REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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

Thursday, March 13, 2025

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1. Roll Call – The Regular Board Meeting of Alta Irrigation District was called to order at 9:31 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, and Attorney Lauren D. Layne.

1.2. Potential Conflict(s) of Interest – Director Fino declared a financial conflict of interest on items 12.1 and 12.5 and will leave the room for those items. Director Kalender declared a conflict of interest on item 12.3 and will leave room for that item. Attorney Layne declared a conflict of interest on items 12.1 and 12.2 and will leave the room for those items.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

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

3.1. Water Conditions Update. General Manager Wegley explained that Alta ID received about 0.5 inches of precipitation since the March board meeting, bringing the cumulative total to 4.58 inches. Average precipitation total for March is 1.91 inches. The Tulare Basin 6-Station precipitation total for February and March 2025 was about 7.6 inches and 3 inches, respectively. February rainfall total was 2.5 inches above average while March, to date, was 1.5 inches below average. On March 9th there about 583,000 acre-feet (AF) in storage behind Pine Flat Dam and nearly 28,000 AF or 5% belonged to Alta ID. So far this water year, Alta ID has only received 7,900 AF of entitlement. Inflow into Pine Flat was about 875 cubic feet per second (cfs), a decrease of more than 200 cfs from the previous month. Outflow from Pine Flat was nearly 160 cfs and will likely fluctuate between 140 to 170 cfs for the remainder of March, absent significant rainfall on the valley floor or the start of irrigation deliveries by Fresno ID or a middle river member of KRWA. It is still too soon to determine the start and duration of water run. The 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 provided an update on ongoing and upcoming maintenance activities. District staff continue to work on new gate installations and re-establishing the canal prism of the Reedley Main. Dirt from canal cleaning is being used to re-establish degraded canal banks or stockpiled at the corporation yard for future uses. Canal cleaning of Sontag Ditch has created one drivable bank from the headgate to Check 5, which

has not been possible for the last 40 years. Crews are also cleaning up debris piles generated during tire-dragging efforts along a few O&M roads and fixing air vents. Bollards were installed around repaired vents to prevent future damage – bollard installations began in 2018. This update on maintenance activity has been added as an addendum to the minutes. (Insert 4.1)

5. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM AGENDA – None.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

6.1. Cucamonga Valley Water District Letter. (Insert 6.1)

7. CONSENT CALENDAR – It was M/S/C unanimously on motion by Director Rossotti, seconded by Director Myers, that consent calendar items be approved as presented.

7.1. Board Meeting Minutes for Regular Board Meeting of February 13, 2025.

7.2. Assessment & Water Surcharge Collections Report for February 2025. (Insert 7.2)

7.3. Approve Payment of the February 2025 Warrants. (Insert 7.3)

7.4. Encroachment Agreement (Comcast 11012501 Ballard). Review and consider approving one (1) District Standard Encroachment Agreement.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL

8.1. Treasurer's Report. As of February 28, 2025, the cash balance is $4,478,273.47. Accounts Receivable and Inventory total approximately $2,332,915. The current year's revenue and expenses are approximately $5,472,570 and $1,898,161, respectively, resulting in a net cash flow of approximately $3,576,963. (Insert 8.1). It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Tout, seconded by Director Fino, to accept the February 2025 Treasurer's Report.

8.2. 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 Kalender, to accept the Monthly Report of Reserve Accounts, Unrestricted Funds, and Status of Investments for the month of February 2025. (Insert 8.2)

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

9.1. Pipeline Development Agreement (San Joaquin Valley Homes – Horseman 10022401). General Manager Wegley explained that the District responded to a few questions from QK and staff is currently reviewing options for a manhole/air vent not installed in a landscape median. .

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

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

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

9.5. Avenue 376 Bridge (Tulare County – Traver 10131901). No update.

9.6. Avenue 430 Bridge (Tulare County - Buttonwillow 10132201). General Manager Wegley explained that the District continues to meet with the county regarding design and the delivery of surface water to parcels with affected turnouts.

9.7. Pipeline Development & Encroachments (Century Homes - Buttonwillow 10251901). (Insert 9.7) General Manager Wegley addressed the confusion surrounding the piping of Buttonwillow Ditch along Duff Avenue and the east side of phase 1 of Century's project. According to aerial photos of this area, the ditch was piped sometime between August 2004 and June 2005. Also, during a field inspection of the concrete pipe delivered to the project site the District discovered that a few sticks of pipe were damaged during offloading while at least two other sticks of pipe had either a red "x" or a residual marking of an "x". Typically, such markings are used to identify a pipe that failed to meet project requirements. So, it is unclear why pipes with such markings would ever leave the supplier's yard. According to Century's project team, updated plans were supposed to be released March 11th; however, the District has not received any plans or a construction schedule

9.8. Encroachment (PG&E – Dinuba Town 10322401). No update.

9.9. Encroachment (PG&E – Clements 10322402). No update.

9.10. Encroachment (PG&E – Carey Hunter 10322403). General Manager Wegley mentioned that PG&E has not provided a response to Ms. Layne's February 11th e-mail that identified water code provisions that provide an irrigation district the right to operate and maintain its facilities without interference.

