

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, MAY 23, 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 Panizza led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, and Watkins. Also present were Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, Finance Director Ram, District Engineer Evensen, Administrative Clerk Garland, and Legal Counsel Zolezzi. Director Sanguinetti was absent.

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)**

**D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Minutes 05/16/23 Regular Meeting

Director McGurk made the following corrections to the minutes:

- Page 4, section 4, after 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph, insert “Director McGurk recommended staff use the High & Dry book as a reference for the District’s history”.
- Page 6, section 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, the motion was revised to read as follows:  
“A motion was moved and seconded to approve the budget amendment for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 from \$30,000 to \$40,500 to allow the proposed purchase of the Peters Pipeline Constant Head Vault Intertie Valve and authorize the General Manager approve the purchase of the Dezurik 48” buried service butterfly valve from Frank Olsen Company in the amount of \$36,742 plus a 10% contingency of \$3,674, for a total of \$40,416, as presented.”

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the May 16, 2023 Regular Board Meeting minutes, as amended.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

2. Warrants

- a. Fund 68 – Municipal & Industrial Groundwater Fund
- b. Fund 70 – Administration Fund
- c. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund
- d. Fund 89 – Fish Passage Improvements Fund
- e. Fund 91 – Vehicle Fund
- f. Fund 94 – Municipal & Industrial Fund
- g. Summary
- h. Short Names/Acronym List
- i. SEWD Vehicles & Heavy Equipment

Director Panizza inquired on the expense on page 19, for Express Transmission and Auto Care, if this expense made sense for the lower end 2020 Ford Escape vehicle. Assistant Manager Vega explained that, with this particular model, the torque converter cannot be replaced on its own, so they have to replace the whole transmission, thus this expense amount is for the full transmission. Director Cortopassi inquired about whether there was a power train warranty for it. Manager Hopkins informed him the power train warranty was good up to 60,000 miles however, the Escape has 92,000 miles.

Director McGurk inquired on the expense on page 13, line item 16 for the Quill Corporation “charging station for maintenance” definition, and also about the \$62.48 expense for maintenance going to admin. Manager Hopkins replied that the charging station refers to a 10-port USB charging station for cell phones which falls under the Admin fund.

Director Cortopassi inquired on the expense on page 13, line item 14 for Keller Associates, Inc., asking if the Board had approved that before. District Engineer Evensen replied in the affirmative, and added that the District is now paying the expense and this is not an additional expense, but a final bill for the \$20,990.00 previously approved.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the May 16, 2023 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

3. Stockton East Water District – Low Lift Pump Station P1 Pump Upgrade Memo

Assistant Manager Vega presented the Low Lift Pump Station P1 Pump Upgrade Memo. This year the District’s budget includes P1 replacement which is budgeted for ’23 - ’24 fiscal year, but replacement with the same size pump is not considered the best option. Staff looked at upsizing the pump to be comparable to P3 or P4.

Peerless Pump has the lowest priced pump, at \$213,660.00 plus tax, with a lead time of 38 weeks. The budget is \$380,000.00 for this project. The remaining funds will be used for additional modifications necessary to install the pump.

President Atkins inquired what length of piping needs to be replaced. District Engineer Evensen replied close to 10 feet. Eventually a new VFD will be installed.

Director Watkins inquired about whether it will overload due to less lift. Stating since there will be 10 feet extra lift and no VFD on it. Discussion ensued, concluding that with only 10 feet, it may not be an issue, as it will be within 10% over the 250 hp capacity. Presently there is no funding to cover the VFD. Assistant Manager Vega advised the VFD will be added to the budget for the following fiscal year.

Director McGurk suggested keeping it on the bench until they need to substitute in.

President Atkins replied the District needs the pump now. Director McGurk agreed that the pump is needed now since the requirement is to reach 65 million gpd or higher between any three pumps

combined. The pump is not arriving right away and the VFD will be added in less than a year. So, the pump may not need to be turned on before the VFD is installed.

