

**Minutes of Meeting
Held
April 3, 2025**

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

Absent:

Vacancy, Division 5

Staff Present:

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

Others Present:

John Cecil, Water User
Les Marsh, Water User
Kelly Ornbaun, Water User
Tim Sanchez, Water User
Sarah Reynolds, Water User
Mike Lux, Water User
Dustin Cain, Water User

Public Participation

Water User Sarah Reynolds reported on efforts by the “Skinny Group” to promote groundwater recharge and demand management efforts in the south Colusa County and north Yolo County area. GCID has been brought up frequently in discussions in regard to potential projects and programs that could contribute greatly to the goal of groundwater sustainability in and around the area. General Manager Sutton explained that GCID’s water rights do have some limitations in regard to groundwater recharge. However, he articulated there is potential for wheeling and conjunctive use opportunities that could benefit the District and the surrounding areas. He continued that he was very open to engage in a dialogue to explore partnerships and projects that could provide benefits and promote sustainable groundwater management.

CONSENT AGENDA

Authorize Payment of Claims

Director Bransford moved to approve the payment of claims #25 00077 through #25 00078, in the amount of Forty Thousand, Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents (\$40,950.99), and claims #25 17358 through #25 17404 in the amount of Two Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand, One Hundred Eighty-Five Dollars and Sixty-Three Cents (\$222,185.63), and approve the March 20, 2025, meeting minutes. Director Amaro seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

BUSINESS ITEMS

Discuss and Consider Approval of Resolution 2025-05 Appointing Applicant to Vacancy on Board of Directors Division 5

At its February 6, 2025, the Board elected to fill the Division 5, Board member vacancy by appointment pursuant to Government Code section 1780 et seq. (See Water Code § 21265.5 and Gov. Code § 1780.). The Notice of Vacancy was posted in three conspicuous places within the District as well as on the District's website. Interested individuals were requested to submit a letter of interest to the District no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 27, 2025.

The District received one letter of interest from GCID landowner Kelly Ornbaun requesting consideration for the appointment as the Director for Division 5. Mr. Ornbaun is a voter or the legal representative of a voter and a landowner within Division 5 of the District, and is therefore qualified to serve as a Director for Division 5.

Pursuant to Government Code section 1780 et seq., the remaining Board members shall make the appointment within 60 days after either the date on which the District Board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later. The person appointed will serve out the remaining term which will end December 5, 2025.

Director Knight moved to approve Resolution 2025-05 appointing Kelly Ornbaun to fill the vacancy of the Board of Directors for Division 5. Director Bransford seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

The Resolution is attached to the minutes as Attachment A.

Discuss and Consider Participation in the Central Valley Project Water Association

At the March 20, 2025, Board meeting, Central Valley Project Water Association (CVPWA) Executive Director Brooke White provided an informational presentation regarding the benefits of joining the CVPWA. The Board chose to defer the decision to join until such time as a full Board was present to discuss. The annual membership cost for GCID to join the CVPWA is \$24,309. While Director Bransford voiced some concerns regarding CVPWA involvement in policy in the past, he also felt their efforts related to CVP Financial Affairs is of great benefit. Director Bransford articulated his support for enrollment for a year, and suggested the Board reevaluate at the time for renewal.

Director Knight moved to approve participation in the Central Valley Project Water Association. Director Amaro seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis, Knight and Ornbaun

Discuss and Consider Providing Water Pursuant to Existing In-Basin Transfer Agreements and Servicing Lands Outside of the District for the 2025 Irrigation Season

At its March 20, 2025 meeting, the Board tabled this item due to a conflict of interest with Director Knight regarding this topic, resulting in a lack of adequate voting members to take action.

Today, staff explained that the District currently has four signed “Agreements to Transfer Water to Lands Neighboring Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District” (In-Basin Transfer Agreements) with a term of May 18, 2023 through October 31, 2027. The total acreage covered by the agreements is 624.9 (443.5 rice, 181.4 almonds), resulting in the transfer of approximately 3,623 acre feet of water. Staff requests direction from the Board regarding providing water pursuant to the existing In-Basin Water Transfer Agreements during the 2025 irrigation season.

For the 2025 irrigation season the Board has approved a “Commingling Agreement for Non-District Lands” as a pilot project with Red Stick Farms Colusa, LLC. (Red Stick). Red Stick intends to use a groundwater well located on their property to irrigate the acres currently identified in their In-Basin Water Transfer Agreement (92.6 acres). The In-Basin Water Transfer Agreement will be used as a back-up if they are unable to pump enough well water for the 2025 water season.

Additionally, the District boundary crosses certain parcels along the outside edge of the District in a manner that makes serving only the land within the District boundary difficult. These “Lands Outside of the District”, also known as ‘island lands’ and ‘ZZ parcels’, are 5.6 acres or less in size individually and total 27.5 acres. With respect to ‘island lands’, “Islands within the District will be served only after approval by the Board of Directors and will be charged double the normal water rate.” In-Basin water transfers generate approximately \$100,000 in revenue and “Lands Outside of the District” generate approximately \$4,000.

Director Knight and Director Amaro both recused themselves from the voting process due to conflicts of interest.

Director Bransford moved to authorize providing water pursuant to existing In-Basin Transfer Agreements and servicing Lands Outside of the District during the 2025 irrigation season. Director Ornbaun seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the following vote:

Ayes: Directors Bransford, Dennis and Ornbaun

Abstain: Directors Amaro and Knight

Discuss and Consider Board Member Committee Appointments

President Dennis reviewed the Committee’s list and appointed Board members and staff as necessary. The Committee’s list will be updated for future reference and the appropriate letters will be sent to outside committees notifying them of new appointments.

