

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
GARFIELD WATER DISTRICT
June 24, 2024**

1. President Pat Ricchiuti called the meeting to order at 09:05 a.m. In attendance were Directors Karl Kienow, Bill Smittcamp, and Palmer Lien. Attorney Lauren Layne, and Secretary Paul Woodworth were also present. Engineer Nick Keller attended via telephone. Director Mark Johnson was absent.

2. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2024 and May 21, 2024 meetings. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion, with one member absent.

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.

No conflicts were identified.

6. Correspondence

A. CSDA Annual Conference Notice – Mr. Woodworth presented the notice for the annual conference.

B. Halfmoon Education, Inc. – TMDLS Continuing Education Notice – Mr. Woodworth presented the training notice to the Board.

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 he did not receive the April or May water meters readings due to passing of Mr. Azadian. Mr. Keller noted he was able to obtain the meter readings from the emergency watermaster, Jesse Fernandez, after his return from vacation. Mr. Keller will input

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the readings onto the monthly meter schedule and provide to Mr. Woodworth. Mr. Woodworth will combine the April and May water usage on the June financials.

Mr. Woodworth noted that Mr. Bethke submitted the final payment on his past due assessment agreement.

Mr. Woodworth notified the Board that the County issued the second bulk property assessment payment on June 03, 2024. Mr. Woodworth noted the payment had additional withholdings by the County. Mr. Woodworth requested additional payment details from the Special District accounting personnel to apply the payment details.

Director Smittcamp exited the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

Mr. Woodworth provided an update on the aged receivables. Mr. Woodworth noted the Chelsea Downs envelope was returned for address correction. Mr. Woodworth will reach out to the HOA management team.

Mr. Woodworth provided an update on the water order receivables. Mr. Woodworth provided an update on the water order forms received. Director Kienow requested an update on the Class 1 Water Allocation schedule. Mr. Woodworth noted he had provided the second revision of the schedule, but had not issued the third revision due to the lack of meter readings. Director Kienow requested the Class 1 Water Allocation Schedule be updated each month and provided at each board meeting during the water season. Mr. Woodworth will update the Class 1 Water Allocation schedule each month and include in the board packet. Mr. Woodworth will send out the second round of water order forms based on the 100% BOR allocation schedule ASAP.

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

8. Bills to Pay

Mr. Woodworth provided the Board with the monthly bill payment report for approval.

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

9. Water Master Report

A. Mr. Keller reported that Jesse Fernandez provided the meter reading on June 4, 2024, but he would need to apply to readings to the monthly reading schedule template. Mr. Keller will provide the template to Mr. Fernandez. Mr. Keller noted that Friant Water Authority (FWA)

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reported 217 AF of usage for the month. Mr. Keller stated that FWA is having difficulty with meter readings for small orders and needs orders placed 24 hours in advance. Mr. Keller will work with Mr. Fernandez to coordinate water schedules for small water users. Mr. Keller will remind Mr. Fernandez to schedule water orders 24 hours in advance with his office.

Mr. Keller noted that the valve at Minnewawa and Copper Avenue(s) continues to get stuck and hard to open. Mr. Keller will contact SET Services to discuss the valve repair done. Mr. Woodworth will provide Mr. Keller with the invoice date to determine if the repair is still under warranty. Mr. Keller and Director(s) Kienow and Lien noted that Mr. Fernandez has been very helpful in Mr. Azadian's absence.

B. Mr. Keller notified the Board that FWA came off unlimited uncontrolled season on June 7, 2024. FWA went back on uncontrolled season on June 11, 2024 due to higher runoff and Edison releases. FWA went off uncontrolled season again on June 17, 2024. The current allocation is 100% Class 1 and 0% Class 2. The District remains at 100% allocation for the year.

Mr. Keller informed the Board that he completed the transfer to Hills Valley Irrigation District. He also noted that Mr. Fernandez was filling the District's recharge ponding basin every other weekend. Mr. Keller recommended recharging up to 100 AF for the season and the Board gave direction to do so.

