

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, OCTOBER 17, 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 Administrative Clerk Rodriguez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Minutes

a. Minutes 10/03/23 Regular Meeting

President Atkins made the following correction to the minutes;

- On page 3, section E-1, third sentence; strike “formally” and replace with “formerly”.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 3, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as amended.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

b. Minutes 10/10/23 – Regular Meeting

President Atkins made the following correction to the minutes;

- On page 8, section F-4, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph 1<sup>st</sup> sentence; strike “Director Panizza” and replace with “Vice President McGurk”.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the and October 10, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as amended.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

2. Warrants

a. Fund 68 – Municipal & Industrial Groundwater Fund

b. Fund 70 – Administration Fund

c. Fund 71 – Water Supply Fund

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- 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

Director Cortopassi inquired on the expense on page 18, line item 85 and 86 for SEWD Vehicle Fund for Aug 2023 – Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement-NH in the amount of \$22,996.96 and Aug 2023 – Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement-NM in the amount of \$22,396.94. Assistant Manager Vega replied it is a reimbursement to the vehicle fund based on usage. The amounts pertain to usages within the Water Supply conveyance systems and is allocated based on miles or hours.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 10, 2023 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

3. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 17, 2023 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

4. Revised Resolution No. 23-24-07 – Authorization To Accept The Grant Award With The California Department Of Water Resources Under The 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program For The Bellota Weir Modifications Project, Execute Any Required Documents And Provide Delegation Of Authority

Director Atkins provided a handout to the Board of Resolution No. 23-24-07. Manager Hopkins reported the Board previously adopted this resolution to accept the grant award from Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Bellota Weir Modifications Project. DWR has requested additional language be inserted into the resolution.

Director Cortopassi inquired if the District is committing to the Bellota Weir Modifications Project based on the resolution. Manager Hopkins replied if the District spends the \$12.2M grant the District is agreeing to budget at least \$3M towards construction of the first phase of the project. Manager Hopkins stated the District has committed to the Bellota Weir Modifications Project through the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Legal Counsel Zolezzi inquired what exactly is stated in the grant agreement if the District receives no other funding, would the District have to return the money. Manager Hopkins replied DWR has not provided the District the grant agreement. Director Watkins commented the District was given a certain amount of time to fulfill the Bellota Weir Modification Project. Should the District not move forward with the project the District will lose the funding. Director Cortopassi inquired if the District has found any other resources of how the District will fund the remaining money. Manager Hopkins replied yes, the District is currently working on providing a memorandum to the Board to consider some debt options. Assistant Manager Vega

shared with the Board a grant agreement template which is typically used for the program. The template states if the grantee is not meeting performance or meeting certain millstones the grantor can terminate the agreement.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve Resolution No. 23-24-07 – Authorization To Accept The Grant Award With The California Department Of Water Resources Under The 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program For The Bellota Weir Modifications Project, Execute Any Required Documents And Provide Delegation Of Authority, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: Cortopassi

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

5. Stockton East Water District Policy Manual – Final Draft Fleet Management Policy No.3050  
Manager Hopkins provided the Board with the Final Draft Fleet Management Policy No.3050. Manager Hopkins reported staff met with an Ad Hoc committee to discuss both the proposed Fleet Management Policy and the District’s proposed actions for compliance with the Advanced Clean Fleet Regulation (ACF). The Fleet Management Policy includes the revisions which were suggested by the committee. The purpose of this Fleet Management Policy is to set a policy in place to guide the management of the District’s fleet most specifically the replacement guidelines so staff can better keep the fleet up to date and project budget needs in future years.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Stockton East Water District Policy Manual – Final Draft Fleet Management Policy No. 3050, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

6. Stockton East Water District – Vehicle Purchases Relating to CARB Compliance Memo  
Manager Hopkins presented the Board with Vehicle Purchases Relating to CARB Compliance Memo. Manger Hopkins reported starting January 1, 2024 the District is required to identify a compliance method for the Advanced Clean Fleet Regulation (ACF). There are two options - the normal compliance path requires 50%of the District’s vehicle purchases for vehicles greater than 8,500 gross vehicle weight rating to be zero emission vehicles (ZEV) and beginning January 1, 2027, 100% of those purchases must be ZEV. The alternative compliance method allows deferment of implementation and would require the District to achieve ZEV fleet milestones beginning in January 2027. The District would be required to replace all vehicles over 8,500-pound gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) with ZEVs by 2042, regardless of new purchases or existing vehicle age. Manager Hopkins presented the figures on pages 45-48 of the packet.

Manager Hopkins reported information which was not available in the committee meeting and since then has been discovered. There is one version of the electric F-150 and the Ford Transit 350 van that meet the 8,500-pound GVWR and are available in electric.

