

ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

289 North L Street, Dinuba, CA (559) 591-0800

**MINUTES**

*Per Executive Order N-29-20, which allows local and state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically, this Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Alta Irrigation District*

*was held via telephone conference call on  
Thursday, October 08, 2020*

*and was accessed as follows:*

*Teleconference Number (559) 823-8500*

*The public participated in the meeting as otherwise permitted under the Brown Act by calling into this telephone number.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1. Roll Call – The Regular Board meeting for Alta Irrigation District was called to order at 9:33 a.m. by President Jack Brandt. Members present were Daniel Astiasuain, Jerry Halford, John Kalendar, Tom Marshall, Marco Rinaldi, and Larry Tout. Others present were General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, Engineer Jim Wegley, and Attorneys Doug B. Jensen and Lauren D. Layne. Attorney Nick Jacobs joined for closed session. There was one member of the public present.

1.2. Potential Conflict(s) of Interest – None.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT** – None.

**3. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA** – Item 6.3 is deleted from agenda.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR** – It was M/S by Halford/Astiasuain that consent calendar items be approved as presented. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director Halford aye, Director Astiasuain aye, President Brandt aye, Vice President Marshall aye, Director Kalendar aye, Director Rinaldi aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously.

5.1. Board Meeting Minutes for Regular Board Meeting and Special Board Meetings of September 10.

24, and 29, 2020.

5.2. Approve Payment of the September 2020 Warrants. (Insert 5.2)

5.3. Collector's Report for September 2020. (Insert 5.3)

## **6. ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL**

- 6.1. Treasurer's Report. As of September 30, 2020, the cash balance is \$2,307,306.85 and of that \$107,238 is deposited in LAIF, earning an interest rate of 0.6%. Accounts Receivable and Inventory total approximately \$272,383. Current year revenue and expenses are approximately \$3,842,985 and \$3,216,814 respectively, resulting in net cash flow of about \$628,526. (Insert 6.1) It was M/S by Astiasuain/Kalender to accept the September 30, 2020 Treasurer's Report. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director Astiasuain aye, Director Kalender aye, President Brandt aye, Vice President Marshall aye, Director Halford aye, Director Rinaldi aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6.2. Drug and Alcohol Policy for Safety Sensitive Employees. It was M/S by Halford/Tout to approve the Drug and Alcohol Policy for Safety Sensitive Employees. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director Halford aye, Director Tout aye, President Brandt aye, Vice President Marshall aye, Director Astiasuain aye, Director Kalender aye, Director Rinaldi aye. The motion passed unanimously. (Insert 6.2)
- 6.3. Investment Policy. Review and consider approving revised Investment Policy. Deleted from agenda will be added to next month's agenda.
- 6.4. Alta Irrigation District 457 Retirement Plan. It was M/S by Astiasuain/Marshall to develop new plan document and move the plan from Voya Financial to Principal Financial. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director Astiasuain aye, Vice President Marshall aye, President Brandt aye, Director Halford aye, Director Kalender aye, Director Rinaldi aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6.5. Annexation Policy. The consensus of the Board was to develop an annexation application and policy, then bring it to the Board at a future meeting for approval.

## **7. WATER MANAGEMENT – Review and take action as appropriate.**

- 7.1. Water Run Update – No update.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

- 8.1. 2020 Ag Water Management Plan. It was M/S by Kalender/Rinaldi to approve a proposal from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to provide professional services to prepare an ag water management plan. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director Kalender aye, Director Rinaldi aye, President Brandt aye, Vice President Marshall aye, Director Astiasuain aye, Director Halford aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously. (Insert 8.1)

## 9. OLD BUSINESS

- 9.1. Manager's Report. General Manager Wegley reported on ongoing maintenance activities occurring throughout the District. Maintenance staff cleaned/plowed approximately ten (10) miles of small ditches; all small ditches should be plowed by the end of the year. A mini excavator was used to remove weed piles created by the ditch plow and to reshape ditches. The District issued a letter of cooperation supporting KRCD's efforts under the Proposition 50 grant program to serve as a watershed coordinator of the Kings and Tulare Lake subbasins. Outreach efforts to landowners continues with email blasts, notices on website, and press releases in local papers.

## 10. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – President Brandt adjourned to closed session at 10:12 a.m. to confer with counsel on the items listed below. There will be no discussion on item 10.3.

- 10.1. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action regarding *Kings River Water Association, et al. v. James Verboon, et al.*
- 10.2. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Anticipated Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(2). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action on potential litigation arising out of claims by third parties to water rights on the Kings River. (1 case)
- 10.3. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will meet in closed session to confer with counsel regarding *Kings River Water Association v. R.D. #761, et al.*
- 10.4. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Anticipated Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(2). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action on potential litigation arising out of unauthorized encroachment(s) into District canal. (1 case)
- 10.5. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action regarding *Jesse Alvarado v. Alta Irrigation District Case # ADJ9776072*.
- 10.6. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action regarding *James Irrigation District v. Kings River Water Association (Fresno Co. Case #19CECG00769)*.
- 10.7. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Threatened Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(2). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action on potential litigation. (1 case)
- 10.8. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will meet in closed session to confer with counsel regarding *County of Fresno v. Alta Irrigation District, et al.*

## 11. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – The Board reconvened into open session at 10:37 a.m. with no reportable action taken in closed session.

**12. ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 10:37 a.m. until the next scheduled meeting on November 12, 2020.

Sincerely,

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Chad B. Wegley, Secretary

CBW:ml