

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA
ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2021 AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President Watkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and Director McGaughey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Moody, Assistant Manager Hopkins, Finance Director Vega, Administrative Services Manager Carido, Administrative Clerk Feliciano, Legal Counsel Zolezzi and Consultant Barkett.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes 08/17/21 Regular Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the August 17, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

2. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the August 24, 2021 Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

3. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Education Program Annual Report – 2020/2021 School Year (Presentation by Water Conservation Coordinator Kristin Coon)

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented the SAWS Education Program Annual Report for the 2020/2021 School Year to the Board. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon provided a handout of the Annual Report and gave an overview; Report Summary, Full Report, Feedback and Report Stats. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported due to COVID-19, all Stockton area schools were closed March 13, 2020 and remained closed the entire 2020/2021 school year. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon explained the SAWS Water Education Program developed a virtual education program via Padlet, offering the SAWS Virtual Education Program with materials for teachers to include with their

curriculum. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented the “Make A Water Cycle Bracelet” activity which teaches students about the water cycle; the materials were put together by Water Conservation Coordinator Coon and was a successful activity during virtual lessons.

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the SAWS Education Program sponsored Zun Zun Virtual “Water Beat” Program assemblies for five schools in Spring 2021, which engaged students through music and instruments teaching them about water conservation; this program reached students K-6th grade. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon added the SAWS Education Program also participated in the Virtual Rotary Read-In and AgVenture programs; “Why Should I Save Water?” a book about water conservation was shared with the students during the read-in program and a presentation by Water Conservation Coordinator Coon was shown to the students of the AgVenture program followed by a live question and answer session with Water Conservation Coordinator Coon.

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the outreach statistics; 4,366 students reached virtually through SAWS on-line Padlet Program, 2,383 students reached virtually through Zun Zun’s on-line assemblies, 3,750 students reached virtually through on-line AgVenture and 257 students reached in person through Lincoln Unified School District Summer School. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the total students reached by all programs in the 2020-2021 School year was 10,756 which included 44 Stockton area schools and 236 classrooms.

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented positive feedback from the teachers that participated in the Virtual SAWS Water Education Program.

Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the SAWS Education Program was welcomed back by Lincoln Unified School District for their summer school program in June 2021. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported in May 2021 community members were allowed on campus and the year was booked quickly but due to a rise in COVID cases, community members have once again been restricted from schools; Lincoln and Stockton Unified School Districts were rescheduled to the Spring but will reassess in November 2021. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon added Lodi Unified School District gave the discretion to their school principals and the SAWS Education Program has scheduled in-person presentations this school year.

Director McGurk inquired if the water cycle bracelets were purchased. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon replied she put them together to distribute to the students.

Director Panizza stated he was impressed with Water Conservation Coordinator Coon’s alternative methods to deliver the program to the schools and keep students engaged. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon replied she has taken advantage of the Environmental Literacy Program at the San Joaquin County Office of Education which provided seminars and trainings to teach educators how to transition from in-class education to virtual education.

Director McGaughey complimented Water Conservation Coordinator Coon for doing a great job with the SAWS Virtual Education Program. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon thanked the Board for their continued support.

4. Stockton East Water District Response to San Joaquin County Superior Court – Independent Special Districts: Transparency “Not Found” Case #0220, 08/24/21

Manager Moody stated the Board was presented with the Grand Jury case at a previous Board Meeting, Legal Counsel Zolezzi drafted the response letter which requires approval by the Board. Manager Moody reported the edit to Appendix A was the mis-spelling of Director McGaughey’s first name and the response letter indicates the correction.

Director McGurk reported he had a conversation with a representative of the Grand Jury and they thanked him for responding to the case as other agencies have not.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Stockton East Water District Response to San Joaquin County Superior Court – Independent Special Districts: Transparency “Not Found” Case #0220, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

5. Association of California Water Agencies – Ballot for Region 4 Board Election for the 2022-2023 Term

Manager Moody provided the Board with information on the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) – Region 4 Board Ballot for the 2022/2023 Term. Manager Moody inquired if the Board would like to vote for the Nominating Committee’s recommended slate or individual Board Candidates.