A motion was moved and seconded to direct the General Manager to proceed with District CARB registration for the alternative compliance method, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

7. Stockton East Water District – Support for South San Joaquin Irrigation District WaterSMART Drought Response Program Grant Application Memo

a. Stockton East Water District - Letter of Support for the South San Joaquin Irrigation District Reservoir Q-QC Project – San Joaquin County, California

Manager Hopkins presented the Board with the Support for South San Joaquin Irrigation District WaterSMART Drought Response Program Grant Application Memo. Manager Hopkins reported South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) is applying for a WaterSMART Drought Response Program Grant for a \$4.3M project to make improvements to their Q-Qc reservoir, which will improve their surface water management and reliability of supply to customers. SSJID is requesting \$2M in grant funding and has contacted other groundwater sustainability agencies within the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Subbasin to request letters of support for their grant application.

A motion was moved and seconded to authorize the Board President to approve the Letter of Support for the South San Joaquin Irrigation District Reservoir Q-QC Project – San Joaquin County, California, as presented.

Roll Call:

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

8. Stockton East Water District - Upper Farmington Canal Flow Measuring Flume Project NOE 30-Day Circulation Memo

a. Stockton East Water District – Notice of Exemption File to Stanislaus for the Tunnel Outlet Flume Project

Manager Hopkins presented the Upper Farmington Canal Flow Measuring Flume Project NOE 30-Day Memo. Manager Hopkins reported one of the projects for this fiscal year is construction of a new flow measurement flume in the Upper Farmington Canal near the outlet of Goodwin Tunnel. Upper Farmington Canal Flow Measuring Flume Project is currently out for bid and looking to start construction by the end of this year. Before staff starts construction, the District has to file a Notice of Exemption through the California Environmental Quality Act process (CEQA).

Director McGurk inquired when the new flume is installed will the old meter in the tunnel be removed. Manager Hopkins responded there is a meter in the canal not in the tunnel. The meter in the canal will be removed. Director Cortopassi inquired if the flume is the device measuring the water coming out of the tunnel. Manger Hopkins responded yes, it is located within the section of the water way the District built between the tunnel and Shirley Creek.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the Upper Farmington Canal Flow Measuring Flume Project and authorize the General Manager to file the Notice of Exemption, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGurk, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nayes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: McGaughey, Panizza

## E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition Meeting, 10/09/23

*\*This meeting was cancelled\**

2. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting, 10/11/23  
Director Watkins and Manager Hopkins attended the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Director Watkins reported that task order 4 with Woodard and Curran for Preparation of the Water Year 2023 Report was approved... Manager Hopkins reported the committee discussed options to improve public participation in the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority meetings. The committee's conclusion will be recommendation to the Groundwater Authority Board to begin allowing public to access the Steering Committee and Groundwater Authority meetings via Zoom or any other virtual platform. Manager Hopkins also reported the Department of Water Resource (DWR) funded a monitoring well, which will be located on the West Gate Landing property in San Joaquin County. The County is beginning to work with Condor Consulting to perform the fall Ground Water Level and Water Quality Monitoring Event. There are approximately 150 wells needed to be checked for the groundwater level and an additional 30 wells which need water quality samples taken.

Director McGurk inquired if the budget to pay Condor Consulting comes out of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) budget or does it come from zone two. Manager Hopkins responded it comes from the ESJGWA, which receives zone two funding.

## F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 10/17/23

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 187,627 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 99 cfs. There is 1,894,525 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current releases are set at 1,035 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 340 cfs and release to all water users are set at 0 cfs. There are 0 irrigators on New Hogan, 0 irrigators on New Melones, and 0 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 42 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 13 mgd. Extraction Well #1 is producing 3,180 gpm.

2. Information Items:

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

3. Report on General Manager Activities

- a. Flood-MAR Network Field Trips - Cosumnes River Corridor, 10/04/23

- b. Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) Meeting, 10/13/23

Manager Hopkins reported Kristin Coon presented the new "Where Does My Water Come From" video to the Stockton Area Water Suppliers (SAWS) group. The city reported they are still in stage two of their water conservation ledgers. The city also reported the construction on their SSS8 well has begun. This project is going to construct a well and install groundwater treatment on the well in the south system of the city. The City's AMI Metering Project is in

progress. The county reported the DREAM project is wrapping up diversions to storage and will begin extractions with the hope of completing the project in its entirety this year. The county will also begin water main replacements in Colonial Heights and Lincoln Village. The construction is scheduled to begin next year as additional state and federal funding is needed. Manager Hopkins reported there was a tug boat which sank in Potato Slough, the coast guard is currently working on getting the fuel and oil out of the tug boat and they plan to abandon the boat in place. The city has shutdown their intake from the delta, but will need their intake again by next summer. In the meantime they will try to maximize their amount of water from Stockton East Water District (SEWD).

