

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, DECEMBER 6, 2022 AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Vice President Atkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., and Legal Counsel Zolezzi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk and Panizza. Also present were Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, District Engineer Evensen, Finance Director Ram, Administrative Assistant McKinney, Legal Counsel Zolezzi and Consultant Barkett. Director Sanguinetti was absent. Director Watkins was present via teleconference.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Action Item: Stockton East Water District Board of Directors Reconsidered the Circumstances of the State of Emergency and Determine that
 - (i) The State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the member to meet safely in person and/or
 - (ii) State or Local Officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Action Item: Stockton East Water District Board of Directors Reconsidered the Circumstances of the State of Emergency and Determine that (i) The State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person and/or (ii) State or Local Officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

2. Minutes 11/22/22 Regular Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the November 22, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

3. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the December 6, 2022 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

4. Warrants

- a. Fund 70 – Administration Fund
- b. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund
- c. Fund 91 – Vehicle Fund
- d. Fund 94 – Municipal & Industrial Fund
- e. Payroll
- f. Summary
- g. Short Names/Acronym List
- h. SEWD Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

Director Cortopassi inquired on the expense on page 9, line item 5 for Board and control-mods to CAT generator to SCADA-low lift pump, and asked if this item should be listed on the Municipal and Industrial Fund instead. Manager Hopkins replied all SCADA work is within the Administration Fund and the cost was related to the Low Lift Pump Station SCADA project.

Director Atkins inquired on the expense on page 11, line item 24 for pre-emergent weed spray delivered on 11/11/22, and asked if the \$3,769.61 amount refers to monthly or yearly use. Manager Hopkins replied this cost is as needed. This current amount covered approximately 50 acres of spray.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the December 6, 2022 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation – Water Committee Meeting, 11/22/22

Manager Hopkins reported he, President Watkins and Director Sanguinetti attended the meeting. Manager Hopkins stated EBMUD reported they are using water from Lake Camanche. North San Joaquin Water Conservation District reported they did not provide much surface water. Hopefully, surface water will be available next year. The two Delta agencies are working on levee evaluations. South San Joaquin Irrigation District reported the Fall pulse flows totaled approximately 35,000 AF from New Melones, and, 2,500 salmon were spotted from this release.

San Joaquin County commented voter turnout this year was very low. The meeting ended with a presentation by Brandon Bates from the NRCS covering three grant programs currently available which provide technical assistance funding for capital projects, and land owner grants for on-farm improvements. Manager Hopkins stated he attended the follow-up workshop with NRCS and interested agencies. It is not yet clear how much funding will be available for the types of projects. More information will follow from Brandon Bates’ manager.

Director McGurk asked who is Brandon Bates. Manager Hopkins stated he is with NRCS, but does not have an official title, but has presented at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau twice now regarding RCCP grants that are funded through the Inflation Reduction Act.

Director Cortopassi inquired on EMBUD taking water from Lake Camanche; he thought EBMUD only took water from Lake Pardee. District Engineer Evensen replied EBMUD can take water from either source. EBMUD's preference is Lake Pardee due to it having better water quality. The next scheduled meeting is December 27, 2022.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 11/21/22

Manager Hopkins 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 50,592 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 26 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 209 cfs and release to all water users are set at 0 cfs. There are 0 irrigators on New Hogan, 0 irrigators on New Melones, and 0 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 24 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 10.8 mgd. Manager Hopkins reported the District wells total water extraction is 6,795 gpm (~9.8 mgd).

2. Information Items:

Manager Hopkins noted item: F2a-1, F2a-2 and F2a-3

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Hopkins reported the Ozone Project is at a design point where the Staff would like to present some preliminary information to the Board, so the consultant is planning a presentation on December 20th. The Sustainable Groundwater Management grant, round two funding application has been successfully completed and uploaded to the DWR's website. It is not required to be submitted until next Friday, so the consultant is holding the application in case of any last-minute changes. Manager Hopkins stated the District received a notice from PG&E that rates will increase by 20% in 2023. Manager Hopkins stated there are a few agenda items for the Agriculture Committee and the Bellota Committee, so a solicitation of available dates will be sent out to the Board.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. Association of California Water Agencies – 2022 Fall Conference, Indian Wells, CA, 11/29/22 – 12 /01/22

Directors Atkins, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended the conference. Director Atkins reported the topics were interesting. The Agriculture Committee meeting held discussion on fallow lands down south, and planting native grass seeds which have a hard time growing.

Manager Hopkins reported the State Water Resources Control Board spoke of their role in SGMA, and preparation to take over basins that go into probation. Review has started for incomplete plans of the basins expected to be in probation. DWR has been working with the SWRCB to help with the transition from planning to implementation of SGMA since the SWRCB will oversee the probationary basins. Both agencies claim the goal is to gain local control overseeing the basins, and not the state. Director Atkins stated the reason for this is to raise standards.

Manager Hopkins reported the attendees received an overview of the San Joaquin Valley Water Blueprint by the Agriculture Committee, which is a very large-scale plan to balance water throughout the state. In concept, this takes water supplies from northern California and moves the supply to south Central Valley for storage, then moved to urban users in southern California.

The attendees received a presentation from Tulare Irrigation District regarding land repurposing to help address groundwater overdraft. Tulare Irrigation District received a grant to remove some agricultural land from production, and turn it into habitat. The district realized habitat needs water, so the project participants are figuring out this challenge.

Director Atkins reported Director Sanguinetti spoke up for farming in California, which supports California's fifth largest world economy status, and stated taking this land out of production will be detrimental for California and the economy, and asked to work out a plan to keep farming.

Director McGurk attended the Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) meeting and offered a handout for information. Director McGurk also attended the ACWA general meeting and voted on behalf of SEWD to adopt the amendment and restating by-laws. Director McGurk attended the Region 4 meeting, and reported two Region 4 Board vacancies are being solicited formerly held by John Messinger and Brian Busch. In the meantime, Brian Saunders (Sacramento County) is the interim chair, and, Kristin Sicke (Yolo County Flood Control) is the vice chair. Discussion followed.

Director Atkins stated he spoke with Rubicon Water from Australia regarding new technology for irrigating alfalfa. The computer automated system registers how much water is released, and calculates how much water is needed for watering a sized crop. The calculation of water is precise for covering the crop without excess water drainage. The system also senses daily weather temperatures for adjusting watering demands.

H. COMMUNICATIONS (None)

I AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Stockton East Water District Holiday Potluck, 12/09/22
2. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Meeting, 1:00 p.m., 12/09/22
Manager Hopkins stated the meeting was rescheduled to 3:30p.m., 12/12/22
3. San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition Meeting, 9:00 a.m., 12/12/22

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. Closed Session - Existing Litigation
Stockton East Water District vs. City of Stockton, et al.
Government Code 54956.9 (a)
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Section 54956.9 (2 Cases)
3. Closed Session – Personnel
Government Code 54957

Vice President Atkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:00 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:16 p.m., with the no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins
Secretary of the Board

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