Director Panizza recommended casting the ballot for ACWA’s recommended slate for Region 4 Chair, Vice Chair and Board Members.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Nominating Committee’s Recommended Slate of Chair: John Mensinger; Vice Chair: Brian Sanders and Board Members: Bryan Busch, Ronald Davis, Cary Keaten, Thomas McGurk and Kristin Sicke as presented for the ACWA Region 4 Board of Directors for the 2022/2023 Term.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

6. Stockton East Water District – Water Supply SCADA Project – 5 Spill Sites Memo, 08/24/21

Assistant Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a memo on the Water Supply SCADA Project – 5 Spill Sites. Assistant Manager Hopkins reported the budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 includes a project to install five SCADA sites on our various waterways in the New Hogan system to measure outflow from the Creeks and Slough. Assistant Manager Hopkins stated Staff looked into options for the equipment due to the close proximity to the City of Stockton and are in high vandalism areas from other facilities that we have. Assistant Manager Hopkins reported South San Joaquin Irrigation District gave Staff the recommendation for a option called a pillbox which is a hardened, subterranean enclosure that

is mounted in a block of concrete; South San Joaquin Irrigation District installed 3-4 pillboxes at problematic sites and have not reported any issues. Assistant Manager Hopkins explained the pillboxes would be used at spill sites to prevent vandalism; the pillboxes are expensive and would cost \$87,877.41 for 5 pillboxes but does include some of the electronic equipment inside.

Director McGurk inquired if the pillbox includes solar and battery charger. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied it does include the solar panel but not the antennas.

Director Panizza inquired what type of services are required for the pillboxes. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied once the pillboxes are installed the only component that needs servicing is the battery; the battery will be monitored remotely and if there is a problem then Staff can go out and service the pillbox.

Director McGurk inquired what the battery life is on the pillbox. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied they have a 3-5-year lifespan.

Manager Moody stated the project satisfies compliance with SB x7-7 but it can also be part of our SB 88 plan as an alternative plan; by measuring inflow, diversions and the amount of outflow, all other water is recharge.

Director Cortopassi commented if storm water is pumped in above McAllen Dam we should not put a weir below. Manager Moody replied Staff will look into it and if so, it will be placed above.

Director Atkins inquired if the spill box is above or below ground. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied it is both but less than half of the pillbox is above ground.

Director Sanguinetti inquired if the District has special radios. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied yes and they will connect to our existing radio network. Director Sanguinetti inquired if they will interfere with trees. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied the radio testing has been done and Staff knows how tall the antennas have to be. This item was for information only.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS (None)

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 08/23/21

Manager Moody provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight last night.

There is 101,593 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 151 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 369 cfs and release to all water users are set at 250 cfs. There are 8 irrigator(s) on New Hogan, 2 irrigator(s) on New Melones and 5 Out-of-District irrigator(s). The water treatment plant is currently processing 32 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 23 mgd.

Director Cortopassi inquired how long the New Melones release will be at 1,409. Legal Counsel Zolezzi stated she forwarded an email to Manager Moody notifying the District that

the release would go down to 350 cfs due to reduced Delta needs; the next day the release would go up 250 cfs to accommodate the water transfer. Legal Counsel Zolezzi added Department of Water Resources would then release their required amount for fish which is ~250 cfs.

Manager Moody reported the District requests water from United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) beginning in January but the financial accounting year begins in October.

2. Information Items:

Manager Moody noted items: F2a-1, F2a-2 and F2a-3.

