

**Minutes of Meeting
Held
August 14, 2024**

President Amaro called the meeting of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Board of Directors to order at 9:05 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
Blake Vann, Director, Division 5
Logan Dennis, Vice-President, Division 3 (arrived at 9:53 a.m.)

Absent:

Donald R. Bransford, Director, Division 4

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

Mike Lux, Water User
Tomas Loera, GCID Staff
Bristol Mendonca

Public Participation

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Authorize Payment of Claims

Director Knight moved to approve the payment of claims #24 14757 through #24 14835, in the amount of Six Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand, Nine Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars and Forty-Six Cents (\$652,932.46) and approve the August 1, 2024, meeting minutes. Director Vann seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Knight and Vann

Absent: Director Bransford and Dennis

BUSINESS ITEMS

None.

ADMINISTRATION

Department Reports

Maintenance

Maintenance Superintendent Richardson reported that the Maintenance Department is continuing to remove aquatic weeds from laterals and drains and will be applying a Cascade treatment in the Main Canal at Husted Road. He reported that areas of asphalt at the Pump Station were recently repaired. Lastly, he reported that he submitted the 401 Permit annual report and has participated in Capital Budget review discussions.

General Manager Sutton reported that he and Maintenance Superintendent Richardson have been working through details regarding 2 to 3 potential restoration projects that may occur this fall/winter. GCID staff are working with Holly Dawley at KSN. These projects will each take approximately 3 weeks to complete and should only necessitate one equipment operator from GCID, with one project also necessitating a project manager designated from GCID.

Water

Water Operations Superintendent Ed Henderson reported that the District was running at maximum capacity for an extended period of time this year due to the extreme heat as well as the condensed planting window. The District has utilized the Tehama-Colusa Canal to help serve additional GCID water demand beyond our flow capacity. The Pump Station is currently at 2,000 cubic feet per second (cfs), which is ramping down from the elevated flow numbers during the majority of the summer. Approximately 25 growers are finished taking water, and roughly 65 gates are finished being used for the season.

Next, he reported that some GCID staff participated in a refresher course on manually running the pumps at the Main Pump Station. Water Department staff are also being moved around to pair more experienced Water Operators with less experienced Water Operators to help transfer knowledge and put an emphasis on communication and customer service when interacting with growers. Office Specialist Mary Spooner will be sending an automated notice to Water Users informing them of the Water Operators being moved around in some areas and reminding Water Users that it is important to refrain from pulling all notched weirs boards at once to avoid exceeding the capacity and damaging the District drainage system.

Water Operations management staff have continued the outreach regarding the Lurline Check Project and its projected disruption to service during the duration of the fall/winter/early spring 2025-2026 construction window. Affected Water Users have requested a landowner meeting for those who will be affected so that they have a better platform to ask questions and hear more detailed information regarding the project. Lastly, he reported that the District has hired two new Water Operators who will be starting in the next few weeks. General Manager Sutton added that the District has also hired a new Maintenance Worker who will be backfilling the vacancy created by Bob Packard upon his upcoming retirement. Bob Packard officially announced his retirement to commence at the end of the year after nearly 44 years of service to the District.

Engineering

Interim District Engineer Privitera reported that the first phase of the Electrical Control Room project is near completion, at which time the project will be suspended until next October when the next phase of the project commences with the delivery of key electrical components. He also

reported that the GIS summer interns have completed their inventory efforts for the northern portion of the District and have begun efforts in the southern portion. He reported that the Engineering Department is working on all post-harvest project efforts as well as participating in discussions regarding the WaterSMART Grant and the USDA Funding opportunity. Lastly, he and Executive Assistant Kayla Mendonca will begin preparing easement agreements related to the private lateral acquisition efforts.

Treasurer's Report

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

INFORMATION REPORTS

Board Member Reports

Director Knight reported that he attended the Colusa Basin Drain meeting and the GCID Pension Plan meeting.

President Amaro reported that he attended the Glenn Groundwater Authority meeting, where they completed the Proposition 218 process. The new rates will be sent to the assessor's office to be included on the tax roll.

Committee Reports

General Manager Sutton reported that staff are planning to meet with the Budget Committee on September 10. He also reported that prior to the next Board meeting, staff are planning to meet with the Water Transfer Committee to review and discuss proposed water transfer proposals and District water transfer policies.

Manager's Report

General Manager Sutton reported that he relayed the direction given by the Board to Reclamation and San Luis Delta Mendota Water Company (SLDMWC) that GCID would not be doing any out-of-basin groundwater substitution transfers, and as such the Project Description for the Long-Term Water Transfer Documents should reflect the same. General Manager Sutton reported this information was well received by SLDMWC as it has been the position of the District for the last few years.