9.11. Encroachment (PG&E – Wilson 10322404). No update.

9.12. Alternate Turnout (David TeVelde – Barlow 10362401). No update.

9.13. Encroachment (Frontier Communications – Curtis Cutoff 10462401). No update.

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

9.15. Englehart Bridge (Fresno County – Reedley Main 10532102). General Manager Wegley explained that this bridge should be nearing completion and open to traffic very soon, if not already.

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

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

9.18. Lincoln Avenue Bridge (Fresno County – Traver 10532105). General Manager Wegley explained that Fresno County completed in-channel work, and that the only outstanding activity appears to be paving of approaches and the bridge deck.

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

9.20. Pipeline Development & Encroachments (Dinuba Unified School District – Dinuba Town & Burum 10682201). General Manager Wegley explained the grating was finally installed on the Burum and Dinuba Town flow distribution boxes. This issue is finally closed after initial being raised by the District in a September 2022 letter that contained over 130 comments on plans for off-site irrigation improvements.

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

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

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

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

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

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

9.27. Pipeline Development (Family Healthcare Network – Orosi School House 10962401). No update.

9.28. Pipeline Development (BN Dinuba, LP – Horseman 10992401). General Manager Wegley explained the District is waiting on outstanding submittals. (Insert 9.28)

9.29. Encroachment (DR Horton – Buttonwillow 11002401). No update.

9.30. Encroachment (Comcast – Ballard 11012501). No update.

9.31. Encroachment (SCE – Banks 11042401). No update.

9.32. Alternate Turnout (HJ Ventures – Wilson 11052401). No update.

9.33. Alternate Turnout (Brad Lekkerkerker – Hogan 11062501). No update.

9.34. Encroachment (Denken Farms – Wahtoke 11072501). No update.

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

10.1. Resolution R2025-0301. It was M/S/C unanimously, on a motion by Director Kalender, seconded by Director Rossotti, to adopt Resolution R2025-0301 concurring in nomination of Randall Reed of Cucamonga Valley Water District to the ACWA JPIA Executive Committee. (Insert 10.1)

10.2. Standard Bridge Removal Letter. It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Fino, seconded by Director Kalender to approve a template letter on the removal of an unsafe/dilapidated bridge crossing a District canal. (Insert 10.2)

10.3. Notices of Removal for Unsafe/Dilapidated Bridges Crossing the Clements and Button Ditches. It was M/S/C unanimously on a motion by Director Fino, seconded by Director Rossotti to classify bridges crossing Clements and Button Ditches are unsafe/dilapidated and sending notices of removal to landowners. (Insert 10.3)

11. OLD BUSINESS

11.1. Manager's Report. General Manager Wegley provided an update on the following issues: land acquisition for future recharge basins, illegal dumping, and groundwater sustainability activities of Kings River East GSA. District's needs to acquire about 80 to 100 acres of land by year-end to achieve its cumulative land acquisition goal of 200 acres, which would be a nearly 100%

increase in recharge basin areas. Illegal dumping continues to be a major problem for the District as it redirects resources for important activities such as maintaining and rehabilitating infrastructure. Recently, people dumped powerboats along the banks of Wilson Ditch, north of Sultana, and multiple loads of concrete in Clements Ditch (near Avenue 408 and Road 140). KREGSA will be submitting an annual report this month for WY 2024 and starting work on its Proposition 26/218 effort to fund the agency. The Manager's Report was added as an addendum to the minutes. (Insert 11.1

11.2. Surface Water Utilization Projects. Review and take action as appropriate.

11.2.1. Traver North Recharge Basin – No update.

11.2.2. London West Recharge Basin – No update.

11.3. Attorney's Report. Attorney Layne provided an update on various bills introduced this legislative session, and reminded the Board their Form 700's are due April 1st.

President Brandt called a recess at 11:20 a.m. President Brandt reconvened the meeting at 11:37 a.m.

12. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – President Brandt adjourned to closed session at 11:37 a.m. to confer with counsel. There will be no discussion on item 12.1. Director Fino declared a financial conflict of interest on items 12.1 and 12.5 and left the meeting at 11:52 a.m. Director Kalender declared a conflict of interest on item 12.3 and left the meeting from 11:53 a.m. to 11:54 a.m. Attorney Layne declared a conflict of interest on items 12.1 and 12.2 and left the meeting from 11:37 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.

12.1. 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*.

12.2. Conference with Real Property Negotiators.

Property:	043-010-017 and 043-010-039
Agency Negotiator:	Chad Wegley
Negotiating Parties:	Brifo Land, LLC
Under Negotiation:	Price and terms of payment

12.3. 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)

12.4. 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. (2 cases)

12.5. 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)

13. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION** – The Board reconvened into open session at 12:02 p.m. with no reportable action taken during closed session.

14. **ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business, President Brandt adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m. until the next scheduled meeting on April 10, 2025.

Sincerely,

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Chad B. Wegley, Secretary

CBW:ml