

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. President Job and Director Stone were present. Director Meyer was absent. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper.

The first item of business was to consider the minutes from the meeting dated December 17, 2020. Upon a motion by Director Stone seconded by President Job, the Board unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

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

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$443,295.56. During the month of December 2020 there were disbursements of \$125,357.72, including payroll disbursements of \$59,829.26, payroll taxes of \$3,753.99 and Bank Charges of \$31.95. Cash Receipts during December were \$208,661.62 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of December 2020 was \$559,720.97. President Job questioned the receipt of about \$200,000 in cash in December and he assumes that is on a bases on an accrual and accounting standard rather than cash accounting and Mr. Earley confirmed that that is true. The Board continued their discussion about moving some of the surplus funds out of LAIF and securing alternative investment vehicles. Mr. Earley reported that he anticipates another inflated budget due to the grant project that is expected to be implemented in 2021. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Stone seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley next reported on the prior Joint Water Districts Board meeting. In attendance was public members Gary Justinson, Dominic Neves and Susan Shohr. There was a discussion from those members of the public on the metering issue and water usage overage by Biggs West Gridley Water District and the resulting payment that they owe the other three Joint Water Districts. Mr. Earley reported that Mike Farr, a Director at Biggs West Gridley Water District is the new representative of Biggs West Gridley Water District to the Joint Water Districts Board. However, since this meeting Mr. Farr has been deemed to have an incompatible office given that he is also a member of the City of Gridley City Council. Consequently, he resigned from the Biggs West Gridley Water District Board and they have a vacancy they will need to appoint a replacement. Mr. Earley reported that Walt Meyer is now the Chair of the Joint Districts Water Board. Lastly, Mr. Earley reported that the Joint Districts purchased a new meter.

Turning to items of business, Mr. Earley requested that the Board add two agenda items to consider budget adoptions for the District's share of financial assurance for reclamation of the Vance Avenue Pit #1 and Pit #2 mine sites. The two criteria to add an agenda item are present, the need for consideration arose after posting of the agenda and needs consideration by the Board before the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. Upon a motion by Director Stone seconded by Presented Job and unanimously carried, those two items of business were added to the agenda.

Having added the items on the agenda, Mr. Earley introduced the item that this is a component that the District does annually to comply with state law and ensure that the mine sites will be reclaimed in an event the Districts dissolved, which is unlikely to ever occur. Nonetheless, the District needs to designate an amount of its share of funds to ensure reclamation of the mines. A motion was made by Director Stone seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to approve the budget adoption to comply with Richvale Irrigation Districts share of the financial assurance set aside for Vance Avenue Pit # 1, approved by the Joint Water Districts Board and resolution 2020-3 in the amount of \$12,388.50 and to authorize the General Manager to place in the District's budget accordingly. A second motion was made by Director Stone seconded by President Job and unanimously carried to approve the budget adoption to comply with Richvale Irrigation Districts share of the financial assurance set aside for Vance Avenue Pit # 2, approved by the Joint Water Districts Board and resolution 2020-4 in the amount of \$1,185.75 and to authorize the General Manager to place in the District's budget accordingly.

Mr. Earley offered a manager's report. He first observed that the poor hydrology year continues, and they are still well below average in terms of precipitation. There is rain in the forecast however storage is low at 1.22 million acre feet in Lake Oroville is 55% of the historic average. The Districts are also holding a deficiency from last year which means that it is statistically more likely to see a drought this coming irrigation season. Next Mr. Earley reported that he will begin work on a draft budget hopefully for presentation to the Board in February. He is unsure of the potential for a water transfer or a droughty curtailment so the budget may need to be adjusted in the coming months. Concerning Winter projects, the Districts purchased a trencher and will put a new roof on the shop. Next Mr. Earley reported that the Farm Bureau is moving into the Districts extra offices today and they will likely be renting these extra offices for the next 10 months or so at \$1,500 per month rent. On February 13, 2021 the Districts surplus tractor auctioned off on the Bid Cal website.

Mr. Cooper offered an attorney's report updating the Board on the Stanford Vina Ranch Irrigation Company case and Petition to the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Cooper also updated the Board on Donnie Stinnett potentially making application for a vacant seat on the Butte County Water Commission,

Turning to items of business, the Board discussed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Mr. Earley reported that the next manager meeting will be held on Friday. Besides that, there is not a lot of new items to report. The consultants for the various GSA's continue to work on developing a draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan which will be submitted on time in early 2022.

Mr. Earley next provided an update on the status of the evapotranspiration rate for rice. There will be a policy meeting next Friday at which point Mr. Earley expects Director Nemeth to make a decision on whether to stick with 2.9 acre feet per acre or to perhaps increase it up to 3.3 acre feet per acre.


Mr. Earley reported that he is likely going to schedule a landowner meeting in March. He is hopeful that we will be able to meet in person, but if not, he plans on organizing a virtual landowner meeting.

The next item of business Mr. Earley handed out the Districts Drought Planning Policies from the 2014-2015 time period just to allow the Board to review and refresh their memory on the Districts prior drought policies and this item will be agendaized at a future Board meeting for further discussion and potential changes.


There being no further open session business the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 3:09 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:55 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

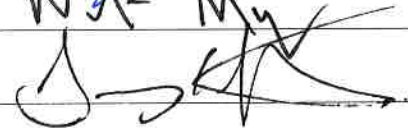
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/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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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper. Members of the public present were Donnie Stinnett, the Joint Districts Manager and Colleen Lucas of the Butte County Farm Bureau.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the January 21, 2021 regular Board meeting and upon a motion by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes as presented.

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

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$559,720.97. During the month of January 2021 there were disbursements of \$241,014.69, including payroll disbursements of \$64,210.78, payroll taxes of \$5,012.21 and Bank Charges of \$31.95. Cash Receipts during January were \$50,106.99 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of January 2021 was \$376,735.60. President Job questioned the budget line items for Vance Avenue and Mr. Earley responded that those are not real dollars, but need to be there for purposes of compliance with the reclamation permits. Director Stone questioned how most people pay standby and Mr. Earley responded that most landowners pay upfront roughly 70% which is great for the Districts cash flow. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Stone seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

The Board next received a report on a Joint Water District Board meeting from Donnie Stinnett. Mr. Stinnett reported that there is a pending bill for David's Engineering related to the Belding Meter and the request by Biggs West Gridley Water District to confirm their overage for the 2020 irrigation season. The estimated amount David's Engineering fees devoted to this task is approximately \$10,000. There was then a discussion amongst the Directors as to whether it was appropriate for that to be a Joint District expense and shared by all 4 Districts or if it is better to be a Biggs West Gridley Water District only expense. Mr. Stinnett next reported on the Vance Avenue sites. The final reclamation plan is now done and recorded. Mr. Stinnett next reported on the inter-District price on surplus water that was formally \$3.00 per acre foot and is currently \$5.00 per acre foot. Mr. Stinnett is aware that Butte Water District is proposing a raise to \$9.50 per acre foot or an arrangement that is similar to Butte Water Districts agreement with Richvale Irrigation Districts secondaries. After discussion the Board provided direction to Director Meyer

to not favor a change. Mr. Stinnett next reminded Directors that their sexual harassment and ethic training are due. Finally, Mr. Stinnett updated the Board on B120 data and hydrology.

