

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 19, 2023, by President Job. President Job and Director Meyer were present. The other seat is currently vacant. Also present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, District Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper and a member of the public, Peter Rystrom.

The Board first considered approval of the Special meeting minutes from December 15, 2022. Director Meyer noted a correction to "8 Station and misspelling of SGMA, it should be SGMA, not SIGMA and with those two corrections, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by President Job, and unanimously carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

President Job next offered opportunity for public comment on items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the District that do not appear on the agenda. No such comments were provided.

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of payment of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$242,417.60. During the month of December 2022 there were disbursements of \$81,590.94, including payroll disbursements of \$64,937.95, payroll taxes of \$4,309.89, transfers and adjustments of \$64,192.48, and bank charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during November were \$33,577.31, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of December, 2022 was \$152,708.93. Mr. Earley commented on the grant project reimbursement from the Department of Water Resources. The District expects about \$100,000.00 in reimbursements, but has not shown up yet. Given that those funds have not yet been received, Mr. Earley notified the Board that he will need to withdraw another \$100,000.00 from the LAIF account this year. President Job observed that income was about \$150,000.00 better than budgeted in the cut year and Mr. Earley responded that was because of fall water sales plus cold-water distributions. After further discussion and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by President Job, and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize payment of the bills.

Mr. Cooper provided a report on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. First, Director Meyer was appointed Chair again of the Joint Water Districts Board, and Charlie Etcheverry of the Joint Water Districts was appointed Vice-Chair. The Joint Water Districts Board adopted the budget set aside resolutions. Mr. Cooper advised the Board on the transition of Donnie Stinnett into a special projects position at Butte Water District. That means that there will, at some future date, be a vacancy in the Joint Water Districts Board manager position that will need to be filled. Finally, the Joint Water District Board conducted an employee evaluation of Donnie Stinnett and authorized an increase in Mr. Stinnett's salary to \$100,000.00 per year, plus a \$5,000.00 one-time performance bonus and the Joint Water Districts also approved the scheduled increases in Donnie's benefits.

Mr. Earley provided a Manager's and Hydrology Report. Mr. Earley has scheduled the Board for sexual harassment training on March 29, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. In total the Joint Water Districts and Western Canal Water District's fall water usage was 107,000 ac./ft., which is below

the up-to estimate provided by the Joint Water Districts. Lake Oroville's storage is over 2 mil. ac./ft., about a 28,000 ac./ft. gain per day. The reservoir elevation is right at historic average.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's report commenting on a bill introduced by Congressman LaMalfa concerns with a State Bill AB30 that would potentially result in reoperation of Lake Oroville. Finally, Mr. Cooper reported on Metropolitan Water District's approval of \$100 million for transfer purchases in 2023.

Turning to other business, the Board considered the vacant seat due to the death of Director Stone. Mr. Cooper introduced the item discussing the process and the applications received. After discussion, and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by President Job, and unanimously carried to appoint Kelby Sheppard as Director to fill the vacant position. Given that appointment, there is now a vacancy in the Treasurer spot, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by President Job, and unanimously carried to appoint Sean Earley as the interim Treasurer until consideration of long-term appointment to that position at a future meeting. It was at this point in the meeting that Mr. Earley, as Secretary and General Manager, provided the oath of office to Director Sheppard. Director Sheppard then executed the Oath of Office.

The Board next discussed the annual landowner meeting. Mr. Earley suggested that the meeting be conducted in early February or March. After discussion, the Board signaled a preference for the March date at the Regular Board of Directors meeting date.

Mr. Earley provided a SGMA update. DWR is still reviewing the submitted Groundwater Sustainability Plan and the GSA's and the Butte Subbasin have worked together to submit a grant funding request.

Finally, it was discussed and determined that Director Sheppard will assume the Richvale Irrigation District role on the Butte Advisory Board for SGMA.

The Board next discussed the 2023 budget. Mr. Earley has prepared a draft and he will present that draft at the next Board meeting expecting either a full plant or a water transfer.

There being no further open session business, the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 2:55 p.m., reconvened into open session at 4:19 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.



There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By:  \_\_\_\_\_  
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/General Manager

Attest a true record of proceedings had  
and taken at the foregoing meeting, our  
presence thereat and our consent thereto.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
W. A. Meyer  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_