

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 19, 2023 AT 12:30 P.M.

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Vice-President McGurk called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., and Legal Counsel Zolezzi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Consultant Barkett arrived to the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Minutes 09/12/23 – Regular Board Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the September 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins

2. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the September 19, 2023 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins

3. Stockton East Water District – Authorization to Release Bid Document for Lower Farmington Canal Rehabilitation Memo

Manager Hopkins provided the Board an Authorization to Release Bid Document for Lower Farmington Canal (LFC) Rehabilitation Memo. Manager Hopkins reported “atmospheric rivers” in 2022/2023 caused erosion and other damages to several portions of the Stockton East Water District’s (District) New Hogan and New Melones Conveyance Systems.

Assistant Manager Vega reported one area that was significantly affected by the heavy rains was the LFC near the Farmington Dam Headworks. Several areas along the canal experienced extensive erosion. Water seepage also occurred from Rock Creek to the canal due to high water levels within

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Rock Creek. A few of these areas were close to bridges that could have potentially collapsed had District staff not intervened. Additionally, a short retaining wall near the headworks that separates Rock Creek and the District's canal suffered erosion and was in danger of being undermined. District staff proceeded to document and address the areas of concern in preparation for submitting claims to FEMA for the District to be reimbursed for said work in addressing and mitigating further damage. Part of the FEMA claim process allows for certain damages to be addressed by improving the damaged asset so that it provides additional protection. The LFC damage qualifies for this provision and can be addressed as an "improved project". Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc. (KSN) provided the District with an Alternatives Analysis Memorandum to facilitate discussions with FEMA with regard to the improved project to address LFC damage. The alternatives were discussed with the FEMA representative assigned to the District's efforts. FEMA has verbally agreed option 4b, in table 1, on page 12 of the board packet is likely viable. Those repairs would include restoring earthen canal banks, adding shotcrete canal lining, and adding a protective retaining wall near outfall structure, all of which would be funded by FEMA. Staff anticipates FEMA will proceed to support option 4b and as such would like to be prepared with construction bids for the Board to quickly address the rehabilitation of the LFC.

Director Cortopassi inquired if the District would be required to move forward with the bid process should FEMA not authorize the work on LFC. Assistant Manager Vega replied no, should that happen the District can reject any bids received. District Engineer Evensen stated the work on the LFC would need to be fixed this year regardless of the decision from FEMA.

Vice President McGurk inquired if the funds from FEMA can be applied to the District's expenses spent on restoring the canal thus far. District Engineer Evensen replied yes. Manager Hopkins added the LFC emergency repair work cost was approximately \$33,000.

Director Sanguinetti inquired if the capacity of the canal would change with the repair work. District Engineer Evensen replied the bottom of the canal will be restored and should restore the original capacity.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the General Manager to prepare and release bid documents for rehabilitation work on the LFC as presented.

Roll Call:

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins

4. Stockton East Water District – Sludge Compaction Test Results Memo

Manager Hopkins presented the Board with the Sludge Compaction Test Results. Manager Hopkins reported District staff was requested to test the suitability of using dewatered sludge, a byproduct of the water treatment plant, as engineered fill material to provide a structural base for construction. If sludge is deemed as suitable fill material, then the vast stockpile of sludge at the WTP campus can be used as such until it is exhausted.

District Engineer Evensen reported staff collected three representative 5-gallon sludge samples for testing by Terracon Consultants. All three sludge samples were deemed unsuitable as engineered fill material due to high organic content and expansion index. Geotechnical standards recommend

engineered fill material to have an organic content less than or equal to 3% and the Terracon laboratory results showed sample ranges from 16% to 20%. Furthermore, two of the three samples were also deemed unsuitable due to expansion indexes greater than or equal to 20.

Director Cortopassi inquired if Terracon Consultants collected sludge samples themselves. District Engineer Evensen replied District staff collected the samples. Director Cortopassi inquired if a core sample was taken. District Engineer Evensen replied no, staff collected samples mid-way down the sludge pile as instructed by Terracon Consultants.

Vice President McGurk inquired if Terracon Consultants consider moisture content. District Engineer Evensen replied Terracon tested the feasibility based on the two parameters; organic content percentage and expansion index.

This item was informational only.