Mr. Earley next provided a manager's and hydrology report. Lake Oroville storage is at 1.3 million acre feet which is not great for this time of year. There are no significant storms in the forecast for the balance of February. Mr. Earley next updated the Board on the Bid Cal Auction results. The tractor received over \$43,000 in resale which is pretty good and will net in around \$37,000.

Mr. Cooper offered an attorney's report updating the Board on the recent AquaAlliance lawsuit to the ten year transfer EIS/EIR of the bureau and San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority. Next Mr. Cooper updated the Board on two State Water Resource Control Board staff generated documents including climate change and water right applications and an assessment of the water right drought response also called the WARDER report.

Turning to other items of business, the Board discussed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Mr. Earley reported on the hot topics in the development of the GSP such as groundwater dependent ecosystems and project and management actions. Mr. Cooper questioned whether the plan at this conceptional level is proposed to have management areas and Mr. Earley answered, that not at this time. Lastly Mr. Earley reported that the advisory committee meeting will be held on the 25th. Mr. Earley next reported on a discussion with Karla Nemeth, the Director at DWR, and other DWR representatives concerning the evapotranspiration rate for rice for purposes of water transfers. It will be 3 acre feet per participating acres. However, for potential future voluntary agreements, that will be fixed at 3.3 acre feet per acre and in the event of a shortfall in the water generated by the Feather River, the State Water Project Contractors have agreed to be the backstop.

The Board next discussed a potential 2020 landowner meeting. Mr. Earley questioned if the Board would like to have a meeting and how to conduct the meeting in light of the ongoing pandemic limitations on in person attendance. After discussion ultimately the Board's consensus was to prepare a newsletter and invite the landowners to call the District with any further questions.

Next, Mr. Earley reported on Cold Water Payment updates. The District has \$134,264.02 in payment, but that does not have expenses taken out yet. Mr. Earley sought direction on the Board on whether to compensate landowners once the offset has been made or to hold these funds to next year. Ultimately the Board directed Mr. Earley to hold the funds until next year.

The Board next considered to surplus District equipment, 3 non-compliant work working saws. Mr. Earley reported that the District already has replacements purchased and is just seeking approval to surplus this equipment at not less than fair market value. Upon a motion by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to authorize the surplus of the 3 saws to be sold for not less than fair market value.

The Board next discussed Drought Contingency Planning. The Districts drought policies from the 2014-2015 drought were provided last month to the Board to begin reviewing and

thinking about any potential need for changes. As far as an initial allocation, in the event of a drought curtailment Mr. Earley recommended that a starting point of 2.93 acre feet per acre to be safe. In 2015, the last time the District was curtailed the landowners in the District ended up planting 88% of the District. The Board discussed the need for landowners to recalibrate meters if any landowners choose to use meters. The Board will continue to review the drought policies at a future meeting.

The Board next considered the draft 2021 annual budget. Mr. Earley provided 2 draft budgets for the Board's review. One is assuming a full water year and the next assuming a drought curtailment year. Mr. Earley walked the Board through the draft budgets including his revenue and expense assumptions. He is recommending an adoption of the full budget and then we can backtrack and amend as necessary and if conditions change. After discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to adopt the full budget as proposed.

Lastly the Board, concerning the last agenda item, Certification of Mitigated Negative Declaration and Approval of Project for Comprehensive Plan for System Modernization and Boundary Flow Monitoring. The item was tabled for a future public meeting.

There being no further open session business the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 3:56 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 4:26 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/Manager

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





**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2021**

The Special Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Special Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper and Aidan Wallace.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the February 18, 2021 regular Board meeting. Kelby Sheppard recognized 2 corrections. On page 1 of the minutes it should be "Colleen Cecil" not "Colleen Lucas" and on page 2, the word "work" should be "wood". Upon a motion by Director Stone seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes as corrected.

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

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$376,735.60. During the month of February 2021 there were disbursements of \$101,860.13, including payroll disbursements of \$39,310.79, payroll taxes of \$3,099.67 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during February were \$191,824.54 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of February 2021 was \$470,202.87. President Job questioned whether the income statement has been adjusted for the 50% water supply cut and Mr. Earley responded that not yet, it will be in future months. President Job also questioned water right preservation line item in the budget in the amount of \$9,362.50 and Mr. Earley responded that that is the District's share of the Joint defense agreement cost that the District has with other NCWA agencies. After further question and answer amongst the Board a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley next reported on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. First, the Joint Districts conducted their first roll call vote in many years on Biggs West Gridley Water District expense associated with the Belding Meter dispute. Ultimately on a vote, with Biggs and Richvale in favor, the cost of David's Engineering was prorated by the Joint Districts in accordance with their respective percentage interest. The Joint Districts provided direction to Donnie Stinnett concerning Lake Oroville operations and to set up a call with DWR. There was no change in the inter-district water price for surplus water given the likelihood of a drought. That item will be considered in future years. The audit was approved. Lastly, concerning SGMA the Joint Districts expressed concerns regarding groundwater dependent ecosystems and their treatment under SGMA.

Mr. Early next offered a manager's and hydrology report. Lake Oroville is about 1.4 million acre feet. 54% of average for rainfall. In the discussion with DWR regarding Lake Oroville forecasts, it appears that now rather than mid-July, ~~more lake~~ ^{like} late-August, the lake will be operating at river valve only. Mr. Cooper discussed the need for a hindcast analysis of operations and how we have gotten to this point in the second year of a drought. There will be significant Fall Water problems and concerns to address in the summer months. At a 642 foot elevation, the lake is at river valve only.

Mr. Cooper offered an attorney's report. First, on the ongoing Pacific Gas and Electric Bankruptcy and the Fire Victim Trust process. Second, the Miocene Canal and the potential sale of that asset to PID or others. Lastly, the proposed formation of the Tuscan Water District.

