

Manteca, California  
January 13, 2015

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in regular session in their chambers at the hour of 9:00 a.m. President Roos called the meeting to order and led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS  
ABSENT: NONE

Also present were General Manager Jeff Shields, General Counsel Steve Emrick, Engineering Department Manager Sam Bologna, Finance and Administration Manager Bere Lindley and Interim Executive Secretary Dawn Driesen.

**Public Comment** - None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Approval of Warrants in the amount of \$1,500,223.97; payroll from December 26, 2014 thru January 9, 2015 in the amount of \$356,841.50.
- B. Approval of the Special Board Meeting minutes of December 10, 2014 and December 16, 2014.
- C. Approval of Consent to SSJID's Entry of Property to Read and to Maintain Flow Meter, Julie Barron, Everado R. Barron and Maria C. Barron, APN 249-190-20.
- D. Approval of Consent to SSJID's Entry of Property to Read and to Maintain Flow Meter, Don and Marie Freitas, APN 226-110-19.

Director Kamper noted that Item #3 of the December 16, 2014 minutes should read that Director Roos left the meeting for that item due to conflict and the vote should be 4-0 with Director Roos being absent.

A motion was made by Director Kuil and seconded by Director Holbrook to accept the Consent Calendar with the corrections being made to the December 16, 2014 minutes and passed 5 to 0 by the following roll call vote:

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

## **ACTION CALENDAR**

### **Item #1 – Review Board Committee Appointments.**

Director Kamper moved to authorize Vice President Holmes to make committee and other assignments. Motion was seconded by Director Holbrook. Changes made by Director Holmes were as follows:

Tri-Dam Project & Tri-Dam Power Authority – Alternate Holmes

Equipment – Alternate Holmes

SJ County Advisory Water Commission – Alternate Kuil

Water Conservation Incentive Plan will now fall under the Special Committee Agricultural Water Issues.

### **Item #6 – Consider 2015 Water Year outlook and District water use.**

Mr. Shields gave the following report:

Mr. Shields stated that we continue to be in a drought situation even with the rain last month. He stated that December was an exceptional month with 7.25 inches at Beardsley compared to “normal” precipitation of 5.85 inches. The average year to date (water year starting October 1<sup>st</sup>) for Beardsley is 12.72 inches and we are at 11.12 inches which is 88% of normal. The good news is we were only at 3.58 inches last year.

Snow data shows water content is about 50% of average which, again, is far better than last year when we were at 20% of average. While ahead of last year, the January snow survey recorded only 21.3 inches of snow level for this time of year.

On January 11<sup>th</sup>, New Melones Reservoir had 555,176 AF in storage. This compares to 1,050,920 AF on the same date in 2014 and a normal year of 1,396,155 AF. Year to date inflow at New Melones is 112,000 AF which is 65% of average for this date (average is 172,000 AF).

It appears that we are running a surplus of between 3,086 AF to as much as 4,066 AF in storage at Woodward Reservoir above what will allow repairs to the air intake screens. We have scheduled the replacement of the upper intake screens for March 1<sup>st</sup> and need to bring the lake level down to 191 ft. elevation. The options are to hire divers to do this work, or spill the surplus water if we find a buyer in which case we can have our crews do the work. One of the benefits of the first storm of the season is that it went right up the valley and dumped a lot of rain in Woodward Reservoir. That storm was good for groundwater recharge, but did very little for the upper Stanislaus Basin. Ripon received 3.39 inches of rain that first storm and Beardsley only received 0.4 inches. Manteca precipitation is currently 75% of average at 5.57 inches for the water year (Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>) compared to 7.44 inch average.

### **Item #2 – Consider amending policy for Amended Service Abandonment Agreements regarding the one year notification period.**

Director Roos said he had a conflict and left the meeting for this item. Mr. Bologna said that we currently have 13 properties that are affected by the one year waiting period for District water. Mr. Emrick explained that he assumes this rule was put into place to discourage people from

signing out of the District, but hasn't worked as intended because it was not enforced until recently. Director Holbrook stated that he would rather have people pay for the previous two years' parcel charges plus the current year instead of having the one year waiting period. Mr. Emrick stated that an increase in the fees could not be retroactive and could only pertain to people signing back on from the approval point forward. A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Kuil to remove the one year waiting period from the Amended Service Abandonment Policy for new and existing agreements and bring back the policy for the fee structure at a later meeting. Motion passed 3 to 1 as follows:

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

Director Roos returned to the meeting.

**Item 3 – Consider authorizing staff to initiate protest process to increase Division 9 pressurization rates.**

Mr. Shields stated that at the December Board Meeting, the Board directed staff to bring back a proposal for the pressurization rate structure that includes capital and operations costs. He also stated that the project has saved a substantial amount of water since it has been in operation which has helped us through the drought and has made more water available for transfers in abundant years.

Mr. Lindley presented the Board with options to modify the rates to reflect the operations and maintenance actual cost for running the Division 9 Pressurized System. He explained that the costs included are incremental and caused by operating the system. Not included in the cost is the allocation of administrative time, IT support or any financial benefits to the District as a direct result of the project, i.e. selling of water that was ultimately saved by the system.

Director Holbrook stated that there are sprinkler systems throughout the District that are saving water also. He suggested going ahead with the \$55/AF and reevaluate the costs again in 5 years.

