

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, November 12, 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 9:32 a.m. by President Jack Brandt. Members present were Daniel Astiasuain, Jerry Halford, John Kalender, Tom Marshall, Marco Rinaldi, and Larry Tout. Others present were General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, and Engineer Jim Wegley. Attorneys Doug B. Jensen and Lauren D. Layne, and two (2) members of the public were present by telephone.

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

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

3. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA – It was M/S by Astiasuain/Kalender to add one (1) item to the agenda that came to the attention of the District after the posting of the agenda and requires immediate Board action: 1) New Business item 8.3 Soil sales. 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.

4. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR – It was M/S by Halford/Kalender that consent calendar items be approved as presented. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Director

Halford aye, Director Kalender aye, President Brandt aye, Vice President Marshall aye, Director Astiasuain aye, Director Rinaldi aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously.

- 5.1. Board Meeting Minutes for Regular Board Meeting October 8, 2020.
- 5.2. Approve Payment of the October 2020 Warrants. (Insert 5.2)
- 5.3. Collector's Report for October 2020. (Insert 5.3)
- 5.4. Approve revised September 2020 Treasurer's Report. (Insert 5.4)
- 5.5. Frontier Communications Encroachment 10462001 (A.W. Clark Ditch, Reo Ditch, California Vineyard Ditch, Dinuba Town Ditch, & Haden Boone Ditch. Approve six (6) District standard encroachment agreements on A.W. Clark Ditch, Reo Ditch, California Vineyard Ditch, Dinuba Town Ditch, & Haden Boon Ditch.
- 5.6. Ceres Ranch #4 (Sun Pacific) Encroachment 10372003 (A.W. Clark Ditch). Approve one (1) District standard encroachment agreement on A.W. Clark Ditch.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL

- 6.1. Treasurer's Report. As of October 31, 2020, the cash balance is \$2,260,061.62 and of that \$107,800 is deposited in LAIF, earning an interest rate of 0.6%. Accounts Receivable and Inventory total approximately \$2,258,631. Current year revenue and expenses are approximately \$2,035,288 and \$229,805 respectively, resulting in a net cash flow of about \$1,805,559. (Insert 6.1) It was M/S by Marshall/Halford to accept the October 31, 2020 Treasurer's Report. Vote was taken by roll call and results were as follows: Vice President Marshall aye, Director Halford aye, President Brandt aye, Director Astiasuain aye, Director Kalender aye, Director Rinaldi aye, Director Tout aye. The motion passed unanimously.
- 6.2. Annexation Policy. Item tabled to the December meeting.

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

- 7.1. Water Run Update. – General Manager Wegley reported storage behind Pine Flat is approximately 205,000 acre-feet.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- 8.1. City of Reedley 10082001 (West Reedley Pipeline). The Board took no action on approving a request from the City of Reedley for exception to District design standards.
- 8.2. Enhanced Floodwater Opportunities. It was M/S by Astiasuain/Kalender to participate in a local project to enhance floodwater utilization. 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.
- 8.3. Soil Sales. It was M/S by Halford/Tout to authorize the General Manager to set the price on soil sales. 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.

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; District aiming to plow all small ditches by the end of the year. A mini excavator was used to remove weed piles created by the ditch plow and to reshape ditches. Parks ditch rehabilitation activity occurred at two structures and included resurfacing of existing concrete lining and installing cut-off walls and curbing. The District is testing the cleaning effectiveness of a larger scrapper blade on operations and maintenance roads for larger ditches. KREGSA began surveying monitor wells and verifying well construction information, as required by SGMA.

10. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – President Brandt adjourned to closed session at 10:30 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 Abarado 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 11:10 a.m. with no reportable action taken in closed session.
12. **ADJOURNMENT** - There being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. until the next scheduled meeting on December 10, 2020.

Sincerely,

Chad B. Wegley, Secretary

CBW:ml