

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
TRANQUILLITY IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**November 18, 2020**

**PRESENT:** President Jerome F Salvador, Director William Pucheu, Director George Ayerza Jr., General Manager Danny M Wade, Assistant Manager Rodney D Wade, Counsel Lauren Layne, Engineering Consultant Joe Hopkins, & Secretary/Treasurer Liz Reeves

**ABSENT:** none

President Salvador called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

**ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA:** None

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the meetings of October 14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 was approved on voice count. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none

**TREASURER REPORT:** The Cash Flow statement was presented for the month of October 2020 including the payments and balances on long-term debts. The cash disbursements and receivables were presented as well. Director Pucheu motioned for approval of the Treasurer report. Director Ayerza seconded the motion. For the WIIN Act payoff – USBR has advised to hold off until the final payoff amount has been calculated. Payment isn't due until 12/31/2020. Board agreed to hold off until late December 2020 to pay.

**WATERMASTER'S REPORTS** -Water use – irrigation and drinking water: Danny M Wade presented the WaterMaster report. He reported on the usage totals for the month of October 2020, the well pumping totals, and the Mendota pool reporting. The well depth and PH/TDS readings were also presented to the Board. We are considering adding Well #4 into the city water system which will cost about \$10,000. We are holding off for possible grant funding to install a replacement city water well #7.

**DIRECTOR REPORT:** none

**COUNSEL REPORT:** In regards to legal matters affecting the District: (none) SGMA: still working on a policy for acquiring well information and working on a rate study to impose fines for the landowners not supplying the requested information. Groundwater Exportation Policy and Application was presented to the Board for approval. After final review the Board approved the policy and application as presented. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion. WIIN Act – the lawsuit has been filed.

**ENGINEERING CONSULTANT REPORT:** SGMA: they are modifying the water quality network and will now be using wells that are already pumping. Grants update: Lift 3 materials are on site.

**MANAGER REPORT:**

1. City Water/Well #6 & 7: CW6 is back on line. CW 7 was examined and didn't show any damage but is still pumping some sand & gravel. We are hoping to get this well back online soon and will keep it as a backup only until the grant funding (hopefully) comes through.

2. F-47, F-48 / close ditch: (Director Pucheu identified a conflict of interest because of neighboring properties and left room.) ¼ mile of ditch is to be closed in. Coleman’s pipe will have to be removed and will cost around \$1500. In the past we split the cost with the requesting farmer(s). We do benefit from doing this. We will have less seepage, spraying and won’t have to Push water back to this section of the District.
  - a. The Board has agreed to abandon the ditch and split the cost with the requesting landowner(s). Director Ayerza motioned for approval and President Salvador seconded the motion.
  - b. Termination of Coleman agreement – The Board decided that we will be removing the pipeline and disallow backflush. Director Ayerza motioned for approval and President Salvador seconded the motion. The Board also directed Manager Wade to notify the landowners to discuss among themselves in regards to the issue of the existing Coleman pump at this location.
3. Carvalho F-319: On Manning Ave back towards the Gin – Carvalho would like to have the ¼ mile of ditch to be closed in and install a pipeline which will cost about \$20,000. He would like to split the cost with the District. Our guys could do the closing of the ditch in 1 day. The District does benefit from this with no seepage, spraying, etc. This pipeline will also benefit another District farmer. The Board has agreed to split the cost but the cap will be \$6,500 maximum for the District to payout. Director Ayerza motioned for approval and Director Pucheu seconded the motion.
4. Treatment Plant / Pipe Replacement: bids have been received at \$15,000 for stainless steel and \$5,800 for coated pipe. We will look to get one more bid just to make sure we are covered.
5. FSWD/Lease: The Board approved the lease and Carvalho has agreed to the lease terms and has signed. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

1. Closed Session Pursuant to California Government Code [Section 54956.8](#)

**CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Property: Temporary Water Transfer

Agency Negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade

Negotiating Parties: TID & SLWD

Under Negotiation: Price & Terms

*(no reportable action)*

2. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS** Pursuant to California Government Code [Section 54956.8](#)

Property: Water Rights

Agency negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade

Negotiating parties: Various Water Users, unspecified for the benefit of the public agency

Under negotiation: Instruction to negotiator will concern price and terms of payment

*(no reportable action)*

3. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: Kings River Water Rights

Agency negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade

Negotiating parties: Lower River Units of the Kings River Water Association

Under negotiation: Instruction to negotiator will concern price and terms of payment for rental agreement.

*(no reportable action)*

**4. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

Name of Case: NRDC v. Jewell – U.S. District Court – Eastern District of California (Case No. 1:05-cv-01207LJO-EPG)

*(no reportable action)*

**5. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.

Name of case: *Kings River Water Association, et al. v. James Verboon, et al* (Kings County)

*(no reportable action)*

**6. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: James Irrigation District v. KRWA, et al.

*(no reportable action)*

**7. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION – 1 case**

Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (d)(1)

*(no reportable action)*

**8. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Closed Session Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: Fresno Slough Water District land

Agency Negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade

Negotiating Parties: TID & Angiola WD

Under Negotiation: Price & Terms

*(no reportable action)*

Report on Closed session item 5b from October 14, 2020 special board meeting:


Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation pursuant to Paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (1 case). Director Ayerza motioned for approval to proceed and Director Pucheu seconded the motion. (10/14/20)

This has been filed on November 12, 2020.


The Board adjourned at 10:45 am.

The next meeting will be held at 8:30 am on December 15, 2020 at the TID office.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Elizabeth Reeves, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved By,

  
Jerome F Salvador, Board President

