

SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

Board of Director's Board Meeting Minutes

October 25, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dan Rich	President
Manuel Zamorano	Vice President
Ted Costa	Director
Ken Miller	Director
Pam Tobin	Director

SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

Paul Helliker	General Manager
Donna Silva	Director of Finance
Tony Barela	Director of Operations
Andrew Pierson	Director of Engineering
Devon Barrett	Customer Service Manager
Adam Larsen	Field Services Manager
Greg Turner	Water Treatment Plant Manager
Teri Grant	Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant
Ryan Jones	General Counsel
Elizabeth Ewens	Water Counsel
Kristen Castanos	Water Counsel

OTHER ATTENDEES

Kelly	
Stacy Helliker	
User 1	
Roberta Manis	Customer
Alan Driscoll	Forsgren Associates Inc.
Brynn Jensen	Forsgren Associates Inc.
Craig Locke	Sacramento Suburban Water District
Mark Hargrove	SJWD Employee
Mike Spencer	SJWD Employee

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Roll Call**
- II. Public Forum and Comments**
- III. Consent Calendar**
- IV. Old Business**
- V. New Business**
- VI. Information Items**
- VII. Directors' Reports**
- VIII. Committee Meetings**
- IX. Upcoming Events**
- X. Adjourn**

President Rich called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

The Board Secretary took a roll call of the Board. The following directors were present: Ted Costa, Ken Miller, Dan Rich, Pam Tobin, and Manuel Zamorano.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no public comments.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

All items under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and are approved by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items unless a member of the Board, audience, or staff requested a specific item removed. Consent Calendar item documents are available for review in the Board packet.

1. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, September 27, 2023 (W & R)

Recommendation: Approve draft minutes

2. Treasurer's Report – Quarter Ending September 30, 2023 (W & R)

Recommendation: Receive and file

3. 2022/2023 Water Services Replacement Project (R)

Recommendation: To authorize and approve the award of a construction contract to apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the 2022/2023 Water Services Replacement Project

4. WTP Filter Backwash Hoods Rehabilitation Project (W)

Recommendation: To authorize and approve Amendment No. 1 for professional engineering services to Kennedy Jenks for the WTP Filter Backwash Hoods Rehabilitation Project

5. Bayside Fields Development Project (W)

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 23-10 accepting a dedicated waterline easement for a new pipeline and fire hydrant installation for the Bayside Fields development project, and authorize staff to accept and process the documents from the property owner

Director Tobin moved to approve the Consent Calendar. Vice President Zamorano seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Delinquent Account Collection Changes (R)

President Rich opened the Public Hearing at 6:02 p.m.

The Public Hearing was duly posted and published. There were no formal written comments received.

Mr. Barrett informed the Board that Ordinance 23-01 amends Ordinance No. 18000 which was outlined in his September staff report for the introduction of the ordinance. He explained that the revision to the ordinance is to introduce the property tax roll process as a means of collecting delinquencies.

There were no public comments.

President Rich closed the Public Hearing at 6:04 p.m.

Vice President Zamorano voiced his concern regarding the lien process and was not in favor of the process. Director Costa noted some concerns regarding shutting water off.

Mr. Barrett explained that prior to processing for tax liens, he would return for Board approval to place the delinquent accounts on the property tax rolls in the summer of each year. In addition, the process, including applying interest to the delinquent accounts, will be determined at a later date. In addition, Ms. Silva pointed out that this eliminates shutting off water as the delinquent accounts would be paid through the property tax liens. The Board discussed the shut off process and the lien process.

Director Tobin moved to waive the second reading of Ordinance No. 23-01 and adopt Ordinance No. 23-01 – An Ordinance of the Board of Directors of the San Juan Water District Amending Section 3.5 of Ordinance No. 18000, and to approve revisions to Board Policy No. FIN-5.10 Disconnection of Residential Water Service for Nonpayment Policy. Director Miller seconded the motion and it carried with 4 Aye votes and one No vote (Zamorano).

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Proposed ACWA Board Policies (W)

GM Helliker reviewed the staff report which was included in the Board packet. He specifically called out the red-line version of the policy with the recommended revisions that he and Mr. Zlotnick made to the policy.

Director Tobin voiced concern regarding presenting a resolution to ACWA and indicated that the meeting is a discussion item at tomorrow's ACWA meeting. In response to President Rich's question, she informed the Board that she did not agree with the staff recommendations and felt that they were demands and that a resolution was inappropriate. GM Helliker stated that there are members of the workgroup that agree with the edits and the reason to take action today was to provide the Board's position regarding the ACWA policy revisions.

President Rich moved to adopt Resolution 23-11 in opposition to certain proposed amendments to ACWA Board Policies GO-2.1(A), GO-2.9 and GO-2.10. Vice President Zamorano seconded the motion and it carried with 4 Aye votes and one No vote (Tobin).

2. Conjunctive Use and Groundwater Banking Activities Update (W & R)

GM Helliker reported that the 2x2 Ad Hoc Committee meeting with Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) met last night and discussed two topics: Regional ASR Project Development and Water Accounting Framework in SGA Eastern Unit.

GM Helliker reported that he has attempted, to no avail, to set up meetings regarding a joint permit for aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells. He stated that, at the meeting, FOWD expressed an interest to meet regarding the joint permit. President Rich commented that they still need to figure out which agencies are interested in participating in a joint permit for the ASR wells then they can figure out the cost sharing.

GM Helliker reported that the committee discussed the current banking program that exists with the Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA). He stated that SGA reported in the spring that up to 400,000 acre-feet of water was banked. Water supplies from the District and Placer County Water Agency were delivered to Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) that accounted for most of this banked water. He reviewed the Groundwater Banking/Conjunctive Use Protocols – SGA Area which showed various items for the Central Unit, the Eastern Unit, and the RWA Proposal.