Director Cortopassi inquired if this station has one pump or multiple. Assistant Manager Vega replied multiple.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of the Peerless Pump from PumpTech, Inc. in the amount of \$230,220, (which includes taxes) plus a 10% contingency of \$23,020 for a total amount of \$253,240, and make all other necessary approvals, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

4. United States Army Corps of Engineers – Memorandum of Agreement Section 214, 10/04/22  
Manager Hopkins presented the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) – Memorandum of Agreement. He stated that since October 2022, District staff and legal counsel have worked with the USACE to draft a Section 214 agreement which would allow the District to fund a position at the USACE to review our 408 permit applications which have been difficult to get. Staff have been waiting on the permit for Hosie Low Water Crossing since January of 2021, which led to a construction delay of 2 years. Through the 214 agreement and being able to fund the USACE work on our permit applications, staff can help ensure that the pending permit gets issued, as well as 3 additional low water crossing permits. All 4 crossings are being proposed as part of this agreement with funding from a DWR Grant of \$1.96 million. The funding has a 2024 deadline for use. Staff is working with DWR for an extension. The Prato Dam replacement is budgeted this current fiscal year for in-District work. Because it is in Mormon Slough, a 408 letter of permission would be required. The Project has not been designed yet, so full scope is unknown. However, to avoid having to amend the agreement later, staff is also proposing to include Prato Dam as the 5<sup>th</sup> project. The USACE provided cost estimates for each project. USACE bills on a time and materials basis. Therefore, the District will pay actual costs. USACE estimates the Hosie Low Water Crossing project, since it is substantially far along in the review process, will require \$15,675 more. The 3 subsequent crossings are estimated at \$41,250 each. The Prato Dam Replacement project is estimated at \$47,850. The estimates are based on project complexity. To move forward the District needs to approve the agreement. Staff recommends approval of the agreement and payment of the fees. Director McGurk commented there are no consequences for nonperformance on their part in the agreement, but the District will keep paying money annually until 2026. Legal Counsel Zolezzi added that the District can terminate it anytime, but then things will be back to square one. Director McGurk recommended approval to make the agreement with USACE.

A motion was moved and seconded [PRI] to approve [JH2] the United States Army Corps of Engineers – Memorandum of Agreement Section 214, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza

Nays: Atkins, Cortopassi, Watkins

Abstain: None

Absent: Sanguinetti

The motion failed to pass and the item will be brought back to the Board 05/30/23.

5. Dr. Joe Waidhofer Drinking Water Treatment Plant – Sodium Hypochlorite Project Monthly Update

District Engineer Evensen presented a PowerPoint presentation to Board on the Sodium Hypochlorite Project. The project is 90% complete. The presentation included an illustration showing the Hypochlorite Feed Building on the left, and the Hypochlorite Storage Facility on the right. The pumps have arrived, they are skid mounted and all the plumbing was completed. Someone on staff discovered that the ball valves weren't vented as they should be for use with Sodium Hypochlorite to prevent pump issues. Since this was the manufacturer's error they will be bringing the correct ball valves. This could have been a problem at start up, so it is good to have inspections. The fire control system is complete, and the Fire Marshall has approved all equipment. Photos were shown of the completed asphalt paving. Photos were also shown to illustrate the trucks area which includes storage and a drain for spills. The drain for spills will allow staff to determine whether it is storm water or chemicals before pumping, releasing, or disposition. The push is to get both gates operational. The turn at the tank farm area was widened for the trucks. Striping is complete.

Director Cortopassi inquired as to the pipes location and if there is a way to access for repairs. District Engineer Evensen clarified that they go to the filter building and then over the maintenance building and there is access for repairs.

## E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Stockton East Water District – 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting, 05/17/23

Manager Hopkins reported the committee reached a consensus on the food vendor Fat City Barbecue for the June 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and paid a deposit. Staff is waiting for additional RSVP's before selecting an appropriate package. Staff will be done sending invitations today. The invitation also went out in the Farm Bureau Newspaper. Assistant Manager Vega reported 10 submission and 22 RSVP's to date. The committee confirmed the invitee list and expect quite a few attendees. There was some discussion on the events for the day, the layout, parking, booths, and location for presentation of certifications received.

President Atkins commented that the banners look nice, and the committee overall has good ideas about the people, parking, etc.

Director Panizza inquired about the program timeframe. Manager Hopkins replied 12:30 p.m. until it is done, but before 3:00 p.m.

Finance Director Ram mentioned donations for the silent auction included Milwaukee tools, a picture frame, and a case of olive oil. Director McGurk added that a case of premium shelled walnuts was also donated.

