

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

October 11, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in regular session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 11th day of October 2023, at 9 a.m.

Present were Karen Hull, President (Division III) Rich Johansen, Vice President (Division V), and Directors Ricki Heck (Division I); Chris Bierwagen (Division II); and Trevor Caulder (Division IV).

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Hull called the meeting to order
- President Hull led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 5 Members Present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Matthew Coulter, member of the public, addressed the Board with his concerns about the condition of waterways

SPECIAL ORDERS

RETIREMENT PRESENTATION

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; and the Board recognized the following retiree:

- Stu Uchida (Resolution 2023-41 - Resolution of Appreciation upon Retirement)

The meeting recessed at 9:16 a.m. and reconvened at 9:31 a.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Public Comment: None

October 11, 2023

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS - RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR DEAN RUTTER

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-44 (Resolution of Appreciation - Dean Rutter.

M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.

WARRANTS, PROJECT AND FACILITY REPORT, AND INVESTMENT REPORT

Ratified the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check registers, the Project and Facility Report, and the Investment Transaction Report for the period of September 16, 2023 through September 29, 2023. M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.

GENERAL ORDERS

COMBIE SOUTH AND DEER CREEK POWERHOUSE POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS

Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding the term, no CPI increase, overall strategy, and FERC.

Public Comment: None

Approved a contract for the sale of Portfolio Content Category 1 Product Resource Contingent Bundled Renewable Energy Credits and a contract for the sale of Designated Resource Adequacy Capacity of RA Attributes, Local RA Attributes, and if applicable, Flexible RA Attributes from the Combie South Powerhouse and Deer Creek Powerhouses, and authorize the General Manager to execute the necessary documents including any non-substantive modifications as may be approved by NID's General Counsel. M/S/C Heck/Johansen, unanimously approved.

AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2023 CIP BUDGET

Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding disencumbering funds, rollovers, clean-up items, budget planning, and appreciation for work done.

Public Comment: None

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-46, authorizing an amendment to the FY 2023 CIP Budget to disencumber CIP funding in the amount of \$8.69 million. M/S/C Johansen /Bierwgen, unanimously approved.

October 11, 2023

HEMPHILL DIVERSION FISH PASSAGE PROJECT (PROJECT #7032)

Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding Class A and B rock, the estimated total project cost, fish counts, reason work is needed, and examples of this type of work.

Public Comment:

- Matthew Coulter, member of the public, inquired about the 40% contingency and voiced his concerns regarding the contractor used

Adopted Resolution No. 2023-45, approving the following:

- 1. Amendment of the 2023 Annual Budget to increase the budget for the Hemphill Diversion Fish Passage Project in the amount of \$259,493**
- 2. Approve a construction contract with C&D Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$116,232, plus a 40% contingency (\$46,493)**
- 3. Approve change order for Westcon Construction in the amount of \$52,168**
- 4. Authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents**

M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved

WORKSHOP ITEMS

2024 OPERATING BUDGET WORKSHOP

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, presented the item.

Board input and discussion ensued regarding:

- State's new recommendation on water use & strategy for revenue recovery
- Rate setting and Prop 218 process
- Possibility of monthly billing for ag water
- Capital projects for 2024 and 5-yr / 10-yr CIPs
- Upcoming Hydroelectric Finances Presentation
- Recreation presentation, rates, and credit card fees
- Non-payment, notices and shut-offs
- Common utility practices related to non-payment
- Listing items pulled from Capital Projects
- Assessment Districts
- FERC license, relicensing & requirements
- Understanding Hydro and utilizing Hydro for offsets
- Budgeting for grant writing consultant
- Discussion regarding an Adopt-a-Canal program
- Appreciation expressed for work done and clarity of presentation
- No budget in 2024 for PG&E water

Public Comment: None

October 11, 2023

SMARTSVILLE IRRIGATION SYSTEM END OF LIFE EXPECTANCY

Chip Close, Director of Water Operations, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding:

- Number of customers hooked up to the system
- Anticipate that five customers will experience a \$10-\$15 monthly increase, and the largest water-user will increase approximately \$100 monthly.
- Types of tanks at the water treatment plant
- Town Canal and Meade Canal feed into the Smartsville Treatment Plant
- Annual savings
- Notifying customers and allowing time
- Pros and cons to current customers
- Options available
- Abandoning easements
- Abandoning the pipeline, not the canal feeding it
- Board consensus was obtained, and direction was provided to staff to move forward

Public Comment: None

BOARD POLICY 3200 – CLAIMS AGAINST THE DISTRICT

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding the Board's confidence in staff to make decisions, processes in place, small claims, notification, and communication. Board direction was given to staff to bring the item forward for consideration at a future meeting as a Consent item.

Public Comment: None

Board input was provided, and direction was given to bring the item back to the Board at a future Board meeting for consideration.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, reported on the following items:

- Update regarding the draft staff report for the proposed Bay-Delta basin plan
- SB389 - State Water Resources Control Board: investigation of water right has become law

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

Director Heck, Division I, reported on the following items:

- Attended recent Sierra Harvest luncheon
- Commented on PG&E signage noticed during a recent hike near the headwaters of the Bear River

October 11, 2023

Director Johansen, Division V, reported on the following items:

- Attended recent Sierra Harvest luncheon
- Attended Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting – Annual Dinner coming up
- Announced the RCD Annual dinner is coming up this month
- Attended Bridgeport dinner last weekend and shared highlights, including folks encouraging the District to join Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
- Expressed his appreciation for the District for doing a great job on irrigation this year

Director Caulder, Division IV, reported on the following items:

- Briar Patch opened in Auburn
- Placer County Farm Bureau Harvest Hoedown on October 21st

Director Bierwagen, Division II, reported on the following items:

- Has been busy with the pumpkin patch

Director Hull, Division III, reported on the following items:

- Attending the Placer County Farm Bureau's Harvest Hoedown October 21st
- American Association of University of Women's event on October 21st, where Sierra Nevada Conservancy will talk about their work in Sierra Nevada, efforts regarding fire safety, and climate readiness plan
- Providing a presentation for the American Association of University of Women on the District's Plan for Water and long-term planning efforts, along with Director Heck, on November 18th

Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance, announced that the District was participating today at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in the California Education Initiative event.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:05 p.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Submitted By



Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary