

**Minutes of Meeting  
Held  
May 16, 2024**

Vice President Dennis called the meeting of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Board of Directors to order at 9:02 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:**

Logan Dennis, Vice-President, Division 3  
Peter Knight, Director, Division 1  
Donald R. Bransford, Director, Division 4  
Blake Vann, Director, Division 5 (via agendized remote location @ 9:10 a.m.)

**Absent:**

John Amaro, President, Division 2

**Staff Present:**

Jeffrey P. Sutton, General Manager  
Greg Krzys, Assistant General Manager  
Louis Jarvis, Finance Director  
Kayla Mendonca, Executive Assistant  
Karen Alves, Administrative Services Manager  
Jeremy Richardson, Maintenance Superintendent  
Ed Henderson, Water Operations Superintendent  
Jake Hancock, Assistant Water Operations Superintendent  
Chris Privitera, Interim District Engineer  
Andy Hitchings, Somach Simmons & Dunn (via teleconference)

**Others Present:**

Kelly Ornbaun, Water User  
John Cecil, Water User  
Tim Sanchez, Water User  
Mike Lux, Water User  
Matt LaGrande, Water User  
Audrey Goodard (via teleconference)

**Public Participation**

None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Authorize Payment of Claims

Finance Director Louis Jarvis reported that an item for payment to Koch & Koch in the amount of \$106,882.60 has been added to the warrants list.

Director Knight moved to approve the payment of claims #24 14423 through #24 14498, in the amount of Six Hundred Fifteen Thousand, Three Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars and Twenty-Four Cents (\$615,324.24) and approve the May 2, 2024 meeting minutes. Director Bransford seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Directors Amaro and Vann

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### Discuss and Consider Appointment of Board Secretary (pursuant to Water Code Section 21376 et seq.)

It was discussed that Assistant General Manager Greg Krzys was appointed as Interim General Manager and Secretary of the Board during the District's search for a new General Manager and that the Board has since appointed a new General Manager, Jeffrey P. Sutton, who began official employment at the District on May 1, 2024. It was also discussed that it would be appropriate for the new General Manager to serve as Secretary of the Board.

Director Bransford moved to approve General Manager Jeffrey P. Sutton as Secretary of the Board. Director Knight seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Directors Amaro and Vann

### Review and Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2024-06 - Authorization of Bank Signatures

At its December 7, 2023, meeting, the Board approved certain individuals to serve as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. At its May 16, 2024 Board meeting, the Board approved General Manager Jeffrey P. Sutton as the new Secretary. Resolution 2024-06 would authorize certain staff to sign on the District's bank accounts.

Director Bransford moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-06- Authorization of Bank Signatures. Director Knight seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Directors Amaro and Vann

The Resolution is attached to the minutes as Attachment A.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### Department Reports

#### *Water*

Water Operations Superintendent Henderson reported that flood-up has gone reasonably well with most water deliveries being made within one to two days of being ordered. He noted one significant problem in which it took nearly 13 days to flood up a field, but measures have been put in place so the issue doesn't happen again. Water Operations staff are still fielding dozens of phone calls each day, which takes up a significant amount of their time, but 65 - 70% of the district has been flooded up in a 23-day period.

(Director Vann joined via teleconference at 9:10 a.m.)

Director Bransford was concerned about water being delivered to Zumwalt Mutual Water Company while GCID landowners are still waiting for water. Zumwalt Mutual Water Company is outside the District service area but has an agreement to use GCID water as part of the in-basin transfer program. Director Bransford's concern is that outside lands are being serviced before lands inside the District. He would like to have an in-depth discussion with the full Board about when water should be allowed to leave the District.

Discussion then took place regarding monthly water use statements. It was agreed that the District water measurement efforts still need to be honed, but mailing water delivery statements to water users after June and at the end of the water season would be helpful.

#### *Maintenance*

Maintenance Superintendent Richardson was absent from the meeting; therefore, no report was given.

#### *Engineering*

Interim District Engineer Privitera reported that the Engineering Department has been participating in the Lurline Check improvement planning and conducted a site visit prior to commencing the 60% design work. They have also assisted with the Electrical Control Room efforts, private lateral operations & maintenance coordination, District inventory updates including the onboarding of two GIS summer interns, planning for post-harvest projects and participating in Gradient Facility efforts.

#### Treasurer's Report

Finance Director Jarvis reviewed the Treasurer's Report, Financial Report and Damage Claims Report for April.

### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

#### Board Member Reports

General Manager Jeff Sutton provided an update on the Glenn Groundwater Authority on behalf of President John Amaro. He reported that the Groundwater plan that was being developed included a \$1.93 per acre flat fee to everyone and they are looking at different tiers as they move forward to the next phase. Glenn Groundwater Authority has submitted their final plan to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and are awaiting their response. As they wait, they are working on setting up the Proposition 218 process as a funding mechanism. They are considering four different categories; dry lands at \$0.50 per acre, land parcels in surface water districts at \$2.60 per acre, groundwater use areas at \$5.33 and an unknown charge for municipal parcels. Mr. Sutton asked that the Board consider two options and provide their feedback for President Amaro to convey at the next Glenn Groundwater Authority meeting. Option 1 is if you primarily use surface water but have a well and conjunctively use groundwater when surface water is available, you would clearly be within the surface water category. Option 3 (no option #2) is if you predominately use groundwater even when surface water is available, you should be treated like the more expensive classification in the groundwater category.

