

**Minutes of Meeting
Held
June 6, 2024**

President Amaro 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:

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

Absent:

Blake Vann, Director, Division 5

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

John Cecil, Water User
Kelly Ornbaun, Water User
Tim Sanchez, Water User
Jon Swanson (via teleconference)
Les Marsh (via teleconference)

Public Participation

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Authorize Payment of Claims

Director Dennis moved to approve the payment of claims #24 14499 through #24 14551, in the amount of Two Hundred Five Thousand, Nine Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars and Thirty-Eight Cents (\$205,985.38), and approve the May 16, 2024, meeting 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

BUSINESS ITEMS

Discuss and Consider Approval of Reorganization of Committee Appointments

The Board reviewed and discussed the suggested amendments to the list of Committees and appointments and agreed with the recommendations. Director Bransford requested that General Manager Sutton augment his list of outside activities to more fully memorialize his activities and undertakings.

Director Dennis moved to approve the Committee appointment list with updates. Director Bransford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Review and Consider Approval of Mid-Year Budget Revisions for Fiscal Year 2023-24

Finance Director Louis Jarvis explained after the mid-point of each fiscal year, staff reviews the actual year-to-date amounts for each revenue and expense line item, considers the relevant information, and makes an informed estimate of the end-of-fiscal year totals. Additionally, each department identifies any significant unbudgeted expenditures necessary prior to the end of the current fiscal year, allowing said expenditures to be considered for inclusion in the mid-year budget revision. This review process aims to identify and explain significant variances in expenses and revenues and provides one measure of District financial health to inform the budget process for the following fiscal year. Staff met with the Budget Committee on May 16, 2024, reviewed the District expenses and revenues to date, and recommended several budget revisions. Finance Director Jarvis reviewed the mid-year budget and capital budget and fielded questions.

Director Bransford moved to approve the mid-year budget revisions as presented for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Director Dennis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

Absent: Director Vann

Review and Consider Approval of Update to Section 2.0 of the *Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Policy*

Interim District Engineer Chris Privitera reported that some recent questions prompted a review of the Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Policy, which prompted the need for policy direction regarding the recommendation to provide two new definitions ("Abandoned facility" and "new service") to the Policy to clarify the intent of certain provisions.

After a full discussion by the Board and staff, the following definition for an "Abandoned facility" was suggested for inclusion in the Policy, "A District facility that has not been used by the District in at least five years and is no longer in a functional condition."

Also, the following definition for "New Service" was suggested for inclusion in the Policy, "Any change in crop or field use that would require a new point of delivery, change in flow rate, field elevation change, or a different irrigation method."

General Manager Jeff Sutton also suggested that the Board review the entirety of the Operations and Maintenance Policy for the purpose of identifying any other suggested updates, changes or clarifications.

Director Knight moved to update Section 2.0 of the *Water Distribution System Operation and Maintenance Policy* with the new suggested definitions per the recommendation above.

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 Lurline Check Timeline and Schedule

General Manager Jeff Sutton reported the Lurline Check structure project is scheduled to begin in the winter of 2025 with a cost estimate of approximately \$5.5 million. This project will require an extended shutdown period from mid to late October 2025 to April 5, 2026. During the project, the District should have the ability to deliver water to some neighboring water users, but water delivery to approximately 15,000 acres affecting approximately 40 landowners would either be completely or severely compromised. Staff recommends starting immediate communication efforts with the affected landowners to identify efforts to minimize and mitigate impacts to these lands. Communication efforts could include some or all of the following: direct calls, direct in-person contact, mailings, and group meetings. Efforts to mitigate and minimize impacts may include planting affected folks the year prior as early as possible, providing early decomposition water opportunities, exploring early opportunities for fertilizer to tree crops, and finding alternative mechanisms for early water service, among others. Staff is considering a meeting with the affected water users at the southern end of the district where the project will take place to answer questions and provide pertinent timeline information to help prepare for the extended shutdown period. Staff will continue working with Provost & Pritchard on the project schedule and will explore options for overtime, double-time, and alternative schedules to ensure the project is completed on time. Staff and the Board then reviewed the 60% design, 'no service land map' and 'partial service land area map.' The Board would like to schedule time to discuss this in more detail. It was further noted, at the completion of this Project, water service at the southern end of the District will be greatly improved in terms of operational efficiency and flexibility.

ADMINISTRATION

Department Reports

Maintenance

Maintenance Superintendent Richardson reported that the Maintenance Department completed the following activities: coffer dam installation, lateral and drain cleaning, conveyance system repairs as needed, removal of a beaver dam, bank repairs on the D-8c drain, intake channel sediment removal (ongoing), mowing and spraying of the main canal and laterals, and repairs to two separated delivery pipes.

