

NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds – Barrel Room
413 E. Lockeford Street, Lodi CA
Zoom - Teleconference Meeting

Monday, March 28, 2022

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**CONDUCTED BY TELECONFERENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S
EXECUTIVE ORDER RELAXING BROWN ACT REQUIREMENTS DUE TO COVID-19**

1. **Call to Order - Roll Call - Acceptance of Agenda** - The meeting was called to order by President Valente at 2:03 pm. A motion for the acceptance of the Agenda for the meeting on March 28, 2022 made by Secretary Simpson, second by Vice President Flinn. Motion passed unanimously 5/0/0.

President Joe Valente - Area 3
Vice President Tom Flinn - Area 2
Secretary David Simpson – Area 1
Treasurer Charles Starr – Area 4
Director Marden Wilber – Area 5

General Counsel Jennifer Spaletta
Special Counsel Roger Masuda - Absent
Daniel de Graaf – District Engineer
Deputy Secretary Shasta Burns

2. **Correspondence/Announcements-** Landowner communications and phone calls and emailed reviewed. Newsletters have been mailed.

3. **Action Items** Note: Votes recorded as: For/Against/Abstention (name)

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the February 28, 2021 Regular Scheduled Board meeting – A motion to review and approve the Minutes of the February 28, 2021 Regular Board Meeting made by Director Wilber, second by Secretary Simpson. Motion passed 5/0/0.

- B. Financial Matters

- a. Receive and File NSJWCD Monthly Treasurer's Report– Reviewed Monthly Treasurer's Report in the Board meeting packet. A motion to receive and file the NSJWCD Monthly Treasurers Report and approve Arnaudo Construction bill upon approval by District Engineer and Vice President Flinn and to be paid out of the South System Capital checking account, made by Secretary Simpson, second by Treasurer Starr. Motion passed 4/0/1. President Valente abstained.

- b. Receive and File TLID #1 Monthly Treasurer's Report – Reviewed Monthly Treasurer's Report. A motion to receive and file the TLID #1 Monthly Treasurer's Report made by Secretary Simpson, second by Treasurer Starr. Motion passed 5/0/0.

- c. Receive and File ID #3 Monthly Treasurer's Report – Reviewed Monthly Treasurer's report. A motion to receive and file the ID #3 Monthly Vice President Flinn, second by Secretary Simpson. Motion passed 5/0/0.

- C. Annual Form 700s – Form 700s are due April 1, 2022. Reminder only
- D. Review Water Supply Conditions and Operations – EBMUD update.
 - a. Curtailment Order and Compliance – General Counsel Spaletta reviewed the lifted Curtailment Order. NSJWCD is not curtailed at this time and General Counsel Spaletta will continue to watch status.
 - b. Tracy Lake Operations – No update at this time
 - c. Irrigation Season discussion -
- E. South System Projects
 - a. SCADA – Daniel de Graaf reviewed testing and Sierra Controls working on replacing equipment on the system. SCADA System communication appears to be working without issues at this time but will continue to monitor
 - b. Fish Screen – Installed and working at this time.
 - c. Handel Lateral – No update at this time. Project package is being put together. Landowner meetings are being coordinated with the completion of the design plans for Prop 1 projects.
 - d. Other Prop 1 Project Work - Project design is in the process and planning to go out to bid in the coming months. Planning for construction mid-year, June/July.
 - e. Dream/Pixley Pipeline- Construction of the NSJ portion of the Project is complete. Installation of the temporary crossing was completed and the NSJ portion of the project tested. EBMUD is still working on their construction and will be completing functional testing without NSJ water. The initial testing of the complete system and extraction of banked groundwater will take place no earlier than October 2022. NSJ is still waiting on permitting agencies to compete permit application for permanent crossing over Bear Creek.
 - i. Arnaudo Construction Contract and Change Order #1 – Board Discussion of Change Order. A motion to approve Arnaudo Construction Change Order #1 made by Vice President Flinn, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0
- F. Grant Activity
 - a. SGMA Implementation Round 1 Grant- North System Improvement Project – Phase 1- Petrea with Consero Solutions reported that the State Water Resources Control Board has asked the Authority to reduce the total amount requested, thus leaving the District to receive \$3.9. Consero Solutions will be following up San Joaquin County to ensure County has sufficient information for the new revised amount guidelines.
 - b. Federal Appropriation – South System Recharge Project – Petrea with Consero Solutions reported that the federal budget was approved. The requested amount for NSJWCD is \$1 million. To secure these funds, the district must submit an application to the US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Rural Development Community Facilities program. The district sent thank you letters to all three congressional representatives for their assistance with securing this funding.
 - c. IRWMP Round 2 Grant – South System Recharge Project – Petrea with Consero Solutions reviewed the \$3 million dollar request and waiting for new guidelines that will come out in April 2022. The district’s request for \$3 million is funding for the South System Modernization Project.

d. Groundwater Recharge/Land Repurposing Grant – General Counsel Spaletta reviewed status of grant program and indicated that unless the requirements of the grant are changed, NSJ should not consider applying for the grant. There are efforts being made to change the grant requirements and there may be opportunities for future rounds of funding that might be better suited for NSJ.