Turning to items of business, the Board discussed the drought plan and allocation. Mr. Earley introduced the item asking the Board for the timing of supply numbers to landowners and confirmation of no supply to secondary landowners and the establishment of inhouse surface water allocation this year. In 2015, the allocation to primary acreage in the District was 2.82 acre feet per acre. The Board then walked through the language of the policies and additions and alterations were made to the Districts policy. After considerable discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to authorize a letter to secondary landowners regarding no surface water supply this year from Butte Water District, to approve an irrigation season allocation of 2.8 acre feet per primary acre and to approve the drought policies and agreements as amended.

The Board next discussed the Butte LAFCO election for Special District non enterprise member and alternate enterprise or non-enterprise member. After discussion a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to cast the District votes for Al McCoreehan for enterprise representative and Larry Bradley as the alternate.

Mr. Earley next reported that the 2021 annual budget will be revised and presented again next month in light of the drought reduction and surface water supply. This budget will draw upon reserves to get them through this year.

The Board next received an update on the infrastructure modernization grant environmental permitting schedule. The District is about 1 month behind but they will be ready and will have all permits in hand for Fall construction. The Board will begin seeing an expenditure of funds but those are funds will ultimately be reimbursed pursuant to the terms of the grant.


The Board next considered certification of a mitigated negative declaration and approval of project for comprehensive plan for system modernization and boundary flow monitoring. Mr. Early introduced the item. After that introduction at 9:14 a.m. President Job opened the Public Hearing to receive comments both oral and in writing regarding the mitigated negative declaration. Mr. Earley reported that no comments were received either in writing or orally and thus, President Job closed the public hearing. Upon a motion by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 22021-01.

It was at this point in the meeting that President Job had to leave.


The meeting continued into closed session at 9:15 a.m. and reconvened into open session at 10:13 a.m. Vice President Meyer announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/Manager

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



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 P.m. on Thursday, April 15, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper.

The Board first considered adoption of the minutes from the March 26, 2021 Regular Board meeting. Director Meyer observed a correction on page 2 of the draft minutes, the word “link” should be “like” and with that correction a motion was made Director Sheppard seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes as corrected.

Kelby Sheppard offered the Treasurer’s report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District’s beginning balance in the General Account was \$470,202.87. During the month of March 2021 there were disbursements of \$120,273.86, including payroll disbursements of \$41,090.40, payroll taxes of \$3,235.84 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during March were \$128,697.18 and the District’s ending balance in the General Account at the end of March 2021 was \$478,757.77. President Job questioned the Davids Engineering bill and what they were working on behalf of the District and Mr. Earley responded that they are doing some SGMA work and a lot of reimbursable work under the Bureau grant and also the AG Water Management Plan update. After further question and answer amongst the Board a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer’s report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley offered a report on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. The Joint Districts discussed and adopted a COVID Prevention Plan. During maintenance activities of the Joint Districts 140 loads of rock were deposited on the A joint fixing some high water concerns. Each District shared its curtailment policies and actions in light of the drought situation under the Diversion Agreement. The Joint Districts provided a SGMA update, discussed water operations, provided a donation to Byron Clark’s children for their future educational needs and then discussed various topics in closed session.

Mr. Earley next provided a manager’s report. Lake Oroville is about 1.47 million acre feet and is currently drafting. The reservoir is in a pretty dismal state and is extremely concerning. Joint Districts continue to discuss matters with Lake Oroville operators at the Department of Water Resources but at this point it looks to be a very challenging water year all around. Next, Mr. Earley reported that an employee put in their 2-week notice, ending next week. He is very appreciative to this employee’s 6 years of work for the District. There will now be 6 employees doing the work of 7. Given that the loss of the employee comes at a time such that it cannot reasonably replace the position this irrigation season. Mr. Earley proposed

increasing the existing employee's pay for retention purposes and in recognition of their hard work of \$1.50/hr per employee.

Mr. Cooper did not offer an attorney's report.

Turning to items of business, the Board considered a request for contribution for the Water Education Foundation. After discussion, a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to authorize a contribution of \$690.00.

The Board next discussed a budget revision in light of the drought declaration under the Diversion Agreement. The budget would project \$475,000.00 of spending from reserves. While that seems and is a large amount of money, the District will be ok given its healthy state of reserves at this point. Ultimately, after consideration discussion, no action was taken.

Mr. Earley next provided a grant update. Mr. Earley is waiting on permitting and to get all other regulatory requirements done. He hopes to be able to begin implementation of construction activities some time this fall. There will be a need for the District to advance some Cash in the amount of \$350,000.00 to purchase gates and other construction material, however, this will be ultimately reimbursable.

Finally, Mr. Earley reported on a curtailment letter. This is just an information item for the Board members. Mr. Earley reminded them of the terms of the District's Diversion Agreement and how the District will be carrying a deficiency into next year, making the potential for curtailment next year at least statistically more likely. If there is a cut next year then that would constitute two cuts of 50% each totaling 100% total in a 7-year period, meaning no additional cut or curtailment could be made for the 5 years thereafter beginning in 2023.

There being no further open session business the meeting was adjourned and a closed session at 2:29 p.m., reconvening an open session at 3:07 p.m.

President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/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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**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 20, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 20, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper and guest Kaylah Horton.

To respect the time of Ms. Horton item 9c, the District's Audit, was moved up to the first item of business. Ms. Horton walked the Board through the financial statements with the independent auditor's report and the report to the Board of Directors. There was a period of questions and answer concerning the Districts audit. After further discussion a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to receive and file the auditor's report.

The Board next considered the regular meeting minutes dated April 15, 2021. Mr. Earley observed a few corrections, (1) on page 1, paragraph 4 it should read "The Joint Districts provided a SGMA update, discussed water operations, provided a donation to Byron Clark's children for their future educations needs...", (2) on page 1, paragraph 5 it should say "currently drafting" and (3) on page 2 in Mr. Earley's update on the grant, it should say "cash" instead of "case". Upon a motion by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried the Board adopted the minutes with the noted corrections.

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

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$478,757.77. During the month of April 2021 there were disbursements of \$162,916.52, including payroll disbursements of \$40,070.69, payroll taxes of \$3,157.84 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during April were \$184,570.42 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of April 2021 was \$546,006.02. Director Meyer questioned the \$42,000 on building expense for January through April and Mr. Earley, after consulting with Kelby Sheppard, reported that that is depreciation. A motion was made by Director seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley next reported on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. He reported that it was a quick meeting discussing (1) an update on the 2021 water use and hydrology, (2) the District's request to do a hindcast study of Oroville operations and (3) a closed session discussion on topics that we will too discuss in closed session. President Job questioned whether

BWGWD paid the full rate on the 2020 overuse of water and Mr. Earley reported that yes, as of a couple months ago.

