

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 15, 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 May 18, 2023. Upon a motion by Director Sheppard, seconded by Director Meyer 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 and he introduced the topic of payment of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$80,847.74. During the month of May 2023 there were disbursements of \$251,406.44, including payroll disbursements of \$68,750.41, payroll taxes of \$5,366.51, transfers and adjustments of \$253,083.75, and bank charges of \$31.95. Cash Receipts during May were \$421,003.03, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of May 2023 was \$348,767.77. Mr. Earley commented that the District transferred \$350,000 from LAIF to the District's general fund to cover some anticipated expenses, mostly associated with the modernization project. Those funds will eventually be reimbursed from the grant. Mr. Earley also directed the Board's attention to the income statement where the District has received 53% of total income that's actually better than he expected because there have been fewer preventative plant claims than he anticipated. On the expense side the District has incurred 57% of budgeted expenses, which is higher than expected but will be managed accordingly. Director Sheppard observed that the District's reserves have been depleted due to the last two years of drought conditions. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Sheppard and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Cooper provided the update on the Joint Water District's Board meeting. Biggs West Gridley Water District has made a water request for its secondary landowners that will be fulfilled by Butte Water District and Sutter Extension Water District. The Joint District's discussed SGMA efforts in the Butte subbasin and Suter subbasin. The Joint District's audit findings were tabled until the following month. Mr. Earley communicated to the Joint District's about the Public Policy Institute of California and a meeting that was conducted with them to explain the necessity and importance of settlement agreements, specifically the diversion agreements on the Feather River. An update was provided at the Joint Water District's Board meeting on the Water Master opening. Lastly, the Joint District's conducted a closed session discussion with counsel which are the same topics that will be discussed in today's closed session agenda.

Mr. Earley provided a manager's and hydrology report. Lake Oroville storage is at 100% and will be full for some time. Mr. Earley anticipates that the Lake will end September storage of around 3 million acre feet. Concerning the System Modernization Project, the District is nearing completion and Mr. Earley reported that he was able to drop about \$20,000 in electrician cost and other cost saving measures are being explored. Mr. Earley reported on a problem with grant portal electronic access to funds and Congressman LaMalfa's office is assisting in resolution. Finally, Mr. Earley reported on a proposed proposition 218 rate increase. The Board gave direction to continue with efforts and to potentially retain consultant to assist with a cost of service analysis.

Mr. Cooper provided an Attorney's report updating the Board on Water Right legislation and the status of various bills that are in interest to the District going through Sacramento.

Turning to other business, the Board considered Resolution 2023-04 Nominating Sean Earley as a member of the ACWA Region 2 Board of Directors. A motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Sheppard and unanimously carried to adopt 2023-04.

The Board next consider appointing voting representative for the ACWA conferences. After discussion a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Sheppard and unanimously carried to, authorize the District's General Manager, Sean Earley to vote on behalf of Richvale Irrigation District on ACWA matters.

The Board next considered a proposal from Tri Counties bank and a money market fund. Mr. Earley introduced the topic noting that LAIF is at 2.99%. Treasury bills are significantly higher at 5.3%. After discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Sheppard and unanimously carried to authorize the General Manager to invest up to \$2.5 million in surplus District funds in investment vehicles that comply with the government code of limitations on investments of such funds and directing Sean Earley to speak with qualified public agency investment advisors to manage the surplus funds.

Mr. Earley next provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. He met with the facilitator for the subbasin to discuss cost allocation approaches. Mr. Earley is an advocate for equal costs sharing amongst the 11 GSAs within the subbasin. The two counties with small footprints, Glenn and Colusa, appear to be in opposition of that approach. Mr. Earley also commented on the lack on any grant fund award for the Butte subbasin and how in light of that, there needs to be messaging to DWR that administration of the Butte subbasin needs to be reduced.

The meeting adjourned into closed session at 2:45 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:16 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel and Real Property Negotiators.

During Director comments Mr. Earley reminded the Board that Gene Harris's services are tomorrow and recommended, with the Boards consensus, to provide a \$500 District contribution in Mr. Harris's name.

Mr. Cooper also updated the Board on the Miocene Water Right and the potential assignment of those water rights to Butte County.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:36 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.

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