G. Maintenance-

a. Pump Station Maintenance – Secretary Simpson spoke with Stockton East and pumping areas have been sprayed and with the recent rain, the preemergent will start working.

H. Strategic Plan/Financing Plan –

a. Draft Engineers report- General Counsel and District Engineer reviewed status of Draft Engineers Report and asked board to review and provide feedback. General Counsel noted that the Board will have the opportunity to receive landowner feedback at the landowner workshop and the board meeting to provide District Engineer with direction to complete the final Engineers Report and proceed with mailing ballots.

b. Landowner Workshops March 30 – Landowner Workshop will be held this week in Jackson Hall at the Grape Festival Grounds. The workshops will take place at 9AM and 5PM and open to all of the public. Refreshments will be provided

c. Draft Public Hearing Notice/Ballot – General Counsel Spaletta will be drafting a Public Hearing Notice set for June 14, 2022 in Jackson Hall.

d. MK Elections Contract - MK Elections will help with all ballot mailing, receiving, and counting during the Public Hearing. A motion to approve MK Elections Contract and to move forward with services provided made by Secretary Simpson, second by Vice President Flinn. Motion passed 5/0/0.

I. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act/GWA Activity

a. Annual Report – General Counsel Spaletta has been working on the 2021 annual water use report for the districts water right. District Engineer Daniel de Graaf stated that records show 51 acre feet were diverted, and the rest is attributed to recharge and evaporation.

b. Water Accounting Framework (WAF) – General Counsel reviewed responses to DWR’s comments due in June. General Counsel indicated that there is a lot of work to be done with the ESJGSA consultants as well as several meetings scheduled in the coming months to make progress on addressing the comments.

J. Tracy Lake Improvement District

a. Review 2021 True-up and 2022 Budget – General Counsel Spaletta reviewed the annual process of the Tracy Lake Improvement District True-up, 2022 Budget, and how it is levied.

b. Resolution re 2022 Operations and Maintenance Assessment- A motion to adopt Resolution 2022-03 Regarding the 2021 and 2022 Budget and Operations and Maintenance Assessment for Improvement District No.1, The Tracy Lake Improvement District made by Treasurer Starr, second by Director Wilber. Roll call vote: Starr; Aye, Wilber; Aye, Simpson; Aye, Flinn; Aye, Valente; Aye. Motion passed 5/0/0

K. 2022-23 Budget

- a. Set Schedule for Committee meetings and board workshops – A budget committee meeting was set for April 19, 2022 at General Counsel Spaletta’s office at 12 PM.
 - L. Landowner communications – Workshop information has been sent out to all landowners. District Engineer Daniel de Graaf has been calling and emailing landowners regarding survey’s mailed to Riparian water users.
 - M. Discussion of Board Planning Calendar – Form 700’s due April 1st. June 14, 2022 Public Hearing re: Groundwater Charge and ballot hearing.
- 4. Director and Staff Reports**
- A. President’s Report – No report at this time.
 - B. General Counsel Spaletta – No report at this time.
 - C. District Manager/Engineer – Reviewed summaries of the status of current projects, upcoming work to be completed, and the anticipated schedules and project milestones.
 - D. Consero Solutions – Grant activity – Petra reviewed appropriations request and attachment 10 in the board meeting packet.
 - E. Committee Reports – No report at this time.
 - F. Other – No reports at this time.
- 5. Public Comment** – Public comments were received.
- 6. Closed Session** – The Board entered closed session at 4:00PM, came out of closed session at 4:25 PM and immediately returned to open session. President Valente reported that there was no reportable action.
- 7. Adjournment** - Motion to adjourn the NSJWCD Regular Meeting on March 28, 2022 made by Vice President Flinn, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0. Meeting adjourned at 4:26 PM.

The next regular scheduled Board Meeting April 25, 2022, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Location and method TBA due to COVID-19 Executive Order.

The above minutes of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Board of Directors Meeting of March 28, 2022.

Respectfully submitted:

Shasta Burns, Deputy Secretary