Mr. Earley next provided a manager's report. Unlike 2020 with significant pumping of groundwater, this year is proving tougher to maintain such a small acreage with the amount of water to manage with. Mr. Earley also observed that it appears that the District's duty is up this year as compared to 2015. Finally, Mr. Earley reported that Lake Oroville is currently at 40% of capacity and then provided handouts of Lake Oroville storage status.

Mr. Cooper provided an attorney's report. He reported on Mill Creek and Deer Creek and the State Water Boards actions in favor of the fishery there and updated the Board on the proposed Tuscan Water District.

Turning to items of business the Board opened the public hearing to receive comment on the update to the Feather River Regional Agriculture Water Management Plan. No written or oral comments were provided. The public hearing was then closed at which point the Board considered Resolution 2021-03 Adopting the 2020 Plan Update. Upon a motion made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 2021-03.

The Board next considered a drought rate for secondary water users. Mr. Earley reported that in 2015 the State Water Board conducted site investigations and inspections to ensure compliance with curtailment orders. One of the things the State Water Board inquired as to secondary landowners is whether they had paid to take water from the District in the drains. Mr. Earley reported that secondaries normally pay 50% of the primary rate and proposed a drought rate of 50% of the 50%, or 25%, which would amount to \$6.00 per acre for secondary water users in 2021. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to adopt the 2021 drought rate for secondary water users of 50% of the normal non drought payment, or \$6.00 per acre to utilize pumps form drains.

Mr. Earley next provided an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. There was a recent meeting and discussion of minimum thresholds. A number of consultants are suggesting wanting higher levels but Mr. Earley's preference is to utilize the Aquifer in a sustainable way, if necessary, to more fully utilize the resource.

Mr. Earley next offered a grant update. The new person at David's Engineering is coming up to speed. Mr. Earley reported we are working on permitting for the eventual construction later this year. DWR and the Bureau have all the information needed. The District will advance about \$350,000 for the purchase of gates which will ultimately be reimbursable. Mr. Earley continues to target construction this Fall.

The Board next discussed taking over liability and maintenance of two Drainage District 100 bridges. Mr. Earley reported that these bridges are needed for District purposes, but will need to be upgraded if the District's assumes responsibility to make them safer and compliant for District use. After considerable discussion a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by

Director Job and carried on a vote of 2 ayes and 1 abstention, which Director Stone abstaining to accept liability and ownership of the two bridges subject to Legal Counsel preparing necessary documents.

Mr. Earley next reported on the Sacramento Valley Water Budget Field Study. This is a new study that was the result of ongoing rice evapotranspiration discussions and will be a 3-year study. Focus on timing of the drain and benefits of the system in addition to straight ET of the rice crop. DWR is open to the potential for more benefit or more recognition of water made available through idling of rice acreage.


There meeting adjourned into closed session at 3:06 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 4:14 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.


There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/Manager

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







**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, JUNE 17, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 17, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were Districts Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Districts General Manager Sean Earley and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the May 20, 2021 special Board meeting and upon a motion by Director Stone seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried the Board approved the minutes as presented.

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

Kelby Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$546,006.02. During the month of May 2021 there were disbursements of \$152,958.07, including payroll disbursements of \$52,661.92, payroll taxes of \$4,382.50 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during May were \$95,124.44 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of May 2021 was \$534,648.55. Mr. Earley reported that the District will see a large deficit this year given the drought reduction and supply. The District will be okay drawing on the reserves but may need to consider changes in the Fall to its rates in light of a potential for an additional drought reduction in 2022. After further discussion with question and answer a motion was made by Director Meyer seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried to accept the treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley reported on the Joint Water District Board meeting. They met in both regular and special session to discuss the potential need for a settlement agreement to address and to discuss the potential emergency need for a groundwater program to supplement lost surface water supplies. Mr. Earley next reported on the Districts inclusion of the SB88 list of non-compliance provided by the State Water Resources Control Board.

Mr. Earley next provided a manager's report. The District is using a lot of water but is still operating within its contingency reserve. Mr. Earley reported that he is confident that the District will be fine given the allocation provided. Director Stone questioned Mr. Earley about a late planted field and whether there ought to be concern from that landowner. Mr. Earley answered that yes, that is a cause for concern and that landowner may need to pump rather than have the District continue to operate its full water distribution system to supply one small field. Mr. Earley next discussed the low afterbay water levels and speculated that it could be because of the work on the gates in the high flow channel, Mr. Earley next reported on the Giant Gardner Snake Assessment by the State representatives and admonished the State representatives to take

care in placing the traps and drains given that there will be very little to no water in drains. Concerning the hydrology report, Lake Oroville elevation is following close to the 1977 trend line. There is 1.255 million acre feet in current storage. Lastly, Mr. Earley reported that all Director emails through the Districts server have now been set up.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's report. He updated the Board on the status of curtailment efforts, the Temporary Urgency Change Position and Don Wright's appearance at Western Canal Water District.

Turning to items of business, the Board received an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Mr. Earley reported the Butte Basin Advisory Committee recently met and they are discussing SGMA chapters and an upcoming public release of those chapters. There are ongoing discussions and a re-evaluation of the minimum threshold, but all in all Mr. Earley believes the process is going in the right direction.

Next Mr. Earley updated the Board on the status of the Bureau of Reclamation Grant. The grant proposal is currently sitting with the Reclamation for further action. Prior to actual construction, Mr. Earley's plan is to run water for as long as possible into the Fall and then turn off for construction. There is a contingency if construction can not be completed or initiated this year to extend the construction period for two additional years if needed. Lastly, Mr. Earley reminded the Board that the District will fund the upfront cost of certain items subject to reimbursement from the Grant.

Mr. Earley next updated the Board on the District taking over two Drainage District 100 bridges. Mr. Earley has confirmed that the Drainage District does own the property and that this District has easements for use of those bridges. Mr. Cooper was directed to prepare a document transferring title.


Prior to going into closed session President Job offered a Directors comment stating that he received a postcard from Butte County discussing flood control efforts in the Richvale area.

The last item of business was an update by Mr. Earley on the 2021 Election. Mr. Meyers seat is up, and the candidacy period will be open soon.

