

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA
ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023 AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President Atkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., and Director Watkins led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, Finance Director Ram, District Engineer Evensen, Maintenance Manager Higaes, Administrative Services Manager Celestine, Administrative Assistant Wood and Legal Counsel Zolezzi. Consultant Barkett arrived to the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Manager Hopkins introduced Zachary Blevins, Water Supply Operator, who started on September 12, 2023.

President Atkins welcomed Zachary to the District.

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Education Program Annual Report –2022/2023 School Year (Presentation by Water Conservation Coordinator Kristin Coon)
Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented the SAWS Education Program Annual Report for the 2022/2023 School Year to the Board. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon provided a handout of the Annual Report and gave an overview; Report Summary, Full Report, Feedback and Report Stats. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the school year has returned to normal operation since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon reported the SAWS Education program reached 20,604 participants through in-class presentations, Earth Day, AgVenture and other events.

Blair Baker, SAWS Water Education Presenter is developing a new portion of the education program called “California Rainfall & Agriculture”. The program will be taught to upper elementary school and middle school students by utilizing magnetic maps, graphs, charts and an information video to discuss agriculture in the Central Valley. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon presented the video included in the program called “Where does my water come from” which documents the water’s journey from the water cycle to the faucet. Director McGurk inquired how much time is allotted for the classroom presentation. Water Conservation Coordinator Coon replied the time allotted is 60-90 minutes depending on grade level. Director McGurk suggested breaking up the video to be viewed throughout the presentation. Director Cortopassi commented the video is great for the kids and suggested preparing informational items to send home.

The Board thanked Water Conservation Coordinator Coon for her presentation.

2. Minutes 09/05/23 – Regular Board Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the September 5, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

3. Warrants

- a. Fund 68 – Municipal & Industrial Groundwater Fund
- b. Fund 70 – Administration Fund
- c. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund
- d. Fund 91 – Vehicle Fund
- e. Fund 94 – Municipal & Industrial Fund
- f. Payroll
- g. Summary
- h. Short Names/Acronym List
- i. SEWD Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the September 5, 2023 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None

4. Stockton East Water District – Draft 2023/2024 Fall/Winter Newsletter

Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a draft of the District’s 2023/2024 Fall/Winter Newsletter. The newsletter will be sent out with the progress bills at the end of the month. Director Watkins suggested adding verbiage indicating payment can be made by credit/debit cards online and in-person at the District office.

5. Statement of Consistency Pursuant to Execute Order N-7-22 and Findings of Fact Stockton East

Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency Statement of Consistency Pursuant to Executive Order N-7-22 – Well Permit Application for 15255 E. State Route 26, Linden, CA Agreement
Manager Hopkins presented the Board with a Statement of Consistency and Well Permit Application. Manager Hopkins reported the District received the well permit application from the San Joaquin Environmental Health Department (SJEHD). The District is required to submit a statement of consistency to San Joaquin County stating the replacement well would be consistent with the District’s Groundwater Sustainability Plan. This application is to construct a new well for irrigation water.

Director Watkins commented on page 38, in the section “Proposed Well Information” the estimated annual extraction volume is 9,000 AF however it should be about 180AF. Manager Hopkins replied that is correct, SJEHD confirmed it is 160AF.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Statement of Consistency Pursuant to Execute Order N-7-22 and Findings of Fact Stockton East Water District Groundwater Sustainability Agency Statement of Consistency Pursuant to Executive Order N-7-22 – Well Permit Application for 15255 E. State Route 26, Linden, CA Agreement, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

6. Stockton East Water District – McGurk Crossing Replacement Box Culverts Purchase Memo
Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a McGurk Crossing Replacement Box Culverts Purchase Memo. Manager Hopkins reported District staff typically constructs a dam and water crossing using earth material at the site with CMP pipes to allow landowner access across the channel. When there are high inflows, the dam gets washed out and that requires the dam to be reconstructed annually. The proposed project would replace the existing crossing with reinforced concrete box culverts. The box culverts will provide continued access, improve fish passage, and reduce maintenance costs from rebuilding earthen dams and crossing every year.

Assistant Manager Vega reported staff acquired quotes from three precast manufacturers. Rinker Materials provided the lowest quote in the amount of \$150,510.46. Staff recommends the Board authorize the General Manager approve the purchase of concrete box culverts from Rinker Materials in the amount of \$150,510.46, plus a 10% contingency of \$15,051.04, for a total of \$165,561.50.

Director Watkins inquired if the river pumps below the crossing are still being used by Director McGurk. Director McGurk responded the water will still reach the river pump. Director Watkins inquired if the box culverts will be protected from debris in the water. Manager Hopkins replied the box culverts are constructed with concrete cut-off walls to prevent the water from flowing underneath and wing walls securing the box culverts to the riverbank. Director Watkins inquired how many culverts are being installed. Assistant Manager Vega responded 10 box culverts which extends to 70ft in length.