10. Continuing Business to consider and take action

A. North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Mr. Keller stated the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and its sub-committee met on June 14, 2024. The TAC worked on the Agency's well mitigation program (WMP) and its policy form that is part of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) requirements. The Agency's estimated cost for the WMP through 2040 is \$12 million. Mr. Keller noted that the DWR requires a guarantee of funds availability. Mr. Keller stated the TAC recommended the transfer of \$200,000 of unused legal funds from the current budget to the reserve account. The City of Fresno was not in agreement with the WMP recommendation of \$500,000 to the reserve account each year. The Advisory Committee recommended the WMP and policy for approval.

Mr. Keller informed the board the Agency's proposed its budget for the fiscal year. The District's portion is \$4,662.92. The Agency allocated \$200,000 to the well mitigation budget. The WMP will require monitoring wells. The District's monitoring well site was approved. The well site is on the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District (FMFCD) property at Peach and Copper Avenues. Mr. Kienow indicated he agreed with the WMP presented by the Committee, but still has concerns about large water pumpers and the drop in water levels. Mr. Keller believes caps should be placed on large water users. Mr. Kienow also noted income

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levels within the District may affect its ability to get grants or low-cost government funds that are typically reserved for disadvantage communities. Mr. Keller's concerns with the WMP are that it incorporates the age of a well if it goes dry and factors in median household income (MHI). Fresno County's MHI is \$72,000 per year. The DWR doesn't provide any credit for well age in that event it goes dry and owners may get no credit due to income restrictions.

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

B. Community West Bank Line of Credit

Ms. Salas notified Mr. Woodworth that after requesting the District's revisions, the security agreement cannot be amended as previously stated. Ms. Salas informed Mr. Woodworth that the CD secured line-of-credit (LOC) is still an option. President Ricchiuti will reach out to his contact at the Bank to discuss the security agreement. Mr. Woodworth will notify Ms. Salas to place a hold on the revised application until further notice. No action taken.

C. Streamline District Website Hosting Service

Mr. Woodworth notified the Board that Streamline completed the transfer of the District's domain name and hosting platform from Network Solutions on May 22, 2024.

Mr. Woodworth corrected the spelling of Mr. Kienow's name as requested. Mr. Woodworth sent the website link to all Board members and service providers for review. Ms. Layne's office made suggested revisions that Mr. Woodworth will implement. No action taken.

D. Lateral 4 Replacement Project – 2024 Categorical Exemption

Mr. Keller and Ms. Layne notified the board that the 2024 Categorical Exemption application request for the Lateral 4 Replacement Project was submitted to the County Clerk's office and cleared the 30-day period. It was accepted on June 21, 2024.

No action taken.

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11. New Business

A. Watermaster Position – update and take action

Mr. Keller informed the board that the Kings River Water District may add a new ditch tender to its staff that will result in extra capacity and allow it to perform the watermaster duties for the District on a contract basis. Mr. Keller noted that other Districts have similar agreements in place where a full-time employee is not required. The agreement would be a flat fee agreement.

Ms. Layne discussed the District’s revised independent contractor agreement, including insurance requirements. Mr. Kienow and Mr. Woodworth will discuss the requirements with Mr. Fernandez.

No action taken.

B. Board of Directors Election Procedures and Timeline

Mr. Woodworth presented the election procedures and timeline prepared by Ms. Layne’s office.

Mr. Woodworth informed the Board he notified the County of Fresno’s Clerk’s office of the District’s election and timeline.

Mr. Woodworth will post the election notices in the designated locations per the timeline.

Mr. Woodworth will provide the election applications to the Board members.

Mr. Woodworth requested a motion to approve the election procedures and timeline as presented.

It was moved by Palmer Lien and seconded by Karl Kienow to approve the District’s election procedures and timeline as presented. The Directors present unanimously approved the motion, with two members absent.

12. Public Hearing

None.

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13. Closed Session

Mr. Woodworth exited the meeting at 10:56 a.m.

The Board went into closed session at 10:56 a.m. to discuss anticipated litigation with legal counsel. The Board came out of closed session at 11:08 p.m. with no reportable action.

Mr. Woodworth returned to the meeting at 11:08 a.m.

14. Next meeting is scheduled for July 16, 2024 and it will be held at P-R Farms, 2917 Shepherd Avenue, Clovis, California at 12:30 p.m.

15. The meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.