

January 9, 2023
Special Meeting
5:02 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in special session on Monday, January 9, 2023 at 5:02 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, and Directors Joe Tonascia, Doug Williams and Mark Wright; Vice President Andrew Shelton was absent. Also present were District Manager Jeff Cattaneo, Assistant General Manager Steve Wittry, District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem, Manager of Administration, Finance and Business Services Joyce Machado, Finance Manager Natalie Sullivan, Water Resources Technician I Dustin Franco and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro.

CALL TO ORDER

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

a. Pledge of Allegiance

President Flores led the Pledge of Allegiance.

b. Roll Call

Mrs. Mauro called roll. Members present were: President Flores and Directors Tonascia, Williams and Wright; Vice President Shelton was absent.

c. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board

d. Approval of the Agenda

With a motion by Director Williams and a second by Director Wright, the Agenda was approved with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

a. Consider Resolution Recognizing Jeff Cattaneo for his 22 Years of Service to the District

President Flores read the resolution recognizing Jeff Cattaneo into the record. Both President Flores and Director Tonascia thanked Mr. Cattaneo for his time with the District. Mr. Cattaneo stated he enjoyed his time at the District.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Williams, the Board of Directors approved Resolution #2023-01, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Recognizing Jeff Cattaneo for his 22 Years of Service to the District* with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Allowance of Claims

Director Tonascia made a motion, and it was seconded by Director Williams, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. Consider Appointment of District Engineer, Steve Wittry

Mr. Cattaneo stated the position of District Engineer has been vacant since Glenn Micko left the District. The Board's action would be to appoint Mr. Wittry as District Engineer.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Williams, the Board of Directors appointed Steve Wittry as District Engineer with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

3. Consider Appointment of Steve Wittry to District Manager upon the retirement of the current District Manager, Jeff Cattaneo

Mr. Liem reviewed this item for the Board. Mr. Liem reported the District Act states the lead employee is the District Manager. While the responsibilities of the General Manager are the same as the District Manager, Mr. Liem stated our District Act still only lists District Manager, so we should make this appointment.

With a motion by Director Williams and a second by Director Wright, the Board of Directors approved the Appointment of Steve Wittry to District Manager upon the retirement of the current District Manager, Jeff Cattaneo by 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

4. Public Hearing regarding 2022 Annual Groundwater Report

a. Proof of Publication submitted on Notice of Public Hearing, Annual Groundwater Report

Mrs. Mauro verified the proof of publication.

b. Presentation of Report

Mr. Wittry stated this is the second year of a somewhat hybrid report. Because the District became the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) in 2022, the District is required by the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to file a report each April. This report contains similar information to the District's former Annual Groundwater Report. However, due to requirements from our District Act, the District must still hold a public hearing in January each year, giving the conditions of the groundwater in San Benito County and have the Board adopt the statement of findings and recommendations. Mr. Wittry then reviewed his report which was similar to last year's that the basin is not in overdraft. The Board's actions are to adopt the findings and the recommendations for the groundwater charge.

c. Questions of Directors

There were no questions from the Directors.

d. Open Public Hearing

President Flores opened the Public Hearing.

e. Close Public Hearing or continue to later date

With no questions from the public, President Flores closed the Public Hearing.

f. Consider Adoption of Statement of Findings and Recommendations

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Williams, the Board of Directors adopted the Statement of Findings and Recommendations with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

g. Consider Acceptance of 2022 District Engineer's Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges

With a motion by Director Williams and a second by Director Wright, the Board of Directors accepted the 2022 District Engineer's Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

5. Consider Authorizing District Manager to update investments with Union Banc Investment Services for an additional \$5 million

Mr. Cattaneo stated the Bond market appears to be peaking and staff is recommending the Board invest an additional \$5 million into the bond market. In May and August, two bonds will be maturing, each \$2.8 million and there will also be another property tax payment received in May of 2023. Mr. Cattaneo stated with bonds yielding approximately 4%, it would be prudent to invest additional funds.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Williams, the Board of Directors authorized the District Manager to update investments with Union Banc Investment Services for an additional \$5 million with 4 affirmative votes, Flores, Tonascia, Williams and Wright and there was 1 absence, Shelton.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

The minutes were approved at the January 26, 2023 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Sonny Flores
Sonny Flores, President

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