

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in regular session in the District Boardroom at 9:00 a.m. Director Holmes called the meeting to order and led the flag salute. Upon roll-call the following members were noted present or absent:

DIRECTORS: HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KAMPER

Also present were General Manager, Peter M. Rietkerk; Engineering Department Manager, Forrest Killingsworth; and Clerk of the Board, Danielle Barney.

Public Comment – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Warrants in the amount of \$400,611.54; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of \$330,937.02; and payroll dated September 13, 2019 in the amount of \$234,183.33.
- B. Approval of the regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2019.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Roos to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KAMPER

COMMUNICATIONS

Director Weststeyn reported that he attended the regular Board meeting of the South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SSJGSA) on September 18. Also in attendance were Director Holmes and Mr. Brandon Nakagawa, SSJID Water Resources Coordinator.

Director Holmes reported that he attended the SSJGSA regular Board meeting on September 18.

Director Holmes stated that he will attend the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Ad Hoc Committee Meeting on September 30. Also attending will be Mr. Nakagawa.

Ed Erisman, Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Manager:

- Julie Jeleti, SSJID Laboratory Coordinator/Administrator, has returned to work following leave. Ms. Brooke Bussell, SSJID Lab Technician, had filled in during Ms. Jeleti's absence.
- A Request for Proposal was sent out two weeks ago for a membrane tank lining repair/replacement project. The concrete has been exposed to high-dose acid cleans and is in need of repair. A job walk was conducted on September 20. The bid deadline is September 27, 2019.

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- Request for Bids was sent to chemical vendors to supply chemicals used at the WTP. The bid deadline is October 10, 2019, and will be used to establish a 3-year term procurement contract.

Director Holmes inquired about the status of the City of Lathrop's water usage. Mr. Erisman responded that the City of Lathrop is currently 100% reliant on SSJID water, due to issues with the City's wells. He stated that he anticipates the City of Lathrop will rely exclusively on SSJID water through next year. This water usage will not affect the District's water treatment plant capacity.

Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager:

- Mr. Lindley has been working on the continuing disclosure for the 2012 bonds in compliance with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12. When bonds are issued, this action is completed annually to provide financial information and material event notices to the public. District bonds will be paid off on October 1, 2019.
- Mr. Lindley will participate in a meeting with Jacobs Engineering on September 25 regarding the Water Master Plan and the District's 30-year financial projection model.
- Mr. Lindley has been working on the WTP budget development in preparation for discussion at the Operating Committee meeting to be held on October 7.
- During the leave of Ms. Troylene Saylor, SSJID Public Relations Director, Public Relations and Communications tasks are being conducted by a "team" including Ms. Robin Guintoli, SSJID Accounting and Customer Services Manager; Ms. Danielle Barney, SSJID Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board; Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager; and, Mr. Lindley.
- Mr. Michael O'Leary, SSJID IT Systems Administrator, is out of the office, this week of September 23, assisting at the Tri-Dam Shoreline Management Workshop in Tuolumne. Next week, Mr. O'Leary will be on vacation.
- Ms. Giuntoli sent out Requests for Proposals for a new auditor to five (5) firms. Mr. Lindley and Ms. Giuntoli have been vetting the proposals and anticipate a recommendation to the Board by the first SSJID Board meeting in October.
- Mr. Lindley has been assisting with finalizing the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement for SSJGSA.
- Mr. Lindley has been assisting on the new water supply agreement with the Cities of Escalon, Lathrop, Manteca and Tracy. An internal meeting will be held on September 30 to review the agreement. On October 7, the District will meet with all the cities to continue the agreement review process.

Frank Avila, Irrigation Operations Manager:

Water Department

- Woodward elevation is at 209.67. The inflows to the reservoir are 375 cfs.
- Interviews were conducted on September 18 and September 19 for the Ditch Tender/Maintenance open positions. Mr. Avila expressed that the outcome was very encouraging. SSJID will be sending formal job offers to five (5) individuals within the next couple of days.
- Flows are slow. There is expressed interest from customers and employees regarding the anticipated closing date of the 2019 water season.

Maintenance Department

- The Maintenance Department is currently short-staffed and remains busy maintaining the District's conveyance infrastructure. Ongoing projects are addressed, as time allows.

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- The Maintenance Department is preparing for winter projects. Preparation includes the removal of trees from district easements, and ordering pipe for the first pipe project this winter season.
- The Maintenance Department has been constructing a concrete walkway around the new locker building. This project is near completion.

Shop Department

- Shop crews are staying busy with fleet maintenance and fabrication tasks.
- The new locker room building structure is in place. SSJID's Telemetry electricians have connected electrical power to the building, and the locker banks are being installed. Still to complete are the installation of the electronic door locks, and the final building inspection. Mr. Avila invited the Board to tour the new locker room building.