GM Helliker explained that the situation at hand is that there is no water that has been accounted for as banked in our wholesale service area. He explained that the groundwater level is well above the new regulatory limit – the minimum threshold – that is in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan. He explained that, under RWA’s proposal, they want to require recharge before recovery which would not allow for District water transfers or other types of recovery. He voiced concern that RWA does not have a method to quantify and amount of banked water in the District’s wholesale service area. President Rich commented that RWA projects that they will have a proposal for a water accounting framework in five months. Director Costa voiced concern that the water that SSWD has banked might be at issue with regard to the accounting framework.

3. 2023 Hydrology and Operations Update (W & R)

GM Helliker reviewed data which included the current reservoir storage levels across the state, data on releases, temperature and precipitation outlooks, and storage levels and projections at Folsom Reservoir.

GM Helliker reviewed the drought forecast, which showed this region to be in normal conditions. He informed the Board that Folsom Reservoir is projected to be at 519,000 acre feet by the end of December.

GM Helliker informed the Board that there has been an issue with dissolved oxygen at the hatchery and Lake Natoma. He explained that this means that the oxygen level is about 5 milligrams per liter which is very low for the fish to breathe. He stated that Reclamation is working to solve the problem.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Strategic Plan Update Process (W & R)

GM Helliker reviewed the staff report which was included in the Board packet. He proposed that staff review the Strategic Plan and develop recommended edits in a draft update which would be brought to the Board for discussion at the December 13 meeting. He explained that the input from the Board would then be incorporated in the Plan and staff would bring a final update of the Plan to the Board at its January 24, 2024, meeting. The Board agreed with this process.

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

1.1 General Manager’s Monthly Report (W & R)

GM Helliker provided the Board with a written report for September which was included in the Board packet.

1.2 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

In response to Director Miller's question, GM Helliker reported that Citrus Heights Water District has responded to the District's Public Records Request, for records related to a survey that they conducted, four times over the past six weeks informing us that they needed more time to gather the information. GM Helliker informed the Board that the latest response indicated that the records would be available next week or so. Legal Counsel Jones suggested that the District wait until this next deadline to see if the records are provided before going to the next step in obtaining them.

2. DIRECTOR OF FINANCE'S REPORT

2.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

Ms. Silva reported that she received the ACWA JPIA liability insurance invoice which was about \$53,000 over their projection, while the other insurance invoices fell within the budget. She explained that should be covered with savings in other areas in the budget. In response to President Rich's question, Ms. Silva informed the Board that the JPIA refund check is determined on the premiums set versus the District's claims, and that she is hopeful that there will be refund checks in the future.

3. DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

3.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

Mr. Barela reported that the Chlorine Emergency Response Exercises are being conducted at the District, he shared some pictures and explained the training exercise. He explained that there are three training exercises scheduled with the first one being conducted this morning in coordination with South Placer Fire District and Roseville Fire Department. The next trainings are scheduled for October 27 and November 3, 2023.

4. DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES' REPORT

4.1 Miscellaneous District Issues and Correspondence

No report.

5. LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

5.1 Legal Matters

No report.

VIII. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

1. SACRAMENTO GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (SGA)

Director Costa reported that SGA met on October 12th.

2. REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY (RWA)

President Rich reported that Jim Peifer and Trevor Joseph from RWA attended the 2x2 Ad Hoc Committee meeting with Fair Oaks Water District last night and gave an update on the water accounting framework.

3. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA)

3.1 ACWA - Pam Tobin

Director Tobin reported that she attended the State Board workshop on conservation standards to provide testimony as ACWA President on October 4th. She stated that she believes that the State Board realizes that they have a problem and anticipates that they will be addressing a lot of the issues. She informed the Board that the State Board will be responding to all of the comment letters that they received. GM Helliker stated that he was told that 400 comment letters were received.

Director Tobin reported that ACWA has been working on the Bay Delta Plan update, climate resiliency bond, and water rights under SB 389. In addition, they are working on the zero emissions on vehicles through the Energy Committee, testing for lead in drinking water, SB 3 regarding discontinuation of water service, and the Quench California program.

Director Tobin reminded the Board about the ACWA Fall Conference on November 28-30, 2023. In addition, she mentioned the Region 6-7 event and encouraged the Board to participate in future region events.

3.2 Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) - Pam Tobin

Director Tobin informed the Board that she does not expect ACWA JPIA to issue any refund checks under the liability policies this year.

3.3 Energy Committee - Ted Costa

Director Costa informed the Board that he would not be attending the ACWA Fall Conference and therefore will not be attending the Energy Committee meeting. In addition, he stated that he did not request to be on the committee again next year.

4. CVP WATER USERS ASSOCIATION

Director Costa reported that CVP Water Users Association meets October 30, 2023.

5. OTHER REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS

Director Tobin reported that Sacramento LAFCo meets in November.

IX. COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1. Finance Committee – October 17, 2023

The committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet.

2. Engineering Committee – October 18, 2023

The committee meeting minutes were included in the Board packet.

At 7:30 p.m., President Rich announced that the Board was adjourning to Closed Session.

X. CLOSED SESSION

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2) - one case

2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Section 54956.9)

Citrus Heights Water District, et al. vs. San Juan Water District, Case Number: 23WM000080, Sacramento County Superior Court

XI. OPEN SESSION

The Board gave direction to Legal Counsel.

XII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

DAN RICH, President
Board of Directors
San Juan Water District

ATTEST: _____
TERI GRANT, Board Secretary