ADMINISTRATION

Department Reports

Maintenance

Maintenance Superintendent Richardson reported on the following: a section of Lateral 16-4 was going to be lined, but staff decided to rock that section due to time constraints and will reevaluate in coming years; installation of drain siphon under Lateral 16-4; installation of delivery turnouts; lateral cleaning; coordination with Engineering on construction projects for 2025-26; coordination

with landowners on 21-1-65.5 pipe replacement; and meeting with Dave Gomes on canal breach drainage issue.

Water

Water Operations Superintendent Henderson reported on the following: Pump Station is at 157 cubic feet per second, mainly growers checking lines or applying fertilizer; Water Operators are fixing gates and preparing areas; hired two new Water Operators; average rainfall according to precipitation handout; and continued RemoteTracker training.

Engineering

Interim District Engineer Privitera reported on the following: Summer internship interview/hiring process; update on the Lurline Check and Siphon improvements; RemoteTracker data collection implementation; private lateral easement acquisition still on hold; Lateral 51-1 improvement planning and surveying; and GIS infrastructure.

INFORMATION REPORTS

Board Member Report

Director Bransford reported participating in the Northern California Water Leaders group meeting and the Northern California Water Association Executive Meeting.

Committee Reports

Finance Director Jarvis reported that the Budget Committee met at 8:30 a.m. this morning and approved the transfer of \$20 million to GCID's Government Portfolio Advisors account.

Manager's Report

General Manager Sutton reported on the following: Net Pen Project in TCCA Canal; DC Trip May 6-8th; ACWA Conference mid-May; Canal tour with Pat Kennedy and Director Amaro; and Sites Reservoir Value Planning efforts; SRSC Corporation Board meeting; and participation in the NCWA Water Leaders Group presentation.

Communications Report

Executive Assistant Kayla Mendonca reported that the Spring 2025 GCID newsletter will be printed and mailed tomorrow.

Attorney's Report

None.

Other Business

The April 17 Board meeting will be moved to begin at 8 a.m. and will be held at the GCID Main Pump Station. The May 15 meeting will likely be moved to May 22 pending verified quorum.

Closed Session

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 10:45 a.m. to discuss the following:

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Potential Initiation of Litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9: One Potential Case

B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

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

- i. *TCCA v. CA DWR* (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 24WM000183) [CEQA Litigation-DWR 2024 EIR for LTO]
- ii. *PCFFA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00431-JLT-EPG);
- iii. *CNRA v. Raimondo* (USDC E.D. Cal. Case No. 1:20-cv-00426-JLT-EPG) [2019 BiOps Lawsuits]
- iv. *AquAlliance, et al. v. GCID* (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 25WM000015; *Westlands Water District v. GCID* (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 25MW000017); *State Water Contractors v. GCID* (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 25MW000018) [2025 CEQA challenges to DPP Agreement FEIR]
- v. *Sacramento River Settlement Contractors, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board, et al.*, (Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 34-2022-80003846) [WR Order 90-5 Litigation]

C. 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

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. 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 11:44 a.m.

President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54856.9 during which the Board heard updates and took no action.

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 an update on Existing Litigation and took no action.

President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to Paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Gov. Code sec. 54956.9, *Significant Exposure to Litigation*, during which the Board heard an update and took no action.

President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to (Government Code Section 54956.8) Conference with Real Property Negotiators (GCID's water supplies), during which the Board heard an update and took no action.

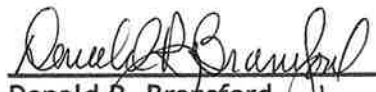
President Dennis reported that the Board met in Closed Session, pursuant to (Government Code Section 54956.8) Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Acquisition of water supplies from Sites Reservoir), during which the Board heard an update and took no action.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 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


John Amaro


Logan Dennis


Kelly Ornblau

ATTACHMENT A

**GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-05**

APPOINTING APPLICANT TO VACANCY ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR DIVISION 5

WHEREAS, the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation (District) is a California Irrigation District organized and existing under the California Irrigation District Law (Water Code § 20500 et seq.); and

WHEREAS, at the Board meeting on March 6, 2025, the Board elected to fill Director Blake Vann's vacancy by appointment, pursuant to Government Code 1780 subdivision (c); and

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 1780 provides that the Board may, within 60 days from the commencement of the vacancy, fill the vacancy by appointment in lieu of election; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2025, the District caused Notice of the Vacancy to be posted in three conspicuous places within the District and on the District's website notifying all interested parties to submit letters of interest to the District office for consideration by the Board; and

WHEREAS, the District received one letter of interest from Kelly Ornbaun requesting consideration to be appointed as Director for Division 5; and

WHEREAS, Kelly Ornbaun is a voter or the legal representative of a voter and a landowner within Division 5 of the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, as follows:

1. Pursuant to Government Code section 1780 subdivision (c), Kelly Ornbaun is appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Directors of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District.
2. The appointment shall take immediate effect upon the passage of this Resolution and Kelly Ornbaun shall hold office until December 5, 2025.
3. The District shall notify the County Registrar's office of the appointment within 15 days.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District this 3rd day of April 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Directors Amaro, Bransford, Dennis and Knight

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

* * *

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 April 3, 2025, 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 on this 3rd day of April 2025.


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