District Engineer Evensen added there is a concern with fish passage as fish cannot get over the crossing the way it is currently constructed. Director Sanguinetti stated staff will need to maintain the crossing so debris does not block the fish passage.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of concrete box culverts from Rinker Materials in the amount of \$150,510.46, plus a 10% contingency of \$15,051.04, for a total of \$165,561.50, and make all other necessary approvals, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: McGurk

Absent: None

7. Stockton East Water District – Proposal for Replacing the Administration Building Roof and Proposed Budget Amendment Memo
Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a proposal to replace the Administration Building roof. Manager Hopkins reported urgent concerns have arisen with regard to the deteriorating condition of the roof and ceiling in said building. The wear and tear on the existing single-ply PVC roof has become evident after the storms of this past winter, necessitating its repair. Additionally, issues with the air conditioning (A/C) unit enclosures and coping metal have emerged. Given these challenges, staff have solicited comprehensive proposals to address the issues and revitalize the roofing system. Staff contacted three roofing companies, Sierra Single Ply, Stoneridge Roofing, and Ford Roofing.

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Feedback from the companies indicates the roof condition is beyond repair and roof replacement is necessary.

Assistant Manager Vega reported three quotes were solicited, only two contractors were willing and able to provide quotes. After comparing the two quotes that were provided, the staff-preferred proposal from Stoneridge Roofing . The plan involves the removal of the existing single-ply roof layer and comprehensively cleaning the area. Furthermore, the vendor will thoroughly inspect the entire roof deck to identify any dry rot wood damage. Any identified damage will be rectified. Additionally, walls around the A/C units will be disassembled to remove paths for future leaks to follow. The core installation process includes applying a “Duro-Weave” Slipsheet layer, followed by the installation of a PVC-60mil “Durolast” membrane. The roofers will install the new plumbing flashings and fit new coping metal around the perimeter. The Board approved budget for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (FY 23-24) for repairs on the Administration Building is \$40,000, of which \$2,770 has been spent to date and which leaves \$37,230 for the roof replacement. The complete scope of work of the preferred proposal, from the initial removal to the final installation, amounts to a total cost of \$86,700. In order to fund the necessary work for the Administration Building’s roof replacement and any unforeseen additional repairs for that building, staff requests the Board approve a budget transfer from account 10-5323-0 Maintenance and Repair TP – MCC-2 Rehabilitation to account 10-5326-0 Maintenance and Repair Buildings – Admin in the amount of \$65,000. Manager Hopkins added the budget amendment would not move funds from one line item to another, but rather shifted funds within the same account. Therefore, the Base Monthly Payment (BMP) and allocation would not be affected.

Director Cortopassi inquired if the dry rot damage was caused by rainfall or if it was condensation from the A/C unit. Manager Hopkins replied there are two A/C units which both drained out through the same drain line. The drain line became clogged and caused a leak. Discussion followed.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize a budget transfer from account 10-5323-0 Maintenance and Repair TP – MCC-2 Rehabilitation to account 10-5326-0 Maintenance and Repair Buildings – Admin in the amount of \$65,000 and authorize the General Manager to approve a contract with Stoneridge Roofing to replace the roofing system in the Administration Building for the amount of \$86,700.00, plus a 10% contingency of \$8,670, for a total of \$95,370, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

8. Stockton East Water District – Proposed CVP Diversions for Water Year 2023–2024 Memo
Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a CVP Diversions proposal for Water Year 2023-2024 memo. Manager Hopkins reported if the District takes New Melones water after September 30, 2023, we will be paying a full year of operations and maintenance (O&M) costs and will be allocated any deficit for the entire year. The official determination will not occur until May 2024. Staff talked to the Executive Director of CVP and he clarified; for Ag, if there are no water deliveries for the 2023-2024 water year, there will not be any charges. Any deficit for the 2023-2024 water year will be applied the next water year, but only charged to those contractors that received water for the 2023-2024 water year. For M&I, if there are no water deliveries for the 2023-2024 water year, there will not be any charges. Any deficit for the 2023-2024 water year will be applied the next water year, but only charged to those contractors that received water for the 2023-2024 water year. However, the interest component of the initial capital will be charged regardless of water usage.

Director Cortopassi inquired what are the O&M charges for a full year. Assistant Manager Vega responded there are two components in the O&M water charges; admin and storage. Finance Director Ram added the O&M charge for AG is \$43.16 and the total charge is \$55.33 per AF. Director Cortopassi suggested the District use New Hogan water for the remainder of the year for both Ag and M&I. Discussion followed.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize ending the irrigation season for New Melones Ag (surface water customers) on September 30, 2023, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Stockton East Water District Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting – Central San Joaquin Water Conservation & Stockton East Water District, 09/07/23

President Atkins, Director Cortopassi, Director McGurk and Manager Hopkins attended the Stockton East Water District (SEWD) Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting with Central San Joaquin Water Conservation (CSJWCD) on September 7th. Director McGurk reported CSJWCD has contracted with Steve Knell, an AgWater Consultant, to support the development of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) projects. CSJWCD has hired a consultant to conduct a Cost of Service Study which will hopefully blend both District's long-term plans. President Atkins reported two CSJWCD boardmembers would join SEWD's Board for the first four years however, those boardmembers are not guaranteed a seat after the term is up. CSJWCD is concerned there would be no representation for those board divisions and is requesting the boardmembers are guaranteed a position on SEWD's Board after the first four-year term. Director McGurk stated the groundwater rate for both service areas will be the same across the board. The surface water rate is still being discussed. Director McGaughey inquired what the timeframe is for completing the merger. Manager Hopkins replied he is expecting to move forward with LAFCO in a year once the Districts have completed the long term plans respectively. Discussion followed.

