

**Minutes of Meeting
Held
March 16, 2023**

President Amaro called the meeting of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Board of Directors to order at 9 a.m. with the flag salute. The meeting was held at the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Board Room, 344 East Laurel Street, Willows, California.

Present:

John Amaro, President, Division 2
Logan Dennis, Vice-President, Division 3
Peter Knight, Director, Division 1
Donald R. Bransford, Division 4

Absent:

Blake Vann, Director, Division 5

Staff Present:

Thaddeus L. Bettner, General Manager
Greg Krzys, Assistant General Manager
Louis Jarvis, Finance Director (via teleconference)
Kayla Mendonca, Executive Assistant
Jeremy Richardson, Maintenance Superintendent
Karen Alves, Administrative Services Manager
Zac Dickens, District Engineer
Jake Hancock, Acting Water Operations Superintendent
Sam Rivera, Water Operations Supervisor
Jose Velasquez, Water Operations Supervisor
Andy Hitchings, Somach Simmons & Dunn (via teleconference)

Others Present:

Janet Zimmerman, CV Strategies (via teleconference)
Todd Bishop (via teleconference)
Don Wright (via teleconference)
Kelly Ornbaun, Water User
Tim Sanchez, Water User
Alex Parisio, Water User
Audrey Arnao, Water User (via teleconference)
Matt LaGrande, Water User (via teleconference)

Public Participation

Water User Kelly Ornbaun asked that GCID send a letter to notify landowners on private laterals of the new deadline of December 29, 2023. District Engineer Zac Dickens explained that the deadline is not for all private laterals in the District, but for those private laterals categorized as *Private Laterals with a History of District Operation and Maintenance (O&M)*.

Water User Tim Sanchez was present to ask for an update regarding the ongoing RedStick Farms effort. District Engineer Dickens reported that a decision needs to be made at the Board level as to how to handle lands outside of the District. This topic will be discussed later in the meeting as item 6.E.

Water User Alex Parisio followed up on discussions from the recent landowner meetings. He explained that it is understood that the ground in the northern portion of the District uses more water than the south. He would like groundwater recharge taken into consideration when the District makes a decision on water budgets for each Water Operator area. Director Bransford explained that the District does not take that water back out for use. The excess water needed in the northern portion of the district contributes to groundwater recharge but the District would not be able to credit growers unless the District was getting credit for the recharge via the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) or the Groundwater Authorities. President Amaro said that those discussions have been started with the Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) but will need to get more serious in the near future.

President Amaro took a moment to ask that all Board members look ahead in their schedules and notify Kayla Mendonca well in advance when they may be absent for a meeting. There are a lot of pressing issues that require full Board attention and consideration so attendance is very important. If we know ahead of time, we are able to move meetings to accommodate schedules as needed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Authorize Payment of Claims

Director Dennis moved to approve the payment of claims #23 12685 through #23 12749, and #23 12751 through #23 12805 in the amount of One Million, Two Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty Dollars and Ninety-Seven Cents (\$1,252,520.97) and approve the February 16, 2023 minutes. Director Bransford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Approve Payment of Claims to Colusa County Farm Supply

Director Bransford moved to approve the payment of claim #23 12750 to Colusa County Farm Supply in the amount of One Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars and Fifty-Seven Cents (\$134.57). Director Knight seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Abstain: Director Dennis

BUSINESS ITEMS

2021-2022 Audit Presentation by Richardson & Company and Approval of Audit Report

Finance Director Jarvis introduced Brian Nash from Richardson & Company who helped perform the District's annual audit. Mr. Nash reviewed several portions of the audit report and praised District staff on their excellence in maintaining District financial records. The Board also acknowledged District staff on the excellent report and thanked Mr. Nash for joining the meeting to review the District audit.

Director Knight moved to approve the 2021-2022 audit report. Director Dennis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Discuss and Consider Re-Organization of Committee Appointments

Staff will provide recommended changes at the next Board meeting. This item was tabled.