2. San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting, 05/17/23

Director McGurk reported on the San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting. San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency (SJAFCA) presented their 218 process for zone 9 levee and channel maintenance, and it's benefits and alternatives. Kim Floyd and Seth Rosel, Outreach Consultants with Larson Wenzel

and Associates (LWA) gave the presentation which included pictures of maps outlining levee damage.

Director McGurk reported the San Joaquin County's rating is currently at a 7 which determines the premium for flood insurance. San Joaquin County determined that it would be more cost efficient to relocate specific homes in the flood zone in comparison to levee improvement costs. The cost-benefit ratio to the cost of the premiums is currently under consideration by the County.

## **F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER**

### **1. Water Supply Report as of 05/23/23**

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 240,861 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 175 cfs. There is 1,709,538 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current releases are set at 3,114 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 1,505 cfs and release to all water users are set at 212 cfs. There are 11 irrigators on New Hogan, 2 irrigators on New Melones, and 0 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 36 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 23 mgd.

### **2. Information Items:**

Manager Hopkins noted item: F2a-1.

### **3. Report on General Manager Activities**

#### **a. Linden-Peters Chamber of Commerce – Linden Cherry Festival, 05/20/23**

Manager Hopkins reported the festival was a successful event. The District booth contained promotional materials as prizes and a 50/50 raffle that raised \$188 of which \$94 replenished the expense fund for the event.

#### **b. Stockton East Water District Activities Update**

Manager Hopkins reported the DWR released draft award recommendations for the SGMA round 2 grant, for which the San Joaquin East Ground Water Authority submitted an application. The application, including two SEWD projects, is not being recommended for award. Out of all the applications being recommended for award, only one was for a critically overdraft basin. All the other awards were for medium and high priority basins.

Director Watkins inquired regarding the amount the District applied for. Manager Hopkins responded staff requested \$20M with the provision that the District would have accepted a lesser award, but they chose not to recommend the application.

Manager Hopkins reported meeting with growers off the Calaveras River to look at potential recharge opportunity at the SJC and Stanislaus County boundary. Unfortunately, one of the parcels is up for sale, and they are not comfortable having a temporary easement on it, so that did not work out. Staff are talking to three growers off Mormon Slough who are open to the idea of a collaborative project to install one new pump and provide some easements that will allow for all three to get water. A meeting will be arranged with the hope that all three parcels to be converted to surface water service.

## **G. DIRECTOR REPORTS**

1. Water Education Foundation – 2023 Bay Delta Tour Dinner, 05/17/23 – 05/19/23  
Assistant Manager Vega, Director Sanguinetti, and Director Watkins attended. Dinner consisted of introductions, presentations, and guest speaker legal counsel Zolezzi. The crowd was engaged, asking good questions. Overall a successful event.
2. Stockton State of the City 2023, 05/18/23  
President Atkins reported seven keys to the city were given out. The Mayor also addressed the homeless issues the City is facing. Sponsors were present. The Port gave a state of the port address and stated that last year was historically their best year. The port is working on getting new railway in and out of the port and electrifying their equipment to reduce emissions. Director McGurk stated the port mentioned they want to deepen the channel, enabling them to carry full ship loads.
3. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation – 109<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 05/18/23  
President Atkins, Manager Hopkins and Director Sanguinetti attended. Director Watkins announced \$42,000 in scholarships were awarded to approximately 20 college students focused on agricultural studies. All the students were recognized and given certificates from the county and the legislators. Funding came from the wine tasting event held March 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **H. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. SJFB Foundation for Agricultural Education – Sponsorship Thank you Letter  
Manager Hopkins presented the Sponsorship Thank you letter for participation in the March wine tasting event.

## **I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation – Water Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m., 05/23/23
2. Eastern Water Alliance Committee Meeting, 1:30 p.m., 05/24/23
3. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting, 9:00 a.m., 05/25/23
4. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Technical Advisory Committee Meeting, 1:15 p.m., 05/25/23  
\*This meeting was cancelled\*  
  
Meeting to be held at 1:15 p.m. going forward.
5. ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m., 05/26/23
6. District Holiday - Memorial Day, 05/29/23

## **J. Closed Session**

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Potential exposure to litigation – Government Code Section 54956.9 – two cases

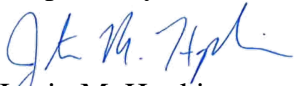
President Atkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:35 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:24 p.m., with no reportable action.



**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins  
Secretary of the Board

srg