Director Bransford commented that the District prefers that water users utilize the surface water and that the District would not want to make any decision that would incentivize water users to pump groundwater rather than use surface water. Surface water is what brings revenue to the District and keeps the District operational. The Board collectively agreed with Option 3.

#### Manager's Report

General Manager Sutton reported that last Monday, Holly Dawley, Mike Urkov, and himself hosted 17 National Academy of Science professors who are conducting a review of the Biological Opinion. The group toured the Red Bluff Diversion Dam, the Red Bluff Fish Passage Improvement Project, viewed the screw traps for salmonid population estimate, presented on fish habitat restoration projects, and fielded several questions regarding Central Valley Project operations.

General Manager Sutton reported attending the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Conference where he participated in several productive meetings.

Assistant General Manager Krzys reported that he participated in several meetings at the ACWA Conference including a Sites financing discussion. He also reported working with Koch & Koch on the Electrical Control Room and noted that the first concrete pours for backfilling around the conduit will occur next week.

#### Communication's Update

Executive Assistant Mendonca reported that she worked with CV Strategies to review and schedule the District's social media for the month of May.

#### Attorney's Report

None.

#### Other Business

None.

#### Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:21 a.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation, Existing Litigation, and Conference with Real Property Negotiators.

- 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. *TCCA v. CA DWR* (Superior Court of CA, County of Fresno, awaiting assignment of Case No.) [2020 CEQA Lawsuit]
- C. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR  
(Government Code Section 54956.8)  
Property: GCID's water supplies  
GCID Negotiators: Donald Bransford, Pete Knight, Jeffrey P. Sutton and Counsel Andrew Hitchings  
Negotiating Parties: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and Sutter Mutual Water Company  
Under Negotiation: Potential water transfer agreement, price and terms of payment, call dates, and other transactional details
- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9: One Potential Case

The Board reconvened to open session at 11:17 a.m.

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

Vice President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9, during which the Board heard updates on *Existing Litigation* and took no action.

Vice President Dennis reported the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, during which the Board provided direction to staff regarding Conference with Real Property Negotiators.

Vice President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) Gov. Code sec. 54956.9, during which the Board provided direction to staff regarding *Anticipated Litigation -Significant Exposure to Litigation*.

Discuss and Consider Adoption of GCID Resolution No. 2024-07 to Approve the Transfer of Central Valley Project Water to Sutter Mutual Water Company, Find that the Transfer is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, and Authorize the General Manager to Execute the Necessary Agreements and Documents to Effectuate the Transfer

In early April, Sutter Mutual Water Company (SMWC) expressed interest to District staff in participating in a potential Project Water transfer. The Water Transfer Ad Hoc Committee met with SMWC on April 8, 2024, to discuss the terms of a potential Project Water transfer, and on April 18, 2024, the terms of the potential transfer were discussed with the Board. SMWC has said that the proposed terms are agreeable.

District staff have prepared a transfer agreement that provides for the transfer of up to 20,000 acre-feet of Project Water during the months of June, July, August, and September. SMWC will pay the District \$55.07 for each acre-foot of Project Water transferred, which is the sum of the District's 2024 cost-of-service rate (\$42.07 per acre-foot) and the 2024 Restoration Fund Surcharge (\$13.00 per acre-foot). The agreement specifies that the District will be responsible for the transferred water's impact on the District's annual 'true-up' with Reclamation.

The adoption of Resolution No. 2024-07 will approve the transfer of Project Water to SMWC and make related findings; find that the transfer is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption in the necessary offices; and authorize the General Manager to execute the transfer agreement and any additional documentation to effectuate the transfer. Following the adoption of Resolution No. 2024-07, staff will submit a letter requesting the Bureau of Reclamation's consent to the proposed transfer and post the Notice of Exemption with the Clerk-Recorder's offices in Glenn, Colusa, and Sutter counties.

Director Bransford moved to approve Resolution No. 2024-07 approving the transfer of Central Valley Project Water to Sutter Mutual Water Company, finding that the 2024 Project Water Transfer to Sutter Mutual Water Company is exempt from the California Environmental Water Quality Act, and authorize the General Manager to execute the necessary agreements and documents to effectuate

the transfer. Director Knight seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Directors Amaro and Vann

The Resolution is attached to the minutes as Attachment B.


The meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Jeffrey P. Sutton  
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

Absent  
John Amaro

  
Logan Dennis

  
Blake Vann

# ATTACHMENT A

**GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION 2024-06**

**AUTHORIZATION OF BANK SIGNATURES**

**RESOLVED** that Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District has established in its name one or more deposit accounts with various financial institutions, and that Louis Jarvis, treasurer of this organization is hereby authorized to establish such accounts.

**RESOLVED** that the following persons are authorized to sign on corresponding accounts at the various financial institutions as authorized by properly executed signature agreements.