MDC/Telemetry Department

- The Telemetry Department has completed the repairs on Well #100, with the pump back in operation.
- District crews have installed a new takeout on the pressurized system. SSJID has completed their portion of the work. The farmer needs to complete their portion of the connection and request water.
- Security cameras have been installed and are operational at Bob Jordan's facility. Mr. Avila receives alerts whenever motion is detected at the gated facility.

Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager:

Canyon Tunnel

- The additional geophysics work was completed last week and appears to have worked well, according to Condor's inspector. The purpose of the extra geophysics was to evaluate the extent of the hard base rock section that was discovered at the center of the proposed alignment. The width and length of the hard base rock section could affect the tunnel's alignment and the choice of machinery needed to construct it.
- A conference call with the Condor team is scheduled, for September 30, to review the results of all the geophysics work conducted to date.
- A decision of whether to supplement the extra geophysics work with an additional boring will be made following the meeting on September 30. An extra boring will likely result in a change order to cover the additional costs.

Beardsley Afterbay Project

- The contractor (SMCI) is still in the process of mobilizing to prepare for construction.
- The temporary job site trailer has been located onsite in the China Flat day use area.
- A majority of the construction submittals have been reviewed and approved.
- The Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be uploaded to the California State Water Resources Control Board website soon.
- Public access below the Beardsley Dam has been closed and will remain closed throughout construction.
- Rock is scheduled to be transported from the borrow site to the dam during the week of September 30.

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Water Master Plan

- Momentum related to the WMP development process continues to grow. Work has been focused on establishing a baseline for water use and identification of project alternatives.
- A draft letter to the Water Master Plan Grower Advisory Committee has been developed and will be distributed soon. The purpose of the letter is provide a status update and to inform the committee of potential meetings over the next several months. Currently, three (3) meetings are anticipated with this group.

Engineering Technician/GIS Specialist

- The Engineering Department has had an unfilled position for an Engineering Technician/GIS Specialist for nearly two years. Our GIS needs continue to grow and additional resources are needed to address the issue.
- During the recent interview process for the Engineering Technician/Facility Inspector position, it became apparent that the District might possess in-house talent that could qualify for the vacant GIS Specialist position.
- Within the next two (2) weeks, an internal application request for GIS Specialist will be released to further evaluate the possibility of filling the position with an in-house candidate.

Peter Rietkerk, General Manager:

Mr. Rietkerk reported on the following:

Water Resources:

- At the SSJGSA Board meeting on September 18, Mr. Nakagawa provided an update on efforts to finalize the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The 45-day draft GSP public comment review period closed on August 25. Multiple comments were submitted from non-governmental organizations. The ESJGWA member agencies have assembled a Public Comment Ad Hoc Committee to review and consider each public comment. The first meeting is scheduled today. Mr. Nakagawa is on the ad hoc committee and attending the meeting.
- The ESJGWA has a \$500k grant opportunity, with San Joaquin County (SJC) to pay the cost of the grant application fee from the SJC Water Investigation Zone 2 monies. Grant funds would be used towards the purchase of equipment for monitoring wells to address data gaps. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) mandates reported monitoring of identified wells for water levels, and identified wells for water quality. Mr. Rietkerk added that SJC monitors wells for a historical database of water fluctuations. There has been discussion of the County's need to redirect these funds for historical monitoring to SGMA related monitoring.
- November 20, 2019 – Anticipated date for the SSJGSA approval of the GSP.
- January 31, 2020 – ESJGWA deadline to submit the approved GSP to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Director Holmes added that the existing ESJGWA was established for the coordination and development of the GSP, but not implementation. Discussions still need to occur to implement projects to recharge groundwater to achieve sustainability by 2040, per SGMA requirements.

- The SSJGSA, including the City of Escalon, the City of Ripon and SSJID, was first established as a joint legal entity under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The member agencies of the SSJGSA have agreed to become separate legal entities as a Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The member agencies have collaborated on a draft JPA agreement, which is anticipated to present

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to the SSJID Board by the end of 2019. Discussions are forthcoming with DWR regarding the legalities of converting from a MOU to a JPA.

Public Relations:

- Mr. Rietkerk reminded the Board of upcoming events including:
 - EBMUD's 26th Annual Pardee BBQ on October 4. Deadline to RSVP is the day of this Board meeting. Contact Ms. Barney should you wish to attend.
 - SSJID will be hosting the annual Community Breakfast at the Manteca Senior Center on October 19. Formerly known as the Senior Breakfast, this event is now opened to all ages. Typically, SSJID Board members and staff have volunteered at the event to help serve meals, bus tables, clean up, and give back to our own local Manteca community. Mr. Rietkerk encouraged Board members to contact Ms. Barney if they are interested in volunteering.
- Mr. Rietkerk circulated, to the Board for viewing, multiple cards and notes received from community organizations thanking SSJID for their sponsorship donations of events.

