

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023**

The Regular meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 20, 2023, by President Job. President Job and Director Meyer were present. Director Sheppard was absent. 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 June 15, 2023. Upon a motion by Director Meyer, seconded by President Job 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 \$348,767.77. During the month of June 2023 there were disbursements of \$407,016.20, including payroll disbursements of \$85,759.18, payroll taxes of \$6,721.23, transfers and adjustments of \$-0-, and bank charges of \$49.95. Cash Receipts during June were \$298,237.62, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of June 2023 was \$239,989.19. Mr. Earley reported that he expects the District to begin receiving more reimbursement payments on the grant project in the anticipated amount of \$300,000. Mr. Earley also commented on several unforecasted expenses that have hit the budget. Currently those expenses total about \$150,000. Mr. Earley reported on his ongoing efforts to address vegetation management within the District including an upcoming application of aquatic herbicide. All of these taken together will have an effect on the District's budget. Director Meyer questioned what expenses have gone into the plant maintenance category given that it is 408% of budget and Mr. Earley responded that he will have to pull the detail and provide a response at a later date. After further discussion with question and answer a motion as made by Director Meyer seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Cooper provided the report of the most recent Joint Water District Board Meeting. He reported that the Joint Districts are similarly addressing and trying to remedy excessive aquatic weeds this year. There was a SGMA update on efforts to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in the Butte and Sutter subbasins. There was also a discussion with the Joint Districts Board about the candidates and the application period for the upcoming vacancy of the Joint Water Districts Board Manager position. Concerning the closed session discussion topics, those will be discussed at this meeting in closed session.

Mr. Earley provided a manager's report. Lake Oroville is at 96% of capacity which equates to about 3.41 million acre feet which is 136% historic average. Mr. Earley anticipates that the Lake will likely be about 3 million acre feet at the end of September which is great carryover storage. Mr. Earley provided a further update on the system modernization project.

The consultants are working on the SCADA now, which will likely be completed in the next 3 weeks or so. Eventually, the SCADA platform will be able to measure flow and water temperature at every intake. Mr. Earley next reported on the Proposition 2018 process and his efforts to continue to bring that forward. He is working on identifying projects that will benefit the entire District that should be considered as part of the rate setting and cost of service analysis. Mr. Earley described a meeting with consulting engineers Luhdorff and Scalmanini and Davids Engineering and their efforts to assist the District's on its cost of service analysis.

Mr. Cooper provided an Attorney's report updating the Board on the noticing of the Site's Reservoir water right application and updating the Board on the status of water right legislation pending in Sacramento.

Turning to other business, the Board considered the 2023 Board of Directors election. Mr. Earley reported that President Job and Director Sheppard are up for election this year. The candidacy period is open now through August 11, 2023. In the event that one or more of the incumbents do not apply, that period would extend to August 16, 2023.

The Board next considered Asset Management Group 457 and 401a proposal. Mr. Earley reported that District employees are not happy with their security benefit which is their current retirement account provider and they would like better service and a cheaper option for their retirement accounts to be handled through AMG and John Hancock. Mr. Earley reported that all employees are supportive of the proposed change. After discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to authorize the change in the District's employees 457 and 401a investment services to Asset Management Group and authorize the general manager to execute any necessary documents.

The Board next considered retaining Asset Management Group to invest surplus District funds. Mr. Earley reported on a meeting with AMG and walked through a proposal to invest a total of \$2.5 million in a different ladder time periods from 3 months to over 12 months. Mr. Earley is recommending this change and feels comfortable with the proposal and moving forward with a new investment advisor. After further discussion with question and answer a motion by Director Meyer seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to authorize the investment of \$2.5 million of District's funds with Asset Management Group and to authorize the general manager to execute any necessary documents.


The Board next received an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Mr. Earley reported that in the Butte subbasin the GSAs are still working on a long term funding approach for administration of the subbasin and those approaches differ between each GSA sharing equally to different variations of weighted financial contributions by the GSAs. Mr. Earley reported that he is an advocate of equal shares to fund SGMA efforts.

The Board adjourned into closed session at 2:43 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:21 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 3:22 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.