Louis Jarvis - Treasurer  
Karen Alves - Assistant Treasurer  
Jeffrey P. Sutton - Secretary  
Kayla Mendonca - Assistant Secretary  
Greg Krzys - Assistant General Manager  
John Amaro - President  
Logan Dennis - Vice President

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this sixteenth day of May 2024, by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight  
Noes:  
Abstain:  
Absent: Directors Amaro and Vann

\* \* \*

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 meeting thereof duly held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024, 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024.

  
Jeffrey P. Sutton, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District



# ATTACHMENT B

**GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-07**

**Resolution of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District to Approve  
The Transfer of Central Valley Project Water to Sutter Mutual Water Company, Find that  
the Transfer is Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act,  
and Authorize the General Manager to Execute the Necessary  
Agreements and Documents to Effectuate the Transfer**

WHEREAS, the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID or District) was formed and exists under the Irrigation District Law, Cal. Water Code section 20500 et seq., and holds title to all District water rights, in trust, for the benefit of all landowners within the District.

WHEREAS, Water Code section 22259 provides: “If its board deems it to be for the best interests of the district, a district may enter into a contract for the lease and sale of any surplus water or use of surplus water not then necessary for use within the district, for use either within or without the district.”

WHEREAS, Water Code section 382 provides additional discretionary authority for a water supplier, including the District, to transfer water for use outside the water supplier’s service area for water that is surplus to the needs of the water users of the water supplier.

WHEREAS, the GCID Board of Directors has adopted a Water Transfer Policy which provides that the District seeks to use its contractual water supply for the maximum benefit of landowners, and after landowner’s and grower’s needs are reasonably satisfied, the District will consider transfer opportunities in order to maximize the use and benefit derived from the contractual water supply.

WHEREAS, the District’s Water Transfer Policy further provides that the District will consider water transfers on a case-by-case basis, and that such water transfers may occur on a district-to-district basis.

WHEREAS, GCID and the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) are parties to Contract No. 14-06-200-855A-R-1 (GCID Settlement Contract), which provides the District up to 105,000 acre-feet of Project Water and 720,000 acre-feet of Base Supply annually for the period of April 1 through October 31, and further entitles the District to sell and transfer its Project Water pursuant to its rights therein.

WHEREAS, GCID desires to sell, and Sutter Mutual Water Company (SMWC) desires to purchase, up to 20,000 acre-feet of Project Water for delivery to SMWC during the 2024 irrigation season.

WHEREAS, GCID staff has negotiated a Purchase, Sale and Transfer Agreement with SMWC, and this agreement sets forth the terms and conditions of the Project Water transfer from GCID to SMWC (2024 Project Water Transfer).

WHEREAS, GCID will request Reclamation’s approval of the 2024 Project Water Transfer, subject to such terms and conditions as Reclamation may require.

WHEREAS, the District's Board of Directors has considered the proposed 2024 Project Water Transfer and its potential to result in significant environmental effects and determined that the 2024 Project Water Transfer is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant the following exemptions) 15301 (Existing Facilities); 15304: (Minor Alterations to Lands); 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED, AND DIRECTED as follows:

1. The Board of Directors finds and determines that during this 2024 irrigation season (i) all District landowners and growers water needs are reasonably satisfied and will not receive less than the amount of water that would otherwise be provided to such water user as a result of the 2024 Project Water Transfer approved under this Resolution, (ii) District landowners and growers will not be otherwise unreasonably adversely affected as a result of the 2024 Project Water Transfer, and (iii) the water provided for transfer under the 2024 Project Water Transfer is surplus to the needs of the District.
2. The Board of Directors finds and determines that the 2024 Project Water Transfer complies with the District's adopted Water Transfer Policy and that such transfer will help maximize the use and benefit of the District's contractual water supply.
3. The Board of Directors has considered and reviewed all the information that has been provided to the Board regarding the 2024 Project Water Transfer from GCID to SMWC and finds that the 2024 Project Water Transfer is exempt from CEQA pursuant to the following categorical exemptions: 15301 (Existing Facilities); 15304 (Minor Alterations to Lands); 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense).
4. The Board of Directors approves the 2024 Project Water Transfer and associated Purchase, Sale and Transfer Agreement with SMWC. The GCID General Manager is authorized to execute that agreement and all additional documentation to complete the performance and implementation of the 2024 Project Water Transfer, consistent with the findings adopted in this Resolution.
5. On behalf of GCID acting as lead agency under CEQA, the GCID General Manager is authorized to file a Notice of Exemption in all necessary locations for the 2024 Project Water Transfer within five (5) days of this Resolution, and to pay any and all fees associated therewith.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this sixteenth day of May 2024 by the following vote of the Board of Directors:

AYES: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Knight

ABSENT: Directors Amaro and Vann

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

\* \* \*

I, Jeffrey P. Sutton, Secretary to the Board of Directors of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of said District, held on the sixteenth day of May 2024, as was adopted at that meeting by unanimous vote.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and the seal of the District this sixteenth day of May, 2024.

  
Jeffrey P. Sutton, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District