

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, FEBRUARY 23, 2021 AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President Watkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Manager Moody led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Cortopassi, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Moody, Assistant Manager Hopkins, Finance Director Vega and Administrative Services Manager Carido. Present at roll call via teleconference were Directors McGaughey and Panizza. Director Atkins was absent. Also present via teleconference was Legal Counsel Zolezzi and Consultant Barkett. Director McGurk joined via teleconference at 12:31 p.m.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes 02/16/2021 – Regular Board Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the February 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

2. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the February 23, 2021 California Public Employees’ Retirement System Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

3. Stockton East Water District – Bellota Weir Fish Passage Project Presentation

Manager Moody provided the Board with information on the Bellota Weir Fish Passage Project. Assistant Manager Hopkins provided an update on the progress to date of the Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion focused on replacing a portion of the fish ladder with a roughened channel to maintain a wintertime water elevation and from that conversation Alternative 7b was developed and presented to the Committee.

Assistant Manager Hopkins provided background information on Alternative 7b1. The 7b1 plan would consist of a single intake structure, shorter fish ladder, roughened channel, debris management measures, including; sediment wall, sluiceways, floating debris boom and trash rack for fish ladder. 7b1 would increase the weir width from 112-feet to 150-feet wide and would require earth moving. This Alternative would meet the 100-year storm flows no-rise condition and would also add \$6 million to the Project cost. The 7b1 model water surface elevations are slightly below the existing 100-year storm water levels and would suffice. These were conditions of the regulatory agencies. Assistant Manager Hopkins reported the proposed Alternative 7b1 would cost ~\$43.6 million.

Assistant Manager Hopkins reported the next steps is for the Board to advise staff to begin working towards a 60% design.

President Watkins inquired how far the grant funding will take us through the design process. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied the District's agreement with the funding agency and Consultant will get the District through 100% of the design, however, there is a cost share of 50/50.

Director Panizza inquired if staff anticipates any recommended changes from various fishery agencies once the 60% design level is reached and the permitting process has begun. Manager Moody replied staff is confident that the fishery agencies are agreeable with the design, but he is unsure on their stance on the funding.

Director McGurk inquired if this Project will be operational for 12-months a year. Manager Moody replied yes, it is a year-round operation. This Project would essentially raise the weir during irrigation season and the fish will use the fish ladder. During non-irrigation season the channel should mimic what the fish need to get up the river. Director McGurk inquired if the 8-foot dam is inflatable and if the raw water needs to be fish screened. Manager Moody replied yes to both. Director Watkins added that the 8-foot dam is necessary to divert the maximum design flow rate into the Bellota Pipeline for the treatment plant.

Director McGurk inquired on the water level rise year-round. Manager Moody replied the rise is primarily during irrigation season. The USACE does not allow for the District to install anything that will increase the water level to rise more than it would based on today's standards. Director McGurk inquired how water can be slowed down if need be. Manager Moody replied it would be no different tomorrow than it is today by way of this design in regards to the level of water in the stream.

Director McGurk inquired if staff is requesting the Board make a motion on approving moving towards 60% design completion. Manager Moody replied yes, additionally, if there is no grant funding to reduce the cost of the Project, the Board may choose to not move forward, even after 60 design completion.

Director Cortopassi reported that a screen and weir will be installed. The bladder weir has to be lowered down during the winter for flood flows and then raised to allow for more water to enter the pipeline. While the bladder is down, it makes a natural fish ladder ~350-feet long. Director Cortopassi added that the figures being shown now are only estimates, what the Board will be voting on today is whether or not to move forward with the 60% design. Director Cortopassi inquired if staff has an idea of what the cost would be to get to the 60% design. Assistant Manager

Hopkins replied the grant was \$2 million with a \$1.3 million cost share, which will get the Project to bid ready status. Additionally, once an Alternative is selected and move to 60% design, there will be no additional costs.

President Watkins reported the intention of the Committee is to bring the Board up to speed and continue to move forward with the design. There are items that need to be clarified as the Project gets closer to design completion that will be evaluated at that time.

A motion was moved and seconded to continue with Alternative 7b1 Bellota Weir Fish Passage Project Design, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins

4. 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment

Manager Moody provided the Board with information on the 2020/2021 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment. Manager Moody reported at the previous Regular Board Meeting staff brought information to the Board regarding unexpected items in this Fiscal Year for the Maintenance Budget.

Manager Moody reported staff requests to move funds from Fund 94, 10-5323-0 (Maintenance & Repair – Treatment Plant) in the amount of \$100,000 and 10-5329-0 (Sludge Disposal) in the amount of \$42,000 to Fund 94, 10-5321-0 (General Maintenance) in a total amount of \$142,000.

The General Maintenance account was budgeted at \$140,000 for the Fiscal Year and currently \$122,000 of funds have been used. There are large expenditures upcoming that would go over the budgeted amount.

Staff requests the Board to consider the budget transfer to cover upcoming expenses within the General Maintenance account.