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting, 08/20/21

Manager Moody attended the August 16, 2021 Special ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting. Manager Moody reported there were three bills discussed which included the Safe Drinking Water and Water Quality Bill. Manager Moody commented Mr. Eggerton was evacuated and is encouraging ACWA to renew its charge for head water forest management. Manager Moody added there is a trailer bill signed by the Governor, which would give reimbursement funds to water and sewer agencies that did not receive payment from residents due to the pandemic; Federal/State governments are providing the funds. Manager Moody reported a new push to go after water rights, the Governor is being encouraged to create new legislation for modernized water rights. Manager Moody reported the executive order that amended the Brown Act expired however there is a Bill that is being introduced to make the amended executive order permanent to continue to allow virtual meetings; it will require 2/3 vote in both houses to amend the Brown Act.

Director Watkins inquired when the amended executive order expires. Legal Counsel replied it expires on October 1st 2021. Director Watkins inquired if that applies for Board of Directors and Public. Manager Moody replied we will look into it and report back to the Board.

b. Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee, 08/20/21

Finance Director Vega attended the August 20, 2021 Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee. Finance Director Vega reported there was a presentation given by a lobbyist trying to shape future spending to help complete CVPIA projects and more materials will be shared at future meetings. Finance Director Vega reported the CVPIA true-up efforts are getting positive feedback but have been put on hold until the new commissioner is sworn in; other business on hold includes their budgeting process -- the Bureau of Reclamation would have sent an accounting letter to the Districts by now, but that is also pending the swearing in of the new commissioner. Finance Director Vega reported Friant gave an update on their project and a brief overview of how Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act funding works; the misconception is that the WIIN Act would fund 50% of the project and the remaining 50% would be funded by the awarded district, however the WIIN Act funds 50% upfront but requires a benefit analysis and whichever benefits are reimbursable would then be paid by the district in addition to the 50% matching funds. The next meeting is scheduled on September 17, 2021.

c. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Moody and Assistant Manager Hopkins attended the August 20, 2021 Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Meeting. Manager Moody reported discussion about the anticipated drought and operations for next summer; forecasting the end of irrigation season to be ~ 80,000 acre-feet at New Hogan and ~15,000 acre-feet at the dead pool. President Watkins commented the dead pool at Calaveras is at 2,000 acre-feet and 19,000 acre-feet for next year. Manager Moody reported there was an inquiry about our wells being operational should the drought affect water supply; the wells have to be taken out of stand-by for PG&E and our water permit with Department of Drinking Water which will take time so that process needs to start now.

Director McGaughey inquired about rain predictions. Manager Moody replied the prediction is that we will have a La Niña year which means a low water year in the winter; our location is usually on the line for both the north which is wetter and south which is drier.

Director McGaughey commented she is surprised the City of Stockton has not enforced rules on water usage as they have in the past. Manager Moody replied the City of Stockton has talked about it but because of their contract with the District, they will receive New Melones water as normal.

Manager Moody reported the City of Stockton is working on a project to extend a drinking water pipeline to the VA Hospital in French Camp and another project to add a large pipeline to go under the 99 Freeway to the Stockton Airport. Manager Moody added because of the critically dry year our New Hogan contract allows us to go down to a 10 cfs release which will happen after irrigation season to conserve water.

Director Cortopassi inquired if we service Western Ranch. Manager Moody replied yes, the pipeline belongs to the City of Stockton but it is our water.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS (None)

H. COMMUNICATIONS (None)

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation – Water Committee Meeting, 5:30 p.m., 08/24/21

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. Closed Session: REAL PROPERTY – GOVERNMENT CODE
SECTION 54956.9 – Property: Water Rights
Agency Negotiator: Scot A. Moody
Negotiating Parties: The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority/United States Bureau of Reclamation
Under Negotiation: Water Transfer
2. Closed Session - Potential Litigation
Government Code 54956.9 (c) – two cases

3. Closed Session – Personnel
Government Code 54957

President Watkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:31 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. District staff, with the exception to Manager Moody and Administrative Services Manager Carido, were excused from the closed session meeting at 2:10 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:29 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Watkins adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Scot A. Moody
Secretary of the Board

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