There being no further open session business the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 2:54 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:30 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

By  _____
SEAN EARLEY, Secretary/Manager

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







**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021**

The Special Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, by Lyle Job, President of the Board of Directors. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were District's General Manager Sean Earley and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper. District's Treasurer Kelby Sheppard was absent. Member of the public present was Don Wright, who is a journalist.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the June 17, 2021 special Board meeting and upon a motion by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

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

Don Wright introduced himself. He works as a journalist for WaterWright.net. He wanted to bring to the Board's attention the State Water Resources Control Board draft resolution on racial equity and encouraged the Board members to review that resolution and consider submitting comments by the August 2, 2021 deadline.

Mr. Earley provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants in Treasurer Kelby Sheppard's absence. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$534,648.55. During the month of June 2021 there were disbursements of \$118,239.93, including payroll disbursements of \$39,746.63, payroll taxes of \$3,113.89 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during June were \$101,635.69 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of June 2021 was \$566,683.32. After further discussion with question and answer, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried, to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Cooper provided a report on the Joint Water District Board meeting. The Joint District discussed reports on water use, the Looney Weir Project and the water exchange between Western Canal and the Joint Districts, which will allow for an increase in allocation to Richvale landowners. The MBK proposal to review Oroville operations, was discussed and ultimately is going back to the individual Boards. There was discussion amongst the Joint Districts concerning a powerline easement or encroachment over the Sutter-Butte Canal. Lastly, there was an update of the Butte and Sutter Basins for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Turning to the manager's report. Mr. Earley provided an update on the water status and operations of the Richvale Irrigation District. Mr. Earley also provided an update on Lake Oroville operations, including a projected operation of river valve only somewhere towards the middle of

August and that there will be a projected shut-off of all water in the District somewhere towards mid-October. Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report commenting about the racial equity resolution of the State Water Resources Control Board and the potential for comments on the same.

Turning to items of business, the Board first received an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act from Mr. Earley. There are draft chapters of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan on the street for public review. Mr. Earley also reported that Paul Gosselin has taken another job and moved on to be a deputy director at DWR handling SGMA matters.

The Board next discussed the RID Infrastructure Modernization Grant. Mr. Earley still continues to try to get the grant project off the Bureau's desk where it sits currently. North Star Engineers is creating a summary of outstanding items in hopes of expediting review by the Bureau. Sean requested authorization to purchase gates so that the District will have them in hand and will be able to promptly begin work once the Bureau authorizes proceeding. This purchase is estimated to be in the \$160,000 to \$170,000 range and will ultimately be fully reimbursable. After further discussion and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried, to authorize the advance purchase of gates as presented by Mr. Earley and subject to reimbursement through grant.

The Board received a brief update on the item to take over liability and maintenance of two drainage District 100 bridges south of Richvale Highway and north of Highway 162. Mr. Cooper needs to draft a document accepting responsibility.


The Board next discussed the DWR/Sacramento Water District's water budget study. This started with a discussion concerning rice evapotranspiration and now is pivoting to a water budget study. It is the desire of the Districts to balance the geographic location of the study so that it encompasses both the east and west sides of the valley. Mr. Earley expressed hope that the study will reinforce the Districts internal water budgets and expressed concern that this could lead to a potential offset for idled fields that supposedly consume remnant soil moisture.

The Board next considered renewal of a lease with the Union Pacific Railroad. Mr. Earley provided a draft agreement to the Board where the Railroad is requesting \$5,000 per year with a 3% escalator. The Board discussed pursuing the lease for one year and then removing all District facilities and equipment from the leased area so as to not need it in the future years. After further discussion and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously approved to authorize execution of the lease on the best terms possible and delegating to Mr. Earley and District Counsel the authority to negotiate those best terms and execute the lease once agreeable.

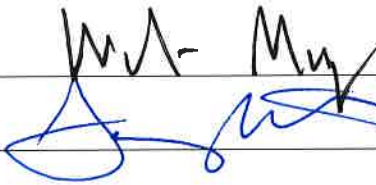

The Board adjourned in a closed session at 8:17 a.m., reconvened in an open session at 8:50 a.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 a.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.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 2021**

The Regular Meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was held in person. The meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 19, 2021, by Vice-President Walt Meyer. Directors Gary Stone and Walt Meyer were present. President Lyle Job was absent. Other officers and staff present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper, and District's Treasurer Kelby Sheppard.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the July 20, 2021 Special Board meeting and upon a motion by Director Stone seconded by Director Meyer and approved the minutes by a vote of two ayes and one absent.

Vice-President Meyer next afforded 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 offered.

Mr. Sheppard provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of claims and expenditures and authorization of warrants. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$566,683.32. During the month of July 2021 there were disbursements of \$189,710.77, including payroll disbursements of \$63,63,069.15, payroll taxes of \$4,937.17 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during July were \$56,314.69 and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of July 2021 was \$482,057.53. After further discussion with question and answer, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried by a vote of two ayes and one absent to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley provided a report on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. Many of the items discussed by the Joint District will also be discussed as part of this Board meeting's agenda.

Mr. Earley next gave a manager's and hydrology report. Concerning water usage, Richvale Irrigation District is at 78.3% of water used as of August 15, 2021, which is pretty good for this time of year. There was then a discussion with the Board concerning the water usage for the balance of the irrigation season and utilizing the remaining balance of water available to the District this irrigation season. Concerning hydrology, Mr. Earley reported that Lake Oroville is currently at 23% of capacity, which equates to approximately 824,000 AF. Given sedimentation of the reservoir, he was unsure if that's true available capacity or not. Mr. Earley reported that many of the other reservoirs in the State are in similar dire straits given the extent of the drought emergency. Mr. Earley offered that concerning next year's hydrology, we need about 150% of normal to get to full supply.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report speaking on the comments made by the Minasian Law Firm concerning the State Water Resources Control Board's racial equity resolution. Mr. Cooper also spoke about the pre-1914 water rights curtailment.

Turning to items of business, Mr. Earley offered an update on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act activities. There was a meeting yesterday amongst the GSA's to continue discussing draft chapters and all the GSA's are within budget and on target for adoption of a plan by January, 2022.

Mr. Earley next updated the Board on the Richvale Irrigation District Infrastructure Modernization Grant. The implementation of the grant project has been extended in light of the Bureau's inability to timely review the environmental documents.

The Board next considered a cost share agreement with MBK Engineers to study the Oroville operation and hydrology. Mr. Earley introduced the item. The scope of work is for \$27,000, which would be shared two-thirds by the Joint Water Districts and one-third by Western Canal Water District. The purpose of the study is (1) to provide technical support for the probability of refill going into 2022; and (2) to do a hindcast analysis of Oroville operations beginning January 1, 2019. After further discussion, and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone and approved on a vote of two ayes and one absent to authorize the expenditure of Richvale Irrigation District's share to undertake the work with MBK.

