

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 18, 2023, by President Job. President Job, Director Meyer and Director Sheppard were present. Also present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper and the District's treasurer Andy Stone.

The first item of business to be considered by the Board was adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting dated April 20, 2023. Upon a motion by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Sheppard the Board unanimously adopted the minutes as presented.

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

The Treasurer's report was offered by Andy Stone with the assistance of Sean Earley and they introduced the topic of payment of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$190,826.33. During the month of April 2023 there were disbursements of \$278,053.47, including payroll disbursements of \$45,356.60, payroll taxes of \$3,576.87, transfers and adjustments of \$93,594.38, and bank charges of \$31.95. Cash Receipts during April were \$62,517.34, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of April 2023 was \$80,847.74. Mr. Earley highlighted the quarterly interest earned by the District in the amount of \$24,148.84. Mr. Earley also updated the Board on the Aguas Frias siphon/culvert blowout and the cost to the District to repair the amount of about \$72,000. Of that amount, about \$20,000 was for Cal Trans vehicle control. Mr. Earley also updated the Board on the Ag overtime modifications which will increase labor costs of the District. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Sheppard seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley provided an update on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. For Richvale, the District saw a historic high of 710 cfs, collectively in the Biggs Extension and in the Richvale Main. The increase in the conveyance capacity is because of the improvements to the Biggs Extension. Mr. Earley updated the Board on Biggs West Gridley Water Districts request for 30,000 acre feet. They will likely now only need about 6,800 acre feet for Biggs West Gridley Water Districts secondary landowners. It appears that Butte Water District and Sutter Extension Water District will cover this amount for \$12.50 per acre foot. The Joint Districts discussed the water master job description and its future posting for public review and candidate period. The Joint Districts discussed acquiring a new pickup for the potential new hire. The 2021/2022 audit will be conducted next meeting by the Joint Districts. Lastly the Joint Districts discussed in closed session the same topics that will be discussed later in this agenda.

Mr. Earley provided a manager's report. Lake Oroville is basically full at 122% of historic average and 95% of capacity and the inflows continue to be really good. Mr. Earley updated the Board on the System Modernization Project which is in its last phases. The project

will likely go over budget and Mr. Earley will provide figures next month. The cost overages are due to material increases and inflation. Mr. Earley assured the Board that the project will be operational this year and the grant will be closed out. Mr. Earley updated the Board on the Proposition 2018 Rate Study reporting that he had a discussion with Ludorff Galameny at professional engineers who are also doing some SGMA work within the subbasin. Ludorff will work with David's Engineering to prepare a cost service analysis that incorporates not only cost of service to the District but also cost related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation, the new Ag overtime rules and infrastructure needs within the District.

Mr. Cooper provided an attorney's report updating the Board on the current legislative session including water right bills that are in concern.

Returning to other business the Board discussed a proposed schedule for the 2023 irrigation season. Shelby Watts attended this portion of the meeting to provide the Board an update on staff recommendations with alternating 3 man crews and a schedule of time working and time off. The goal of the new schedule is to try and avoid double time which is a considerable cost to the District. Mr. Earley reported that with this schedule, everyone would have Sundays off. Director Sheppard expressed a concern as whether changes could be made on Sunday and then implemented on Monday. Mr. Earley responded that staff will work to address Mr. Sheppard's concern. After further discussion with question and answer a motion as made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Sheppard and unanimously carried to accept the modified work schedule as recommended by the General Manager.

Mr. Earley provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The GSA's within the County will be meeting to ratify the manager's decision to select a consultant to analyze options for future financing of SGMA implementation.

There being no further open session business the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 2:40 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:10 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel and Real Property Negotiators.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 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.







