3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the June Board Meeting**

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Shelton, the Consent Agenda was approved by 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

REGULAR AGENDA:

4. Consider Resolution Implementing the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 1 (One) Voluntary Conservation

Mr. Cattaneo stated California is experiencing an extreme drought. The District's allocation was reduced to a -0- water allocation for Ag and a 25% of historical use for Municipal and Industrial. Mr. Novack gave an update on what measures the District has been implementing using the Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 1 Voluntary Conservation contained in the Urban Water Management Plan, such as landscape water reductions, public outreach, bill inserts and water waste calls. He further reviewed the resolution which is calling for a voluntary reduction of up to 15%.

With a motion by Director Flores and a second by Director Shelton, Resolution #2021-12, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Implementing the District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan Stage 1 (One) Voluntary Conservation* was approved by 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

5. Discuss and Consider Approval of Drilling Contract for the North San Benito Basin-Dedicated Shallow Monitoring Well Installation Study

Mr. Haertel stated at the special meeting on June 16th, the contract for shallow wells was not ready to come before the Board but is ready now. Mr. Haertel reviewed the need for a monitoring network for SGMA. The District only received 1 bid from Maggiora Brothers but has resubmitted with a sub-contractor. Mr. Haertel stated the bid for all 6 wells is for \$110,116.

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and second by Director Tobias, the Board of Directors Approved a Drilling Contract for the North San Benito Basin-Dedicated Shallow Monitoring Well Installation Study with Maggiora Brothers for \$110,116 and authorized the District Manager to sign the contract.

6. North San Benito County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

• Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

Mr. Cattaneo reported that Iris Priestaf from Todd Groundwater will give an overview of the PowerPoint that was given to the SGMA Technical Advisory Committee earlier this afternoon. The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) is essentially complete and the Board will receive a draft copy of it next Tuesday to review. Mr. Cattaneo added there will be another public workshop on August 4th and then a 90-day public review. The Board will also have a Public Hearing on July 14th to consider SGMA Fees.

Ms. Priestaf presented the PowerPoint to the Board; there were no questions.

7. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:

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

As per Director Tonascia, Westlands Water District is making a recommendation to reduce pumping to .5-acre foot per acre in 2030; they are currently pumping 1.6-acre feet per acre. Mr. Cattaneo will have additional information in his manager's report.

- b) **Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (Flores/Shelton)**
As per Director Flores, discussion continued on levee design and how to obtain local funding. Also discussed is the possibility of going out for a Prop 218.
- c) **Water Resources Association (Flores/Shelton)**
As per Director Flores, the Committee primarily discussed the drought response.
- d) **Finance Committee (Tonascia/Williams)**
Directors Tonascia and Williams reported they discussed the budget. Mr. Cattaneo added the committee also discussed a rate study proposal and that would likely come to the Board at the next regular board meeting.

8. Monthly Operations and Maintenance Report

Mr. Craig showed several photos of repairs done by the maintenance staff. Mr. Craig also reported that Alan Zeisbrich has prepared binders on all of the District's pumps which has been very helpful in training.

9. District Manager/Engineer's Report:

a) Reach 1 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) continues to evaluate the pumps at the Pacheco Pumping Plant. There are 12 2000 horsepower pumps at the plant and SBCWD is questioning whether it is better to purchase new pumps rather than rebuild the current ones.

b) Zone 3 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported all water has been released from both reservoirs, but District staff has more work to complete on the spillway at Hernandez later this year.

c) Zone 6 Operations

Mr. Cattaneo reported staff continues to hold San Justo Reservoir at 493' elevation with the uncertainty of the Bureau deliveries. Mr. Cattaneo relayed there was an issue with the Bureau regarding the District's M & I allocation. According to the Bureau, they reduced the District's M & I allocation due to non-use. Mr. Cattaneo placed a call to Frederico at SLDMWA who was able to have that reversed.

d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities

Mr. Cattaneo reported that due to the change in the District's water allocation: 5% in Ag reduced to 0%, the District' O & M Rates from SLDMWA were recalculated from \$37.19 per acre foot to \$40.90 per acre foot.

e) Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project

Mr. Cattaneo reported there is no news on the project, but SCVWD continues to look for partners and additional funding.

f) City of San Juan Bautista Water Supply Plan

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District has experienced some issues with easements for the pipeline. Because of this, staff has had to realign the pipeline to run along the foothills instead.

Director Tobias asked if the District could run alongside the Caltrans road realignment. Mr. Cattaneo stated no, we cannot run alongside them.

g) Update on Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget

Mr. Cattaneo reported this item is normally on the June agenda, but accounting has had to re-work the budget 3 different times, which caused the delay.

Mrs. Singleton stated staff anticipates getting the draft budget to the committee in the week of July 12th.

(The Closed Session Item was removed from the agenda during the approval of the agenda)

10. CLOSED SESSION—Conference with Legal Counsel—existing litigation

a. Government Code 54956.9(a)

Center for Biological Diversity, ET AL v. United States Bureau of Reclamation, ET AL

(CASE NO.: 1:20-CV-00706-DAD-EPG)

11. OPEN SESSION

Report any action if any

12. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the July 28, 2021 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Doug Williams
Doug Williams, President

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