The Board next received a report from Mr. Earley on the DWR/Sacramento Water District's water budget study. Mr. Earley has been in discussions with Anna Fock at DWR who is the project lead with DWR. There have been lengthy discussions with DWR staff about rice growing practices and the uniqueness of the rice crop compared to row crops. Mr. Earley has encouraged DWR to include areas in or in the vicinity of Richvale Irrigation District for the field studies and the DWR and the Water Districts continue to look for funding.

The Board next considered the Sutter Extension Water District maintenance and operation agreement for the Lonney Weir structure project. Mr. Cooper provided a list of issues for Board input and ultimately the Board provided direction to Vice-President Meyer as the Joint Water District representative to propose edits to the agreement.


The Board next considered the Biggs-West Gridley Water District building head gate replacement project. Mr. Earley reported that Biggs-West Gridley Water District wants to design new gates for the Minderman Canal. This will help maintain the levels in the pond and will also allow Biggs-West Gridley Water District to move more water at times. Richvale Irrigation District needs to make sure that this additional water movement does not come at the expense of Richvale's canal capacity. Mr. Earley was directed to continue to monitor the project to ensure that it does not injure Richvale Irrigation District's rights to water.

The Board adjourned in a closed session at 4:01 p.m., reconvened in an open session at 4:30 p.m. Vice-President Meyer announced that in closed session a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer and carried on a vote of two ayes and one absent to authorize execution of the voluntary agreement in lieu and other documents provided the public water agencies including Richvale Irrigation District receive all the edits that are necessary.

Before adjourning, there were two director reports given. Director Stone questioned the status of the Tuscan Water District. Mr. Earley and Mr. Cooper reported that there has been a comment period concerning their application. Director Meyer reported that there will be a rate increase of NCWA of 7%.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 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.





**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2021**

The special meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 16, 2021, by President Lyle Job. All Directors were present. Other officers and staff present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper, and District's Treasurer Kelby Sheppard arrived late.

The Board first considered approval of the minutes from the August 19, 2021 Regular Board meeting and upon a motion by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

President Job next afforded 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 offered.

In Mr. Sheppard's absence, Mr. Earley provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$482,057.53. During the month of August 2021 there were disbursements of \$135,030.53, including payroll disbursements of \$42,054.43, payroll taxes of \$3,286.34 and Bank Charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during August were \$12,589.20, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of August 2021 was \$706,781.60. Mr. Earley observed that the District received an increase in cash on hand, but that is because of a \$332,274.90 influx of cash due to Cold Water reimbursement that will ultimately be distributed to landowners. President Job questioned whether the District is utilizing the Vance Avenue rock site. Mr. Earley answered that the District uses the aggregate material frequently. Director Meyer questioned whether in the absence of fall water that would impact the District's budget, Mr. Earley responded "yes". Finally, Mr. Earley pointed out that there is a \$812.67 reimbursement to himself that is due to his mistaken use of his own credit card for fuel in the District vehicle that was utilized for District purposes. After further discussion with question and answer, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley reported on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. There was a presentation by MBK and Walter Bourez on Oroville operations and the probability of refill given historically low storage conditions. The Joint Districts ratified exchange water from Western Canal Water District to the Joint Water Districts Board that will ultimately be used within Richvale Irrigation District's service area. There was a good discussion that the Joint Districts on the Sutter Extension Water District Looney Weir Project and discussion of seepage.

Turning to the Manager's Report, Mr. Earley reported that Lake Oroville is at 22% of capacity, an elevation of 629 ft equating to 791,000 AF.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report discussing curtailment lawsuits that have been filed by water right holders south of the Delta. Mr. Cooper also updated the Board on AquAlliance

recent lawsuit challenging the Bureau's NEPA document for groundwater pumping in lieu of surface water diversions for environmental enhancement and the threat of an injunction against 2022 water transfers.

Turning to items of business, the Board discussed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Minasian Law Firm submitted limited comments concerning the draft of Groundwater Sustainability Plan. There is a public workshop that will be held on September 20 to field questions and comments from the public. Mr. Earley observed that the groundwater levels around the District are equal to 2015 levels. Concerning the Bureau of Reclamation Grant Project, the District is \$4,000 over budget on gate procurement but Mr. Earley expects to save money on other items and stay within the limits of the grant. The District is still waiting on approval from the Bureau of Reclamation which hopefully will happen this winter. Mr. Earley reported that he will have a large fund transfer from LAIF to the general fund to allow for a large expenditure that will ultimately partially reimbursed by grant funds.

The Board next discussed resolutions of support by Pamela Tobin for the position of ACWA president. After discussion, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2021-03 supporting Pamela Tobin for the office of ACWA president.

The Board next discussed a resolution of support of Kathy Green. A motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 2021-04, a resolution offering support for Kathy Green for the office of vice-president of ACWA.

The Board next discussed winter and fall operations and Mr. Earley invited the Board to offer direction on a number of policy matters, including whether the District would be wheeling water for decomposition or habitat purposes. After considerable discussion, Board direction was that water use post-harvest through October 31 would not incur an additional rate. Pumping ahead would be \$4 per AF, with an 8% carriage loss, applied to any water use after October 31 will be discussed at a future meeting.

Finally, Mr. Earley reported that he expects water service to being again on October 11 and the District will utilize all its remaining balance of irrigation season water by the end of October.

The Board next discussed Cold Water disbursement. Mr. Earley passed out handout. The total 2017 payment to growers totals \$24,036.56. The 2019 payment to growers totals \$271,824.38. A motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to authorize payment for the 2017 and 2019 crop years and distribute the Cold Water Impact Funds.

The Board next considered an allocation increase of .25 AF per primary acre to a total 2021 irrigation season allocation of 3.05 AF per primary acre. After discussion and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to approve that increase in allocation.

The Board adjourned in a closed session at 8:51 a.m., reconvened in an open session at 9:09 a.m. President Job announced that direction was given to legal counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.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.







**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2021**

The regular meeting of Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2021, by President Lyle Job. All Directors were present. Also present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, District's Treasurer Kelby Sheppard, Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper, Brandon Ertis of Davids Engineering, representatives of Butte Water District, Biggs West-Gridley Water District and numerous landowners and interested parties.

Item 9A – presentation by Brandon Ertis of Davids Engineering concerning the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act was moved up in the Agenda to be considered first. Mr. Ertis presented a power point presentation on the development of the Butte Subbasin and Groundwater Sustainability Plan. There was a series of questions and answers during the presentation and dialogue with Mr. Ertis and representatives of the Board, other Districts, and landowners.