2. San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting, 09/11/23
President Atkins attended the San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition Steering Committee Meeting on September 11th. President Atkins stated the minutes and financial reports were approved. During the Memberships report the committee discussed the Regional Management Board imposing fines for being out of compliance with the Nitrate Management Plan. During the Program Manager's Report, the committee discussed toxicity in Terminus Tract, Robert Island, Whiskey Slough and Loan Tree Creek at Jacktone Road. There are 42 wells being sampled for the groundwater quality trend monitoring program. Manager Hopkins inquired who conducts the water sampling. Director Atkins replied a third-party company conducts the sampling. CV-SALTS received a letter to comply with the Management Zone Implementation. A presentation is scheduled for October 12th at noon.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 09/05/23
Manager Hopkins provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight last night.

There is 197,559 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 183 cfs. There is 1,906,327 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current releases are set at 1,414 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 366 cfs and release to all water users are set at 1,597 cfs. There are 14 irrigators on New Hogan, 8 irrigators on New Melones, and 2 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 48 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 17 mgd.

2. Information Items:

Manager Hopkins noted items: F2a-1, F2a-2, F2a-3 and F2a-4

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Hopkins reported he attended a CSDA chapter meeting held at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District office. Supervisor Patti was present and gave a presentation from the county. As Supervisor Patti is a member of the LAFCO committee he discussed LAFCO updating the municipal service reviews for fire departments and establishing new spheres of influence for Woodbridge and Byron-Bethany Irrigation Districts. There was discussion to add a special district seat on the LAFCO board. Supervisor Patti reported Mountain House is expected to be the next city to incorporate into the state. Supervisor Patti attended a tour with Metropolitan Water District (MWD) representatives to discuss the Delta Tunnel Project. Although Supervisor Patti has no interest in the Delta Tunnel Project moving forward he did express MWD's interest in partnerships with northern parties to supply more water.

Manager Hopkins reported a private groundwater banking firm discussed the potential to enter into a partnership with the District to bank surface water when available. The firm reached out last week to invite the District on a tour of some projects located in the Fresno area.

Manager Hopkins and Assistant Manager Vega met with the Urban Contractors (UCs) on September 11th to discuss extending the contract. CalWater is interested in extending the contract however, San Joaquin County may not be interested in the contract moving forward and City of Stockton states the contract needs substantial updates. The UC's would like to revisit the terms previously discussed.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. Stockton East Water District Bellota Check Presentation, 09/06/23

President Atkins, Director McGurk, Director Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended a media event hosted by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). President Atkins reported DWR presented the District with a check for \$12.2M for the Bellota Weir Modification Project that will support groundwater recharge, water quality and habitat restoration project along the Calaveras River. Assemblymember Carlos Villapadua, Supervisor Paul Canepa, staff from Josh Harder's office, staff from Senator Eggman's office and Karla Nemeth, Director of the California Department of Water Resources were present and addressed event attendees. Manager Hopkins reported he received an email from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) requesting a meeting between the District and Fish and Wildlife services to discuss a collaborative plan to secure additional funding for the remaining costs of the project. The meeting has been scheduled for October 26th.

H. COMMUNICATIONS

1. United State Bureau of Reclamation – Change in Contractor's Service Area Map (Exhibit A), Stockton East Water District (District), Contract Number 14-07-20-W0329 (Contract), Central Valley Project (CVP). California Letter.

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Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a letter from United State Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) responding to the District's request for inclusion of new lands into the District's service area. To move forward, USBR and the District would need to enter into a Letter of Agreement (LOA) whereby the District will agree to pay all of the Reclamation's costs associated with the review.

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting, 8:30 a.m., 09/13/23
This meeting was cancelled
2. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting, 10:30 a.m., 09/13/23
3. Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce – 56th Annual Industrial Technology Barbecue, 5:00 p.m., 09/13/23
4. Tracy Chamber of Commerce – State of The County, 9:00 a.m., 09/19/23

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: REAL PROPERTY – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.8 – Property: Stanislaus River Water Agency Negotiator: Justin M. Hopkins
Negotiating Parties: Justin M. Hopkins, Jeanne Zolezzi
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Potential exposure to litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9 – two cases

President Atkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 2:36 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:52 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins
Secretary of the Board

hmw

