SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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

Thursday, April 18, 2024

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll Call – The Special Board Meeting for Alta Irrigation District was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Jack Brandt. Members present were Domenic Fino, Jerry Halford, John Kalender, Christopher "C.J." Myers, Elliott Rossotti, and Larry Tout. Others present were General Manager Chad Wegley, Operations Manager Marc Limas, Engineer Jim Wegley, and Attorney Lauren D. Layne.

1.2. Potential Conflict(s) of Interest – Domenic Fino declared a financial conflict of interest on items 11.2 and 11.6 and will leave the room for those items. John Kalender declared a conflict of interest on item 11.3 and will leave room for that item.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

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

3.1. Water Conditions Update. – General Manager Wegley provided a general overview of storage and river conditions for the 2024 Water Year. On April 14th, Pine Flat storage was approximately 819,400 acre-feet, increasing nearly 65,200 acre-feet since the previous board meeting. Over 60% of the water stored behind Pine Flat Dam belongs to Fresno ID, Empire No. 2, Peoples Consolidated Ditch Company, & Lemoore Canal Company. Alta ID's storage balance on that day was about 32,200 acre-feet. Forecasts from the California Department of Water Resources and CA/NV River Forecast Center project an April-July Runoff on the Kings River of 1.150-1.250 million acre-feet, which is typical of "normal" or "average" runoff conditions. Historic runoff data from the Kings River Water Association suggest Alta ID may gain about 163,000 acre-feet in entitlement during the April-July runoff period. Water Conditions Update was added as an addendum to the minutes. (Insert 3.1)

4. MAINTENANCE – Review and take action as appropriate.

4.1. Maintenance Activity Update. General Manager Wegley's summary of ongoing maintenance activity highlighted the following items: cleaned various reaches within the Alta Main, Ceasar, Wilson, Dinuba Town, AB Clark, and Banks Ditches with rental bulldozer equipped with dual side blades, removed trees from Wahtoke Ditch impeding flight paths at the city of Reedley Municipal Airport, installed over 30 slide gates, and rebuilt portions of canal banks for the East Branch and West Gould. Maintenance Activity Update was added as an addendum to the minutes. (Insert 4.1)

5. **COMMUNICATIONS** – None.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Rossotti, seconded by Director Kalender, that consent calendar items be approved as presented, with the exception of March 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting minutes, which were tabled until the next meeting.

   6.1. Board Meeting Minutes for Regular Board Meetings of March 14, 2024.

   6.2. Collector's Report for March 2024. (Insert 6.2)

   6.3. Approve Payment of the March 2024 Warrants. (Insert 6.3)

   6.4. Encroachment Agreement (Huerta L Farms, LLC-Elter Pipeline – 10952401). Approve two (2) District standard encroachment agreements.

7. **ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL**

   7.1. Treasurer's Report. As of March 31, 2024, the cash balance is $6,580,130.95. Accounts Receivable and Inventory total approximately $2,639,352. The current year's revenue and expenses are approximately $5,890,840 and $2,248,712, respectively, resulting in a net cash flow of approximately $3,645,437. (Insert 7.1). It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Vice President Halford, seconded by Director Tout, to accept the March 2024 Treasurer's Report.

   7.2. Monthly Report of Reserve Accounts, Unrestricted Funds, and Status of Investments. It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Rossotti, seconded by Director Myers, to accept the Monthly Report of Reserve Accounts, Unrestricted Funds, and Status of Investments. (Insert 7.2)

8. **CURRENT PROJECTS – Information Items Only; No Action Will be Taken**

   8.1. Pipeline Development Agreement (San Joaquin Valley Homes – Horseman 10022401). No update.

   8.2. Encroachment (City of Dinuba – Dinuba Town 10092201). No update.

   8.3. Encroachment (City of Dinuba – Smith Mountain 10092301). No update.

   8.4. Encroachment (City of Dinuba – Dinuba Town & Burum 10092302). No update.

   8.5. Encroachment (City of Dinuba – Smith Mountain 10092402). No update.

   8.6. Avenue 376 Bridge (Tulare County – Traver 10131901). No Update.

   8.7. Avenue 430 Bridge (Tulare County - Buttonwillow 10132201). General Manager Wegley reported that the District met with Tulare County regarding the bridge's design and the relocation of the check structure and turnouts upstream of Avenue 430. (Insert 8.7)

   8.8. Encroachment (CVIN – Dinuba Town & Burum 10212302). No update.

   8.9. Pipeline Development & Encroachments (Century Homes - Buttonwillow 10251901). No

update.