The Board next considered the adoption of the minutes of the special meeting dated September 16, 2021. Upon a motion by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the minutes as presented.

The Board 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 offered.

Treasurer's report was presented by Kelby Sheppard. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$706,781.60. During the month of September 2021 there were disbursements of \$8,091.50, including payroll disbursements of \$38,151.31, payroll taxes of \$3,068.75, transfers and adjustments of \$48,638.93 and bank charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during September were \$2,020.00, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of September 2021 was \$610,824.16. Following the conclusion of Mr. Sheppard's report, Mr. Earley commented that the District's finances looked good from a cash prospective because the District's still holding Cold Water funds that will be distributed to landowners. The reality is that the District will probably land in the red given a cut year of \$130,000.00 less than budget. After further discussion with questions and answers, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

The Board next received a report on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. Mr. Earley reported that the Joint Water Districts Board went through the water season, remaining irrigation season balances, and Lake Oroville operations. The Board discussed and approved a number of improvement projects along the Sutter-Butte main canal. The balance of the Joint Water Districts' business was discussed in closed session and will be discussed as part of today's closed session.

Mr. Earley next offered a Manager's Report and hydrology report. Lake Oroville storage is currently 789,459 AF. It is in a pretty dire state. However, the decreasing levels of the lake has

mostly stopped given that most of the agricultural demands have abated and the upper reservoirs, including Lake Almanor, are being operated for power generation.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report updating the Board on the early start to 2022 transfer discussions and the potential need for future transfers next year and the potential terms for such transfers.

Turning to other business, the Board received a report on the Richvale Irrigation District infrastructure modernization grant. The National Marine Fisheries Service is currently in receipt and is discussing the environmental review. Mr. Earley has signed a contract for purchase of half of the gates at approximately \$50,000.00. He wanted to secure the gates given supply problems and the reality that the price of the gates continues to increase.

The Board next considered wheeling groundwater for the rice decomposition and habitat purposes in District owned facilities. Mr. Earley questioned whether the Board would like to establish a policy of groundwater being pumped into District facilities when there is no surface water in the system and the fee for the delivery of that service. Mr. Earley also questioned whether the Board would entertain a different policy if there is surface water in the system and whether there would be any additional charge for landowners. After considerable discussion and questions and answers, the Board ultimately gave direction to Mr. Earley to use the Manager's discretion to apply a rate of between \$.0 and \$3.00 per AF, depending on the landowner's circumstances when there is no surface water in the system.

Mr. Earley next gave an update on Cold Water payment disbursement. After expenses the amount that will be transferred to growers is \$295,860.94.

The Board considered a new contract with HM & S for audit services. The proposal is for 1 to 3 years of utilizing their audit services. A motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried, to authorize execution of a new agreement with HM & S Auditors for an additional 3-year term.

The Board next considered a transfer of 192 AF to Western Canal Water District from Richvale Irrigation District. Mr. Earley reported that landowner Mike Job has already paid for this water and made application for surface water assignment. Mr. Earley has no concerns with the request and pursuant to Board policy is seeking the approval of the Board. A motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to authorize the surface water assignment of Mr. Job and any other landowner requests that comply with District policy and are acceptable to the General Manager.

The Board next considered a water exchange with Sutter Extension Water District. Mr. Earley reported that the District may have sufficient water to loan Sutter Extension prior to the conclusion of the irrigation season at midnight on October 31, 2021. Sutter Extension has exhausted its allotment and would potentially need water in advance of the unallocated period beginning November 1, 2021. The maximum amount requested would be 2,000 AF to be used before October 31, 2021 and then on November 1, 2021 that volume would be transferred back to the District's allotment for winter water usage. After discussion, the Board provided direction that


they were okay with a temporary loan of water to Sutter Extension Water District under terms and in volumes that are subject to the Manager's discretion.

There being no further open session business, the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 3:42 p.m. and reconvened into open session at 3:45 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to legal counsel.

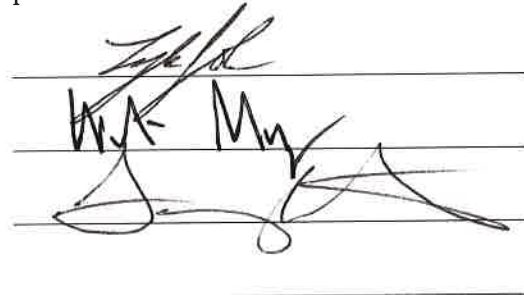
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

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.



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2021**

The special meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 23, 2021, by Vice-President Meyer. Present were Director Stone, Vice-President Meyer, District's General Manager Sean Earley, and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper. President Lyle Job and Treasurer Kelby Sheppard were not present.

The Board considered the adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting dated October 21, 2021. A motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and carried on a vote of 2 ayes, and one absent, to adopt the minutes as presented.

Vice-President Meyer 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 offered.

In Treasurer Sheppard's absence, Sean Earley provided the Treasurer's report and introduced the topic of payment of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$610,824.16. During the month of October 2021 there were disbursements of \$336,439.91, including payroll disbursements of \$35,011.89, payroll taxes of \$2,723.30, transfers and adjustments of \$60,936.31 and bank charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during October were \$9,244.19, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of October 2021 was \$195,699.11. Following the conclusion of Mr. Earley's report, he commented that there would likely be another \$150,000.00 taken from LAIF to cover Cold Water payments to landowners and gate purchases for the Richvale Main Canal Improvement Project. After further discussion with questions and answers, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and carried on a vote of 2 ayes and 1 absent to accept the Treasurer's report and authorize the payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley reported on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. The Joint Water Districts approved and authorized upgrades and construction projects on the Sutter-Butte main canal and executed agreements with Davids Engineering to provide technical support for those projects. The Joint Water Districts also approved budget set-asides for the Vance Avenue rock site. The Districts executed the Looney Weir contract so that the Sutter Extension Water District can move forward with that project this off-season. Finally, the Joint Water Districts discussed and conducted Manager Donnie Stinnett's performance review and authorized changes in compensation for him.

Mr. Earley next provided Manager's and Hydrology reports. First, Mr. Earley mistakenly did not agendize in 2021 officers and seat appointments. That will be agendized in December for ratification of the offices of treasurer and secretary and board chair and vice-chair positions. The Board will also consider those same offices and positions for 2022.