General Manager's Report:

- Senate Bill (SB) 1 passed both the Assembly and Senate by September 14 and now awaits Governor Newsom's signature. Newsom has vowed to veto the bill, however environmental groups are lobbying the Governor to sign the bill, while at the same time showing concern for the current state of the voluntary agreement process. Copies of Governor Newsom letters, regarding "Voluntary Agreements Critical Concerns" have been attached to the General Manager's Report dated September 24, 2019.
- The California State Water Resources Control Board has released their initial draft of biological goals to guide implementation of the Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan. SSJID is currently reviewing the biological goals and plans on submitting comments as necessary.
- The District is currently developing its Fall Irrigation Newsletter. Due to limited staffing to assist with Public Relations efforts, the District will be issuing its Fall Newsletter with some modifications consisting of an abbreviated format and distribution as a "bill stuffer" included in the monthly bills. The monthly bills, including the Fall Irrigation Newsletter "bill stuffer," will be issued by the District at the beginning of October.

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #2 – Consider Award of Contract Award for the 2019 Cut-Down Pour Over Wall Project

Mr. Killingsworth provided the Board with background of this ongoing project, and the objective to lower the pour over walls to provide the minimum pressure needed to facilitate sprinkler irrigation. He explained that pour over walls are weirs in a pipeline control box structure that are used to elevate water levels to provide irrigation service. Mr. Killingsworth displayed a map of the twelve (12) project sites throughout the District. A Request for Proposal was sent out on August 7, with bids received from Arnaudo Construction, Inc. at \$85,600.00, and Machado and Sons Construction, Inc. at \$128,620.00. Upon review, staff recommends the Board award the contract to Arnaudo Construction, Inc.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Roos to award the contract for the 2019 Cut-Down Pour-Over Wall Modification Project to Arnaudo Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$85,600.00.

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The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KAMPER

Item #3 – Consider Approval of Service Abandonment Agreement Amendment for Thomas Oliveira (APN 245-120-35)

Mr. Killingsworth provided the Board with background information related to a request to amend a Service Abandonment Agreement (#1310) entered into by the previous owners, Brand and Janet Haskin, in 2002. The current owner, Thomas Oliveira, would like to amend the existing service abandonment agreement so that the property can be eligible to receive District water. The property is located near SSJID's Lateral "R," which exists slightly beyond the northeast corner of the subject property. Connection to the District's facility may require permission from an adjacent landowner to install private infrastructure across their property. It shall be the applicant's responsibility to acquire the necessary permission to install such facilities. Approval shall be subject to the terms and conditions specified in the revised policy entitled "Policy for Rescinding Irrigation Service Abandonment."

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Weststeyn to approve the Service Abandonment Agreement Amendment for Thomas Oliveira (APN 245-120-35).

The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KAMPER

Item #4 – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the End of the 2019 Irrigation Season

Mr. Rietkerk addressed the Board regarding the end of the 2019 irrigation season, and harvest status being a contributing factor of determination. He added that, typically, the end of irrigation season occurs around October 15 and is an element in projections for the following year's water supply. Also to be considered are operations and an appropriate date for transition to coincide with winter maintenance construction. Mr. Avila presented the Board with several date options for the end of the 2019 irrigation season, and details involved including the last run day, the last days for customers to receive water, and the final date that the Division Managers would lock the system for the season.

Discussion amongst the Board included the varying harvest schedules, weather predications, and the elevation at Woodward Reservoir. Based upon discussion and contributing factors, the Board concluded the end of the 2019 irrigation season will be October 24.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Weststeyn to announce the last day to run water for the 2019 irrigation season will be October 24, 2019.

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The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: HOLBROOK KAMPER

Item #5 – August 2019 Financial Statements

Mr. Lindley had no planned report to the Board but was available for questions. The Financial Statements for August 2019 were included in the agenda packet, Item #5.

Item #6 – August 2019 Investment Report

Mr. Lindley had no planned report to the Board but was available for questions. The Investment Report for August 2019 was included in the agenda packet, Item #6.

It was announced that all items in closed session would be discussed. The Board took a break at 10:45 a.m. and convened to closed session at 10:50 a.m.

Item #7 – Closed Session

7. a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
 Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
 - 2 cases
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
 Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of
 Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
 - 2 cases
- c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
 Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
 - 4 cases

*SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY, et al., vs. CALIFORNIA
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
County of Tuolumne Superior Court
Case No. CV62094*

*SSJID vs. PG&E
Appeal from Judgment of Dismissal Pending:
In the Court of Appeal for the State of California, Third Appellate District
Case No. C086319
Superior Court for San Joaquin County
Case No. STK-CV-UED-2016-0006638*

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PG&E vs. San Joaquin LAFCo; SSJID, Real Party in Interest
In the Court of Appeal for the State of California, Third Appellate District
Case No. C086008
Superior Court for San Joaquin County
Case No. STK-CV-UJR-2015-0001266

SSJID vs. Lakeview Ranch Partners
Superior Court for Stanislaus County
Case No. 2028441

The Board reconvened to open session at 11:35 a.m.

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1:
There were no reportable actions taken in closed-session.

Item #8 – ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Weststeyn to adjourn the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

The motion passed 3 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLMES ROOS WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	HOLBROOK KAMPER

ATTEST:

Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board