General Manager Sutton asked Finance Director Jarvis to report on the Power and Water Resource Pooling Authority (PWRPA) meeting he recently attended in Santa Rosa. Finance Director Jarvis reported that the meeting was more of a transitional planning exercise. Three of the PWRPA Directors are nearing retirement age and a significant amount of institutional knowledge will be leaving with these folks. With that, the group feels it is prudent to appoint an Assistant Deputy Council. He also noted that the District will need to decide whether to pay additional costs of \$60,000-\$100,000 annually for resource adequacy or instead, investigate developing some sort of District green energy generation project.

General Manager Sutton reported that there is a Sites Reservoir and Sites Joint Powers Authority (JPA) meeting on Friday, August 16. Regarding the Sites Reservoir California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) challenge, he noted that Sites prevailed regarding all CEQA challenges in the trial court. Sites filed its answering brief in the appellate court last week. The petitioner's reply brief is due on August 21st. The best guess is that the Third District Court of Appeal will hear it sometime in late September.

General Manager Sutton asked Counsel Hitchings to elaborate on the Water Rights hearing, noting there will be tours at our facilities and the TCCA diversion facility. Counsel Hitchings added that the Water Rights hearing will begin on Monday, August 19 with policy statements and there are approximately 30 policy statements that are written and will be provided verbally at the hearing supporting Sites. The evidentiary portion of the hearing will start on August 27 and that is when the Sites case-in-chief will start. The first panel will include Jerry Brown, Alicia Forsythe, Angela Bezzone, JP Robinette, and Jeff Herrin.

General Manager Sutton reported that staff have been working with a contractor regarding Sites wheeling rates. Sites staff are planning to give a presentation at the September 19 GCID Board meeting regarding details related to the development of the wheeling agreement, the shortened timeframe, activities and costs increases related to GCID winter maintenance efforts, and new and modified GCID infrastructure necessary to serve Sites Reservoir.

(Director Dennis arrived at 9:53 a.m.)

General Manager Sutton reported that he and GCID staff are continuing to gather more information regarding the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Grant opportunity.

General Manager Sutton reported that the Northern California Water Association (NCWA) has continued its efforts related to the Flood Plains Forward movement. He also mentioned that the California Rice Commission rescheduled its meeting to provide for GCID participation for the upcoming Giant Garter Snake workshop.

General Manager Sutton reported that the issue regarding Rogelio Sandoval's disrupted irrigation delivery to his landlocked property along a private lateral has been further investigated by staff, including a meeting with the neighboring landowner. Staff are exploring other avenues to facilitate Mr. Sandoval's irrigation needs while also being mindful of District policy. There are likely other similar situations throughout the District and these would need to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Communication's Update

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

Attorney's Report

None.

Other Business

None.

Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:08 a.m. to discuss Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation, Conference with Labor Negotiators, Conference with Real Property Negotiators, and Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.

A. 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]

- B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representatives: Donald Bransford; Peter Knight; Jeffrey P. Sutton;
Louis Jarvis; Karen Alves
Employee Organization: UPEC 792
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS
(Government Code Section 54957.6)
Agency Designated Representatives: Donald Bransford; Peter Knight; Jeffrey P. Sutton;
Louis Jarvis; Karen Alves
Employee Organization: Management/Supervisory Employees
- D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR
(Government Code Section 54956.8)
Property: GCID's water supplies
GCID Negotiators: Jeffrey P. Sutton, John Amaro, Don Bransford, Louis Jarvis and
Counsel Andrew Hitchings
Negotiating Parties: Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority and
its Member Agencies, Santa Clara Valley Water District and San Luis & Delta-Mendota
Water Authority
Under Negotiation: Call dates, and other transaction details
- E. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE
(Government Code Section 54957)
- F. 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 10:08 a.m.

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 updates on *Existing Litigation* and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Conference with Labor Negotiators regarding UPEC 792, and provided direction to staff and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6, Conference with Labor Negotiators regarding Management and Supervisory employees, and provided direction to staff 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 updates regarding Conference with Real Property Negotiators and took no action.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code section 54957, during which the Board heard an update and provided direction to staff. Report on action taken deferred.

President Amaro reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8, during which the Board heard an update and took no action.

The meeting adjourned at 11:49 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.


Absent
Donald R. Bransford


Peter Knight


John Amaro


Logan Dennis


Blake Vann