Mr. Earley next reported on Lake Oroville storage, noting increases in storage compared to last month.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report discussing with the Board the State Water Resources Control Board adoption of the racial equity resolution, the Federal infrastructure bill and \$3.5 billion coming to California for water related infrastructure, the release of the site's EIS/EIR, and, lastly, potential water transfers in 2022.

Turning to items of business, Mr. Earley updated the Board on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. Last week he attended the Butte Subbasin Advisory Board Meeting where the managers discussed groundwater dependent eco systems and comments that were received on the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan, including those from Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, AquAlliance, and the Nature Conservancy among others.

Mr. Earley next provided an update on the District's grant project. Mr. Earley authorized approximately \$28,000.00 in purchase of gates from Watch Technologies. There are eleven sites that will be initially improved. Eventually that will be thirteen total. He expects that having the gates in inventory will allow the construction to proceed immediately once environmental review is completed by the Bureau and other Federal agencies. The hope is that approvals will be in place and that the improvement and replacement project can proceed next year in the fall.

The Board next considered budget adoption for the District's share of financial assurance set-aside for reclamation of Vance Avenue Pit #1. Mr. Earley introduced the item reminding the Board that this is a requirement to annually consider budget set-aside for the Vance Avenue gravel mines. A motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer to move approval of the budget adoption to comply with Richvale Irrigation District's share of the financial assurance set-aside for Vance Avenue Pit #1, approved by the Joint Water Districts Board in Resolution 2021-1 in the amount of \$11,706.00 and to authorize the General Manager place in the District's budget accordingly, and that motion was passed on a vote of 2 ayes and 1 absent.

The Board next considered budget adoption for the District's share of financial assurance set-aside for reclamation of Vance Avenue Pit #2. This item is related to the previous item except that it is operated under a different mining permit and thus, needs a separate budget set-aside. A motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, to move approval of the budget adoption to comply with Richvale Irrigation District's share of the financial assurance set-aside for Vance Avenue Pit #2, approved by the Joint Water Districts Board in Resolution 2021-2 in the amount of \$1,104.00 and to authorize the General Manager to place in the District's budget accordingly. That motion was passed on a vote of 2 ayes and 1 absent.

The Board next discussed a system shut-down and after discussion and questions and answers, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and passed on a vote of 2 ayes and 1 absent to shut-down the system on December 1st.

There being no further open session business, the meeting was adjourned into closed session at 9:17 a.m., reconvened into open session at 10:20 a.m. Vice-President Meyer announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.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.



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
RICHVALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2021**

The Regular meeting of the Richvale Irrigation District was called to order at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 16, 2021, by President Job. All Directors were present. Also present were District's General Manager Sean Earley, Treasurer Kelby Sheppard and Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper.

The Board first considered the adoption of the minutes of the regular meeting dated November 23, 2021. A motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried to adopt the minutes as presented.

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

Treasurer's report was given by Kelby Sheppard and introduced the topic of payment of the bills. The District's beginning balance in the General Account was \$195,699.11. During the month of November 2021 there were disbursements of \$38,915.16, including payroll disbursements of \$35,278.88, payroll taxes of \$2,226.81, transfers and adjustments of \$121,131.75, voided checks were \$5,044.24 and bank charges of \$26.95. Cash Receipts during November were \$11,038.94, and the District's ending balance in the General Account at the end of November 2021 was \$256,466.24. Mr. Earley reported that there was still about \$30,000.00 of expected revenue outstanding. Accounting for that, Mr. Earley expects a loss this year of about \$100,000-\$250,000. After further discussion and question and answer, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer and unanimously carried to accept the Treasurer's report and to authorize payment of the bills.

Mr. Earley provided an update on the Joint Water Districts Board meeting. Dominic Nevis is now the representative on the Joint Water Districts for Biggs-West Gridley Water District. He is assuming Gary Justeson's place in light of Mr. Justeson being voted off the Biggs-West Gridley Water District Board. The Joint Water Districts accepted the 2021 Hydrology Report. The Joint Water Districts discussed the upcoming 2022 allotted water season and maintenance projects that will be undertaken prior to that, including mastication work on C and D joints totaling up to \$10,000 worth of work. The Joint Water Districts are working on a task order for Davids Engineering to support 2022 upgrade projects on the main canal. The Joint Water Districts provided SGMA updates.

Mr. Earley next provided a Manager's report. Lake Oroville is at approximately 1.3 million AF which is a nice recovery from a low point of around 800,000 AF.

Mr. Cooper offered an Attorney's Report discussing 2022 potential water transfers, curtailments and an expansion of Term 91. The Central Valley Project and State Water Project petition for temporary urgency change and water rights and, finally, the proposed Tuscan Water District.

Turning to items of business, the Board first considered adoption of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Mr. Earley introduced the topic observing that this is a significant event culminating multiple years' worth of work, and kicking off the next 20 years to maintain sustainability of groundwater in the Butte Subbasin. Following introduction, President Job opened the public hearing and afforded the opportunity for comment, either verbally or in writing. No comments were offered, and President Job closed the public hearing. Thereafter, upon a motion by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, the Board unanimously adopted Resolution 2021-06 approving the Butte Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

The Board next considered ratification of officers for 2021. A motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried to ratify President Job in the position of president, Director Meyer in the position of vice-president, Mr. Earley in the office of secretary and Mr. Sheppard in the office of treasurer. The Board next considered officers and positions for 2022. Motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to have the same positions and officers for 2022 as were ratified in 2021.

Mr. Earley next provided an update on the Infrastructure Modernization grant. The gates that the District purchased are being manufactured. Environmental review is still being undertaken by the Federal agencies. Mr. Earley is hoping for construction in 2022, sometime between harvest and the rice decomposition fall water period.

The meeting was adjourned into closed session at 2:54 p.m., reconvened into open session at 3:40 p.m. President Job announced that direction was given to Legal Counsel and a performance evaluation was conducted for all District employees. At open session, the Board then considered changes and compensation for District employees, including the General Manager. After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Director Meyer, seconded by Director Stone, and unanimously carried to accept the General Manager's recommendation as to District employees, with one edit, to increase the hourly rate to the Water Master Brian Jones. It was at this point in the meeting that President Job had to leave at 3:52 p.m. The Board then discussed change in the General Manger's compensation. Ultimately, a motion was made by Director Stone, seconded by Director Meyer, and unanimously carried to give the General Manager an increase in salary to \$156,000 per year, effective January 1, 2022, and a \$25,000 performance bonus. Direction was also given to Mr. Cooper to research the potential of providing a car allowance to the General Manager, rather than a District vehicle and to bring back that item in January for further consideration.


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There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 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.