5. Stockton East Water District – Old Calaveras River Headworks Slide Gate Replacements and Proposed Budget Amendment Memo

Manager Hopkins provided the Board with an Old Calaveras River (OCR) Headworks Slide Gate Replacements and Proposed Budget Amendment Memo. Manager Hopkins reported the existing OCR Headworks has four slide gates. Currently, two slide gates are used to control the flow of water into the OCR and the other two slide gates are unused and inoperable. The two slide gates that are used at the Headworks have leaks in the seated position, deteriorated frames, and are at the end of their useful life. In September of 2022, the Board approved the purchase of slide gates at a cost of \$67,560. After numerous delays from the manufacturer over the past year, Staff cancelled the order. Staff received three new vendor quotes for two slide gates with electric actuators. The lowest quote was received from Fresno Valves in the amount of \$51,080 with a lead time of 22 weeks. As a part of the Stockton East Water District's (District) FY 2022-2023 budget, the Board approved a \$60,000 budget to replace two of the four original Headworks slide gates. Given the unexpected delays, the project was not re-budgeted for FY 2023-2024.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize a budget transfer from account 10-5203-0 Potter Creek Pump Station Upgrade to account 10-5203-0 New Hogan Distribution – OCR Headworks Slide Gates in the amount of \$56,500 and authorize the General Manager to proceed with the purchase of the Headwork slide gates and actuators from Fresno Valves for \$51,080, plus a 10% contingency of \$5,108, for a total approved cost of \$56,188, and make all other necessary approvals, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting, 09/13/23

Director Panizza, Director Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting on September 13th. Director Panizza reported the committee reviewed and approved an agreement provided by South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) to obtain the services of Brandon Nakagawa, SSJID Water Resources Coordinator, on a temporary basis during the recruitment of a successor for Mr. Matt Zidar, retired San Joaquin County Water Resources Manager. The Board

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approved the responses to the Grand Jury Report. The San Joaquin Grand Jury found ESJGWA needs to increase efforts for engagement and public outreach. The response letter stated the GWA is working to develop a practical Communications and Engagement Plan. The Board also discussed amending the 2023-2024 budget and responding to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) request for groundwater model data.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 09/12/23

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 195,130 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 168 cfs. There is 1,902,030 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current releases are set at 1,351 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 353 cfs and release to all water users are set at 1,284 cfs. There are 10 irrigators on New Hogan, 4 irrigators on New Melones, and 2 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 44 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 19 mgd.

2. Information Items:

Manager Hopkins noted items: F2a-1 and F2a-2

3. Report on General Manager Activities

a. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Hopkins reported staff has discussed a fleet plan to comply with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Zero-Emission Vehicle regulation. Staff is currently working on developing a fleet plan and vehicle replacement policy to reflect CARB's regulations. Manager Hopkins suggested the Board President consider establishing an Ad-Hoc committee to discuss a collaborative recommendation to address the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation.

Manager Hopkins reported he spoke with Moses Zapien, Chief Executive Officer of the San Joaquin Community Foundation. The foundation has agreed to provide letters of support for the District's grant applications for the Bellota Weir Modification Project.

Director Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended the Linden-Peters Chamber of Commerce meeting on September 18th. Manager Hopkins provided a Bellota Weir Modification Project presentation to the chamber and solicited their community support. The chamber unanimously approved providing the District with letters of support.

Manager Hopkins reported Stockton East Water District, North San Joaquin Water District and South San Joaquin Irrigation District were awarded \$5M from the California Department of Food and Agriculture SWEEP Block Grant. Of that, about \$1.75M will be used to support growers' conversion from groundwater to surface water within the District's boundaries. University of California Extension and San Joaquin Farm Bureau have partnered with the Districts and will provide technical assistance in the project development process with the landowners. A resolution to formally accept the funding will be presented to the Board for consideration next week.

Manager Hopkins reported the fiberoptic cable lines supporting the District's AT&T internet, phone and email system has been damaged. Fortunately, StarLink picked up the Internet, and the District was able to maintain service. The email service had to be restored, and services are

being performed to connect and receive outside phone calls. A notice has been posted to the District's website to email staff if anyone needs immediate assistance.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS

1. Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce – 56th Annual Industrial Technology Barbecue, 09/13/23
Vice President McGurk, President Atkins, Director Cortopassi and Manager Hopkins attended the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce – 56th Annual Industrial Technology Barbecue on September 13th. Director Cortopassi reported the Industrial Barbecue honored around twelve major manufacturers and industries that have located in or expanded their operations within San Joaquin County. Manager Hopkins reported those recognized created either 20 new jobs to San Joaquin County, 20,000 square feet of new or expanded roofed facility or \$1M in capital investment. Vice President McGurk added it was a nice event with good food.
2. Tracy Chamber of Commerce – State of The County, 09/19/23
Director Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended the Tracy Chamber of Commerce – State of The County on September 19th. Manager Hopkins reported Christopher Callahan, President of the University of the Pacific (UOP) provided a presentation on the University's impact to the community. Robert Rickman, San Joaquin County Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors discussed the County's strategic plan that identifies six areas of focus which include; criminal justice/quality of life, water related issues, and other areas. There has been a 20% increase on prosecution of quality-of-life offenses. The water priority was largely focused on flooding and stopping the Delta-Tunnel Project. Director Watkins reported the event was well attended. Manager Hopkins added the information presented was high-quality information.

H. COMMUNICATIONS

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. San Joaquin County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting, 1:00 p.m., 09/20/23
This meeting was cancelled

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

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 1:27 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:56 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Vice President McGurk adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins
Secretary of the Board

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