

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GARFIELD WATER DISTRICT
November 21, 2023**

1. President Pat Ricchiuti called the meeting to order at 12:41 p.m. In attendance were Directors Karl Kienow, Bill Smittcamp, and Palmer Lien. Attorney Lauren Layne, Engineer Nick Keller, and Secretary Paul Woodworth were also present. Director Mark Johnson and Watermaster Aram Azadian were absent.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2023 meeting. Directors Ricchiuti, Lien and Kienow approved the motion and Director Smittcamp abstained (Director Johnson absent). The motion passed.

3. Business and Presentations from the Floor

None.

4. Additions to the Agenda

None.

It was moved by Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to approve the agenda. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion, with one member absent.

5. Potential Conflicts of Interest - Board members were asked if any conflicts of interest existed.

None.

6. Correspondence

A. Bureau of Reclamation - FY 2023 CVP Reserved Works Extension Payment Request – Mr. Woodworth notified the Board of the request. Mr. Keller is working on the required documentation. The Request will be added to the December 19, 2023 meeting agenda as an action item.

B. California State Controller's Office – Unclaimed Property Request Payment - Mr. Woodworth informed the Board that the District received a check from the request he submitted for an unclaimed property assessment payment.

C. CSDA Finance Corporation – Mr. Woodworth presented the advertisement for financing solutions from the CSDA.

D. CSDA Trial Membership Application – Mr. Woodworth presented the offer to accept the Trial Membership to the CSDA. The Board chose not to take any action.

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7. Financial Reports

A-I. Mr. Woodworth presented the monthly financials. Mr. Woodworth updated the Board on the District's operating funds cash balance, bank reconciliations, and profit and loss statement.

Mr. Woodworth noted that Mr. Bethke continues to make timely installment payments on his past due assessment agreement.

Mr. Woodworth notified the board that he prepared the annual usage reports for the Omega Development / Chelsea Down Homeowner's Association Billing allocation credits. Mr. Woodworth will provide the proposed allocation schedule at the December 19, 2023 board meeting, as revised.

Mr. Woodworth provided an update on the water order receivables. Mr. Woodworth added the total water ordered and remaining deposit credit by user to the year-to-date water usage by user report.

Mr. Woodworth noted he received the Verni Farms additional water order deposit.

It was moved by Bill Smittcamp and seconded by Karl Kienow to accept the monthly financial reports. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion, with one member absent.

8. Bills to Pay

Mr. Woodworth provided the Board with the monthly bill payment report for approval. Mr. Woodworth informed the Board that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) Recap payment was added to the report.

It was moved Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to approve the bill payment checks. The Directors unanimously approved the motion, with one member absent.

9. Water Master Report

A. Mr. Keller reported on behalf of Mr. Azadian. Mr. Keller reported total usage of 157.03 AF for November 2023. Mr. Keller noted that Friant Water Authority (FWA) reported 103 AF for the month.

Mr. Keller reported that no new leaks were identified. Mr. Keller noted that S.E.T Services completed the Verni Farms valve repair.

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Mr. Keller noted that the leak at Copper Avenue and Willow Avenue still exists. He also stated the leak on Copper Avenue west of Peach Avenue continues and that Triple B is redirecting the water into a field.

Mr. Keller stated that the BOR approved 12% carry-over for next year. Mr. Keller will provide an update at the next board meeting.

Mr. Keller provided the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) water schedule to the Board. Mr. Keller noted that the District still has 371 AF of water to use.

Mr. Keller informed the Board that he proposed a new payment method to the BOR for water scheduling and usage. The proposal was due to the number of errors between the BOR and numerous Districts with the posting of the monthly BOR recap payments. The proposal would have each District issue an annual water contract deposit at the beginning of the water year. The BOR would then issue monthly invoices with Net 30 payment terms to each District after applying the deposit. Mr. Keller recommended a 20% deposit amount to the BOR.

Mr. Keller noted that the canal shut down on November 1, 2023 and that the District stopped deliveries on November 3, 2023. FWA will push to open the canal by January 1, 2024. If the canal opens on January 1, 2024, Mr. Keller recommends using any available water for recharge during the month.

10. Continuing Business to consider and take action

A. North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Mr. Kienow stated that the Board met, but he was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict.

Mr. Keller stated the Advisory Committee met. The Committee reviewed the Agency's financial statements and provided its audit recommendations.

Ms. Layne noted that proposals for additional water studies by Provost & Pritchard were submitted for review.

No action taken. This item will be added to the next Board meeting agenda.

B. Lateral 4 Pipeline Replacement Project

Mr. Keller provided an update on the project. Mr. Keller stated that Steve Dovali Construction, Inc. (Dovali) will begin the project on November 30, 2024. Mr. Keller presented Dovali's Change Order #3 progress payment for \$24,187.24. Mr. Keller requested approval of Dovali's Change Order #3 progress payment.

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It was moved Karl Kienow and seconded by Palmer Lien to authorize the Dovali Change Order #3 progress payment for \$24,187.24. The Directors unanimously approved the motion, with one member absent.

11. New Business

A. Water Order Allocation Policy

No action taken. This item will be added to the December 19, 2023 Board meeting agenda.

12. Public Hearing

No action taken.

Mr. Woodworth exited the meeting at 1:36 p.m.

13. Closed Session

The Board went into closed session at 1:33 p.m. to discuss anticipated litigation with legal counsel. The Board came out of closed session at 1:52 p.m. with no reportable action.

14. Next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2023 and it will be held at P-R Farms, 2917 Shepherd Avenue, Clovis, California at 12:30 p.m.

15. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.