A member of the public representing the City of Stockton reported the sunken tug boat is expected to be floated and removed in November.

c. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Manager Hopkins reported he had a meeting with Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to discuss the updates on the central consolidation and some outstanding boundary adjustment the District has to make with North San Joaquin Water Conservation District. The executive director's recommendation was for the District to consider revising the draft MSR which is currently with LAFCO to modify some of the language to state the central merger is in the works and could happen in the next five years but to move ahead with having the District's MSR updated. LAFCO is currently working with Woodbridge on their sphere of influence and they will try to coordinate a meeting between LAFCO, Woodbridge and Stockton East Water District to see if there is some ability to clean up the overlap in the northwest sector of our District.

Manager Hopkins reported the District received a United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) WaterSMART grant for the 8-Mile Dam Replacement Project. The grant was not received in a timely manner and subsequently pushed the project into FY 23-24. USBR staff has not started the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process which typically takes three months to complete, so the District is considering terminating the grant agreement and the District could move ahead with the project. The project is fully funded in the District's budget. Manager Hopkins reported he had a meeting with the USBR about two grants the District applied for the Bellota Weir Modifications Project. The grant applications were denied because the USBR staff interpreted our HCP as regulatory requirement and projects which were required by regulation could not apply for grant funding. District staff will discuss alternative programs to pursue funding from the federal environmental agencies such as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

Director McGurk inquired if we will pursue funding from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Manager Hopkins responded NMFS is part of NOAA. Manager Hopkins reported he has a future meeting with NMFS and U.S. Fish and Wildlife to speak about funding opportunity for the Bellota Project.

4. Stockton East Water District Engineering Update

Assistant Manager Vega provided the Board with an Engineering update. Assistant Manager Vega reported the amended budget for the *Sodium Hypochlorite System Project* is \$2.2M for the current fiscal year, the amount expensed to date is \$1.572M with the remaining of ~\$652K left and a 95% project completion. The second project reported is *Construction Power Quality and Monitoring Improvements* which includes buying a new ATS and combiner box, the budget is \$250K and the amount spent to date is ~\$224K with a difference of ~\$25k and a 25% completion. The third project

is *Rework Structural and HVAC for High Service Pump Station* with a budget of \$150k and spent to date amount of ~\$133K with a difference of ~\$16k and a 15% completion. The fourth project is *Extraction Well #2* with a budget of \$750K and spent to date amount of ~\$339K with a difference of ~\$410K and a 35% completion. The fifth project is the *Tunnel Flume Meter Project* with a budget of \$1.5M and no money spent to date, expecting bids by the 24<sup>th</sup> of October. The last project is *Hosie Low Water Crossing Replacement* with an amended budget of \$450K and an amount spent to date of ~\$392K with a difference of ~\$57K and a 98% completion. The *8-mile Dam Replacement* is tentatively scheduled to start in three weeks and will be worked on concurrently with the project is the *Tom Allen Recharge Project*. at the beginning of 2024 *Replacement of P-1 and the Low Lift Pump Station Slide Gates* is scheduled for the beginning of 2024 to be followed by the *Delucchi Crossing* and *McGurk Crossing* replacements.

## **G. DIRECTOR REPORTS**

1. Stockton Chamber of Commerce – Business Showcase & Tradeshow Mixer, 10/05/23  
Director Watkins attended the Stockton Chamber of Commerce Mixer on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Director Watkins reported the event took place at the University Plaza and had booths around the campus with different businesses.
2. RRG Groundwater Banking Program Tour, 10/16/23  
Director Watkins and Manger Hopkins attended the RRG Groundwater Banking Program Tour on October 16<sup>th</sup>. Manager Hopkins reported they looked at one of the banking projects and met with two of the General Managers in the area, one of the districts has a banking and recharge program and the other district has a banking program. Director Watkins reported the districts are irrigation districts instead of conservation districts, so all the parcels within the district are served.

## **H. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Stockton East Water District Letter of Support for North San Joaquin Water Conservation District WaterSMART Drought Grant Application.  
Manger Hopkins presented the Board with the Letter of Support for North San Joaquin Water Conservation District WaterSMART Drought Grant Application. Manager Hopkins reported the letter of support for North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (NSJWCD) was signed and sent to the NSJWCD.

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

1. San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting. 1:00 p.m., 10/18/23  
*\*This meeting was cancelled\**
2. 38<sup>th</sup> Annual San Joaquin County Agricultural Hall of Fame, 5:30 p.m., 10/19/23
3. CSDA Special District Leadership Academy, 10/22/23 – 10/25/23
4. Manager Hopkins provided the Board with a hand out for the Linden-Peters Annual Chamber Mixer on October 23,2023 from 6:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.

## **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 1:57 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:27 p.m., with no reportable action.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins  
Secretary of the Board

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