Consider and Approve Resolution No. 2023-03 Adopting the Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for Non-State Agencies Cal OES ID No. FEMA-DR4683

Administrative Services Manager Alves reported that the District has sustained approximately \$15,000 in damages due to flooding in late January. The District will apply to FEMA for reimbursement. The recommendation to the Board is to authorize the Administrative Services Manager or the Finance Director to execute for and on behalf of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, federal financial assistance for any existing or future grant program and to file it with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

Director Bransford moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-03 adopting the designation of applicant's agent resolution for non-state agencies Cal OES ID No. FEMA-DR4683. Director Knight seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

The Resolution is attached to the minutes as Attachment A.

Review and Consider Water Allocation Process and District Rules and Regulations Applicable to Water Delivery

General Manager Bettner reported that Shasta inflow and storage has consistently been trending up which is indicative of reaching the potential 100% supply threshold but the District is still waiting on the official letter from the Bureau of Reclamation for confirmation of water allocation.

Staff provided a thorough memo outlining all the considerations that need to be discussed regarding the water allocation process and the District Rules and Regulations. The Board collectively agreed that this year, with the new measurement efforts, should be a year of learning for both the District and water users. The 2023 water season should be used as a year to educate growers on how much water their crops are truly using and to work to hone in on planting practices including conservation, water order planning and water budgets. The District intends to regularly inform and update water users on where they stand with their water allocations throughout the season.

General Manager Bettner has stressed to water users that the District's canal is not an on-demand system. It takes time and strategic coordination to operate the canal system to efficiently and effectively deliver water equitably from the north to south end of the District.

Due to ongoing wet weather, the District is facing a compressed flood-up season which will make coordination of water deliveries critical to its operations this year. The Board requested that District staff gather more information before making a final decision on the water allocation process and the District Rules and Regulation applicable to water delivery. This topic may be scheduled to be discussed at a Special Board meeting at the end of the month.

Discussion of Current District Rules/Policies Affecting Service to Out-of-District Lands and Comingling of District Water

General Manager Bettner reported that Somach Simmons & Dunn has prepared a memorandum regarding the *Existing Policies and Rules regarding Water Service to Out of District Lands and Comingling of Water*.

Counsel Hitchings reported that delivery to the lands being considered during this discussion is permissible with Board approval. He said it is good to have the ability and flexibility to offer water to lands outside of the District, subject to rules and regulations and with the execution of agreements and also approval from the Bureau of Reclamation. General Manager Bettner said staff would work to develop an agreement to bring back to the Board. This is a part of the larger Redstick/Pamunkey issue to be brought back to the Board at the next meeting as well.

ADMINISTRATION

Maintenance

Maintenance Superintendent Richardson reported that the Maintenance Department has been performing flood damage assessments, cost estimates and developing a schedule for repairs, repaired a separated pipe at MC-98-L, completed check replacements on Lateral 36-2 and 41-2, performed bank improvements and rubble placements on the Main Canal south of Road 39, performed gate inspections and replacements, conducted lateral headgate remote tracker improvements, and completed Main Canal delivery 186R cast-in-place structure. He also reported that he has placed orders for the replacement long-reach excavator and dump truck, received delivery of pickups from Enterprise, and attended the Water Operator Area meetings.

Water Operations

Assistant General Manager Krzys reported that Shasta storage is approximately 3.2 million acre-feet. There is still uncertainty regarding the Keswick release pattern and whether the District's diversion capabilities will be impacted.

Engineering

District Engineer Dickens reported that the Able Check project is complete. He reported that the Engineering department is continuing to coordinate with the Maintenance department on various projects. He also reported that they are focusing on flow measurement, testing, and coordinating with Chico State. He added that the District has over 20 of these meters and they have been tested with results within 5-10% accuracy. Staff are working collectively to integrate the measurement efforts with the Woven application.