Director Sanguinetti suggested moving forward with the budget transfer now, opposed to a later date as staff is aware of upcoming large expenditures.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve a budget amendment of \$142,000 to Fund 94, Account 10-5321-0, General Maintenance to increase the total budget to \$282,000, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins

5. Dr. Joe Waidhofer Drinking Water Treatment Plant – Water Treatment Plant and New Melones System Shutdowns Memo, 02/23/21

Manager Moody provided the Board with a memo on the upcoming Water Treatment Plant (Plant) and New Melones System shutdowns. Manager Moody reported that the provided memo explains the different upcoming projects and when there will be shutdowns.

The projects that require the Plant shutdown are the Whittle Ranch Crossings Project; Switchgear B Breakers Replacement Project; High Voltage Inspection; Master Backwash Valve Project and Low Lift Pump Station Sump Cleaning. Some of these projects had been stalled due to COVID, resulting in manufacture delays. The time has come to begin moving forward with each project.

Manager Moody reported staff began to throttle back the Plant yesterday and had a meeting via Zoom with Cal Water to discuss the changes and staff is working closely with the City of Stockton as well.

Assistant Manager Hopkins reported staff will be meeting once daily to discuss the various ongoing projects over the next few weeks. The New Melones system will be shut down today to begin drying out for the Whittle's project. The Plant will go offline on February 25th with hopes of being brought back online sooner than planned, but staff has accounted for a cushion.

President Watkins inquired how long the Plant will be shutdown. Assistant Manager Hopkins replied 2-weeks. President Watkins inquired if the New Melones system will be shut down for the month of March. Manager Moody replied yes, or until the Whittle's project is done.

Director Cortopassi stated this shutdown is not from lack of water from the Stanislaus River, it also includes work at the Plant. Manager Moody replied yes, the District is not lacking water this year, per the call with the USBR, the District will be receiving a 100% allocation this year. This item was for information only.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting, 02/17/21

Director McGurk attended the February 17, 2021 San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting. Director McGurk reported LAFCo provided a presentation on the SEWD/CSJWCD consolidation. Jim Glaser, San Joaquin County LAFCo Director provided an overview at the beginning and switched to providing specifics of the consolidation. Currently, the Districts are waiting LAFCo's approval of the consolidation. Mr. Glaser addressed questions and protests of the consolidation. Director McGurk reported that Zoey Merrill, San Joaquin County Counsel and Encampment Response Team (ERT) lawyer provided an overview of her role managing the homeless population within the County and her interacting with the State. There was discussion on the American River Water Rights, the State Water Resources Control Board has established a new unit to speed up water right application processes and time on hearings. There is a hearing scheduled for March 9th and if necessary an annexation meeting will be held on March 15th. Matt Zidar provided an overview of this water right process that began in the 1950s. Dante Nomellini added that any potential projects regarding water rights would be controlled by local agencies and the east side because of the IRWMP. Mr. Nomellini added there is opposition to using the Freeport water diversion. There was an update provided on SJAFCA, with flood control bonds being drafted for flood control. There was an update provided on County projects, to include damage to the Watkins levee, which the County will begin working on the 1-mile stretch and \$5 million in grant money received from the Department of Water Resources. The next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2021.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 02/15/21

Manager Moody 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 147,606 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 33 cfs. There is 1,553,448 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 416 cfs and release to all water users are set at 14 cfs. The water treatment plant is currently processing 17 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 13 mgd.

2. Information Items:

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

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting, 02/19/21

Manager Moody attended the February 19, 2021 ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting. Manager Moody reported there were ~12 bills discussed and ACWA is promoting the virtual Washington, D.C. Conference. Manager Moody reported that ACWA is working with CSDA to get special district recognized for funding. ACWA is trying to get federal government to help fund local assistance. Manager Moody reported there was discussion on SB 223 which is for water shut-off and they have added a debt forgiveness component, which likely violates Proposition 218. SB 222, regarding low income assistance, the issue is a funding mechanism of this bill that has not been identified. ACWA always opposes bills unless there is a clear funding mechanism.

Director McGurk reported it was nice to see the District included in a large publication like the CSDA magazine for the District's work the Calaveras River Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and the District's security.

b. Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee, 02/19/21

Finance Director Vega reported on the February 19, 2021 Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee meeting. The meeting was first led by Kevin Kasberg. The Committee came up with an issues matrix to identify the issues over the last couple of years that should be worked on. During one of the CVPIA true-ups, the USBR issued a set of draft guidelines, but has not yet released a final. They are continuing to work on aging infrastructure and how to structure repayments for anything that fails that is large. The USBR is looking at ways to work with the current laws so entities do not get stuck with major expenses. The Cost Allocation Study has been completed and there seems to be continued turnover of staff at the USBR. There was recommendation to create an organizational chart to identify who currently is on staff at the USBR. The next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2021.

c. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Nothing to report.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS (None)

H. COMMUNICATIONS (None)

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. ACWA Agriculture Committee Meeting, 9:00 a.m., 03/02/21

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

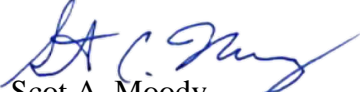
1. Closed Session - Existing Litigation
Stockton East Water District vs. City of Stockton, et al.
Government Code 54956.9 (a)
2. Closed Session - Potential Litigation
Government Code 54956.9 (c) – one case

President Watkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:16 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:49 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Watkins adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Scot A. Moody
Secretary of the Board

kmc