Water

Water Operations Superintendent Henderson reported that the Main Canal is at 2,400 cubic feet per second (cfs) and increasing to 2,800 cfs as growers begin requesting refloods. He reported that he held a meeting with all Water Operators yesterday, where they discussed heat safety as temperatures in the area are rising rapidly, and also had a great discussion regarding flood-up season successes, trials and tribulations and goals for next season. Lastly,

he reported that the SCADA Department is troubleshooting the “antique” operating system at Stovall 2, where small fluctuations are causing overtopping.

Engineering

Interim District Engineer Privitera reported that the Engineering Department has participated in an on-site meeting at Lurline and Able Checks to discuss electrical controls and layout. The 60% design was initiated after a meeting on May 21, during which minor details were sorted out. He reported that engineering staff is conducting weekly site visits at the Electrical Control Room build site. Mr. Privitera reported that Provost & Pritchard have submitted legal descriptions for several laterals and the Engineering Department is reviewing and updating the easement procedures. He provided an update on the GIS intern activities and their data collection efforts and updated the Board on upcoming projects including the Lateral 16-4f modernization and the Lateral LW-1 and Lateral 41-1p improvements.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Board Member Report

President Amaro reported that the Glenn Groundwater Authority is moving forward with Option #3 as discussed during the last GCID Board meeting. They have been discussing the Proposition 218 process and budgets. They are also discussing general ideas for rates and hope to finalize them within the next month. The deadline to get the rates to the County for inclusion on the tax roll is August.

Director Bransford reported participating in a Bridge Group meeting on May 21. The group plans to present Salmon and hatchery issues to the fish agencies. He also reported attending the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors meeting on May 23. Lastly, he, General Manager Jeff Sutton, and others within the SRSCs met with Jeff Yasui, Regional Director for USDA California Crop Insurance, regarding crop insurance issues.

Manager’s Report

General Manager Sutton reported on various Sites activities, including the Sites JPA CEQA challenge victory, and applauded the great work of the legal and environmental teams. He reported that he and various GCID staff participated in a Site Cooperative Agreement meeting, where discussion took place regarding wheeling rates. They are targeting the end of July for a presentation related to the basic wheeling rate framework. He then reported that a group of Site folks will tour our main pump station facility on June 12th. Lastly, he reported that conversations are continuing regarding the Benefits and Obligations investor contracts and Legislative and Outreach Committee efforts.

General Manager Sutton reported that GCID hosted the NCWA Water Leaders class at the GCID Main Pump Station on May 22 and thanked Mary Spooner and Kayla Mendonca for setting up and coordinating food and drink arrangements.

General Manager Sutton touched briefly on other activities, including: the recent GCID Operations and Maintenance Committee meeting, various SRSC meetings, meeting with ACWA Executive Director Dave Eggerton on June 12, recognizing the newly appointed Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority General Manager Bill Vanderwaal, upcoming meeting with Drew Honeycutt from the Chico CDFW office, discussions with Dave Mooney regarding the Winter Run Action Plan, and a brief update on the Gradient Facility design progress and upcoming workshop to discuss and review next steps.

General Manager Sutton noted that the first meeting in July falls on July 4th when the office will be closed. The July 4th meeting will be canceled, and the Board will meet next on its regularly scheduled meeting date of July 18, 2024.

Communications Report

Executive Assistant Kayla Mendonca reported that she has worked with CV Strategies to plan and schedule social media for June, including posts highlighting our new summer interns. Kayla also reported on the GCID Employee Appreciation Lunch on June 19th.

Attorney's Report

Counsel Hitchings reported on materials distributed to the Board regarding the Sites Press Release and a link to the Governor's Office release regarding the positive outcome of the CEQA legal challenge to the Sites JPA EIR.

Other Business

None.

Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 11:12 a.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation, Existing Litigation and 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. *NRDC v. Haaland* (Case No. 21-15163 (9th Cir. 2021) [Contract Renewal Litigation]
 - ii. *TCCA v. CA DWR* (CJC-20-005117 JCCP NO. 5117) [2020 CEQA Litigation]
 - iii. *PCFFA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00431-JLT-EPG);
 - iv. *CNRA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00426-JLT-EPG) [2019 BiOps Lawsuits]

- C. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
(Government Code Section 54956.8)
Property: Acquisition of water supplies from Sites Reservoir Project
GCID Negotiators: Logan Dennis, Jeffrey P. Sutton and Counsel Alexis Stevens
Negotiating Parties: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District and Sites Reservoir Project
Under Negotiation: Terms of payment, and other transactional details

The Board reconvened to open session at 12:18 p.m.


President Amaro 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 an update on *Anticipated Litigation* and took no action.

President Amaro 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 an update on Existing Litigation and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, during which the Board heard an update on Conference with Real Property Negotiators and gave direction to staff.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.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


John Amaro


Logan Dennis

Absent
Blake Vann