Treasurer's Report

Finance Director Jarvis provided a report on the Treasurer's Report, Financial Report and Damage Claims Report for the month of February.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Meeting Reports

Director Bransford reported that the Board has not yet made a decision to participate/pay dues for the Farm Water Coalition. He is not sure the District gets enough out of it for the cost of the dues which is \$19,500. Staff will put this item on the next agenda for consideration by the Board.

Manager's Report

Assistant General Manager Krzys reported that Water Operator area meetings went well and good questions were raised.

Communications Report

None.

Attorney's Report

None.

Other Business

None.

Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 11:05 a.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation, Existing Litigation, and Public Employee Appointment:

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Potential Initiation of Litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9: Two Potential Cases

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9) Name of Cases:

- i. *PCFFA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00431-JLT-EPG);
- ii. *CNRA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00426-JLT-EPG) [2019 BiOps Lawsuits];
- iii. *NRDC, et al. v. Haaland, et al.* (9th Cir. Case No. 21-15163) [Contract Renewal Lawsuit Appeal]

C. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957(b)(1))

Title: Water Operations Superintendent

The Board reconvened to open session at 11:49 a.m.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9, during which the Board heard updates on *Anticipated Litigation*, and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to (Government Code Section 54956.9), during which the Board heard updates on *Existing Litigation* and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 (b)(1), during which the Board heard an update and took no action.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Thaddeus L. Bettner
Secretary

Attest a true record of proceedings made and taken at the above foregoing meeting our consent thereto and our presence thereat.



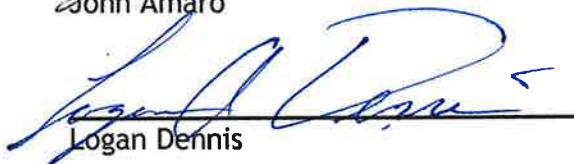
Donald R. Bransford



Peter Knight



John Amaro



Logan Dennis

Absent
Blake Vann

ATTACHMENT A

**GLENN- COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03**

**RESOLUTION OF THE GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTING THE
DESIGNATION OF APPLICANT'S AGENT RESOLUTION FOR NON-STATE AGENCIES
Cal OES ID No. FEMA-DR4683**

BE IT RESOLVED by the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District that the Administrative Services Manager or the Finance Director is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, a public entity established under the laws of the State of California, this application and to file it with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the purpose of obtaining federal financial assistance for any existing or future grant program, including, but not limited to any of the following:

- Federally declared Disaster (DR), Fire Mitigation Assistance Grant (FMAG), California State Only Disaster (CDAA), Immediate Services Program (ISP), Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), Legislative Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (LPDM), under
- Public Law 93-288 as amended by the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1988, and/or state financial assistance under the California Disaster Assistance Act.
- Flood Mitigation Assistance Program (FMA), under Section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968.
- National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) 42 U.S. Code 7704 (b) ((2) (A) (ix) and 42 U.S. Code 7704 (b) (2) (B) National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, and The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, Div. F, Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018, Pub. L. No. 115-141
- California Early Earthquake Warning (CEEW) under CA Gov Code - Gov, Title 2, Div. 1, Chapter 7, Article 5, Sections 8587.8, 8587.11, 8587.12

That Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, a public entity established under the laws of the State of California, hereby authorizes its agent(s) to provide to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services for all matters pertaining to such state disaster assistance the assurances and agreements required.

This is a universal resolution and is effective for all open and future disaster/grants declared up to three (3) years following the date of approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by unanimous vote of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Board of Directors on March 16, 2023.

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Noes:

Abstain:

* * *

I hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Directors of said District at a regular meeting thereof duly held on March 16, 2023, at which meeting a quorum of said Board of Directors was at all times present and acting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and the seal of the District this 16th day of March 2023.



Thaddeus L. Bettner, Secretary
Board of Directors
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District