8.10. Encroachment (PG&E – Wilson, Dinuba Town, & Van Noy 10322102). No update.

8.11. Encroachment (PG&E – Traver Canal 10322103). No update.

8.12. Encroachment (PG&E – Dinuba Town 10322302). No update.

8.13. Encroachment (PG&E – East Branch 10322304). No update.

8.14. Bridge Crossing (James & Betty Spitze – Mt. Campbell 10402002). No update.

8.15. Bridge Crossing (Smith Mountain Estates, LLC – Smith Mountain 10502001). No update.

8.16. Parlier Avenue Bridge (Fresno County – Traver 10532101). No update.

8.17. Englehart Bridge (Fresno County – Reedley Main 10532102). No update.

8.18. Alta Avenue Bridge (Fresno County – Traver 10532103). No update.

8.19. Manning Avenue Bridge (Fresno County – Traver 10532104). No update.

8.20. Lincoln Avenue Bridge (Fresno County – Traver 10532105). No update.

8.21. Encroachment (Megalodon Properties LLC – Buttonwillow Pipeline 10642101). No update.

8.22. Encroachment (MBN Homes LLC – Horseman Ditch 10652101). No update.

8.23. Alternate Turnout (Red Wolf Farms, LLC – California Vineyard 10662201). No update.

8.24. Pipeline Development & Encroachments (Dinuba Unified School District – Dinuba Town & Burum 10682201). General Manager Wegley reported on progress meetings and submittals of District facilities. (Insert 8.24)

8.25. Encroachment (AT&T – Smith Mountain Pipeline 10692201). No update

8.26. Pipeline Development (Castle Rock Development – Nuss Ditch 10702201). No update.

8.27. Alternate Turnout (Neil Zwart – Vannoy 10712201). No update.

8.28. Encroachment (SoCalGas – Banks 10782201). No update.

8.29. Alternate Turnout (Frankwood LLC – Wahtoke 10862301). No update.

8.30. Encroachment (Steven Boos – Buttonwillow 10872302). No update.

8.31. Encroachment (Cutler-Orosi Unified School District – Orosi School House 10882301). No update.

8.32. Alternate Turnout (Marvin & Becky Warkentin – Traver 10892301). No update.

8.33. Alternate Turnout (Gerben Leyendekker – Carey Hunter 10902401). No update.

8.34. Alternate Turnout (Gerben Leyendekker – Banks 10902402). No update.

8.35. Alternate Turnout (Smittcamp Ag Enterprises – Carey Hunter 10912401). No update.

8.36. Encroachment (Otani Properties – West Reedley 10932401). No update.

8.37. Alternate Turnout (Yockey Farms – Knestric 10942401). No update.

9. NEW BUSINESS – Review and take action as appropriate.

9.1. Mid-Kings River GSA Proposition 218 Election. It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Vice President Halford, seconded by Director Myers, to cast a no vote on the Mid-Kings River GSA Proposition 218 Election and send a letter to protest the Proposition 218 fee and request an exemption for the District's parcel from the assessment. (Insert 9.1)

9.2. Aquaterra Water Bank Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration. It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Rossotti, seconded by Director Myers to send the draft comment letter, subject to minor edits approved by the General Manager and Legal Counsel. (Insert 9.2)

10. OLD BUSINESS

10.1. Pima Wawona Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Filing. An update was provided on paid assessments and water surcharges, and the remaining outstanding balances.

10.2. Trinitas Farming, LLC Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Filing. An update was provided on paid assessments and water surcharges, and the remaining outstanding balances.

10.3. City of Dinuba Encroachment Agreement. Tabled until the next meeting.

10.4. Manager's Report. The manager's report was added as an addendum to the minutes. (Insert 10.4)

10.5. Attorney's Report. Attorney Layne reported on various bills from this legislative session and the Tulare Lake Subbasin probationary hearing in front of the State Water Resources Control Board.

10.6. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports. Review and take action as appropriate.

10.6.1. Maintenance Ad-Hoc Committee – No update.

10.6.2. Public Relations Ad-Hoc Committee - No update.

President Brandt called a recess at 11:46 a.m. President Brandt reconvened the meeting at 11:50 a.m.

11. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION - President Brandt adjourned to closed session at 11:50 a.m. and conferred with counsel on item 11.1 and items 11.3 through 11.6. No discussion will be held on item 11.2. Director Fino declared a financial conflict of interest on items 11.2 and 11.6 and left the meeting at 12:42 p.m. Director Kalander declared a conflict of interest on item 11.3 and left the room for that item.

11.1. Conference with Real Property Negotiators.

Property:	043-010-037
Agency Negotiator:	Chad Wegley
Negotiating Parties:	Wawona Farm Co. LLC

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

11.2. 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.*

11.3. 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 from seepage along District canal. (2 cases)

11.4. 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. (3 cases)

11.5. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Existing Litigation, Government Code §54956.9(d)(1). Board of Directors will confer with counsel for possible action regarding *James Irrigation District v. Kings River Water Association (Fresno Co. Case #19CECG00769).*

11.6. 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. (3 cases)

12. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – The Board of Directors reconvened into open session at 12:59 p.m. with no reportable action taken during closed session. The *James Irrigation District v. Kings River Water Association* case has been dismissed and can be removed from the agenda.

13. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, President Brandt adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. until the next regular scheduled meeting on May 16, 2024.

Sincerely,

_____

Chad B. Wegley, Secretary

CBW:ml