Director Kamper said that private sprinkler systems are saving water and also paying for the pumping costs, etc. He believes the District should charge the Division 9 area for exactly what they are getting.

Mr. Bologna stated that the District is now spilling less water because of this system and that area is saving 10" more than anywhere else in the District primarily due to the flexibility of service. Since this was a pilot project the District structured the fees to cover the energy costs to run the system and those costs are being recouped.

Director Holmes stated that the Finance Committee met on this issue and agreed to move forward with the cost increase and hearing. He also stated that the District should be transparent and keep the owners well informed of the costs.

A motion was made by Director Kamper and seconded by Director Holbrook to initiate the Prop 218 process to increase the rates within the Division 9 Pressurized System area to \$55/AF with cost of living increases. Motion passed 5 to 0 as follows:

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

**Item #4 – Consider conceptual approval of potential transfer of a portion of Hall Drain.**

Mr. Bologna stated that staff brought this item to the Board at the December meeting. Two people, Bavaro and McKinsey, would like to eliminate the Hall Drain. Bavaro has already filled in the portion within his area. The District has no record of easements for this area, but has been maintaining the drain. If the District does recommend transferring the drain, he recommends that an agreement be drafted that indemnifies the District.

Director Kamper stated that he and Director Holmes visited the site and they both were concerned about drainage during a significant storm. Their thought was that it looks as if the water from Bavaro’s property would drain to McKinsey’s.

Mr. Bologna said that drainage has been an issue in this area in the past.

Mr. Emrick said he would like staff to make sure there is no need for the drain and to make sure the District is protected if they abandon the drain.

Director Holmes directed staff to research the area and to bring both requests back to the Board with their findings.

**Item # 5 – Authorize approval of Improvement Plans, Developers Agreement and Final Map for Crivello Estates.**

Mr. Bologna said that Crivello Estates is located off of Louise Ave. and consists of approximately 9 acres. The plans call for sealing a District control box and filling the pipeline. They will also remove a private valve that previously served the property. Storm water will ultimately discharge into Drain 3 from this area. A motion was made by Director Kuil and seconded by Director Kamper to approve Crivello Estates based on the recommendations made by staff. Motion passed 5 to 0 as follows:

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

**Item #7 – Communications**

Director Kamper

- Nothing to report.

Director Holmes

- Nothing to report.

Director Holbrook

- It was nice to see how much staff appreciated the time off during the holidays.

Director Kuil

- There is no groundwater meeting this month.

Director Roos

- He will be attending the U.S.B.R. Water Users Conference is next week along with Directors Kuil and Holbrook.

Ed Erisman, Water Treatment Plant Manager

- The State Water Board has approved a new regulation and established a Statewide General NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permit for Water System Dischargers. The new permit requirement was adopted in November and goes into effect Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The permit application and annual fee of \$2,062 is due by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. The permit covers planned and un-planned discharges of drinking water from our system. Planned discharges can be from flushing activities to maintain water quality or tank draining for inspection and maintenance. Un-planned activities would be emergency leaks or breaks. Before this Statewide General Permit was approved discharges such as these were covered under a blanket permit for public water utilities. The new permit requirements will require every public water utility to get an individual permit and pay an annual fee. He will update the Board on our progress with this permit application process.
- The Waste Discharge Permit that we applied for last year to pump our Citric Cleaning Waste Water to our on-site storm water ponds has been very beneficial to the WTP operations. In addition, it eliminates the need to haul almost one million gallons of waste to the Escalon Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). We recently learned that the facilities at Escalon WWTP have been closed down and are not accepting anymore waste. If we had not gone through this permit process we would have had to haul all of this waste to the City of Tracy WWTP which would have more than doubled the hauling costs. The quarterly set of sample results has been sent to the SWRCB for final evaluation of our initial permit. The Water Board has the option now to reduce the amount of samples required for this pumping to the storm water basin. If they deem the results favorable enough to not degrade ground water quality. He will keep the Board informed on the progress of these permit conditions and the ultimate savings for last year's pumping versus hauling.
- Quarterly recovery cleans were completed in December. The V4 modules continue to perform very well. The permeability recovery was very good indicating a lack of hard fouling that needed to be removed from the fibers and the Transmembrane Pressures (TMP) continue to run quite low.

Don Battles, Utility Systems Director

- Nothing to report.

Bere Lindley, Finance and Administration Manager

- The document management project that was started in 2013 will resume this year. This project is budgeted for 2015 and we have a quote for \$17,080 from Diane Gladwell consisting of the following:
  1. Create a records retention schedule and policy. This will be brought back to the Board for approval and resolution.
  2. Meet with staff for training and to develop standards.
  3. Clean up “horse barn”. Two temporary employees will be hired and trained to go through the documents.
- Walt Luihn, District Safety and Compliance Officer, is doing a great job. He has taken initiative to resume the safety program in a very diligent way. He has been visiting work crews, making sure proper safety vests are being worn, and done ladder and harness inspections. He is also working on the chemical and hazardous waste issues. Mr. Lindley said we don’t spend enough time praising people when they do a good job and he thought Mr. Luihn deserved to be recognized.
- The front office will be recruiting a new accounting clerk soon. We want to be able to cross train this person to be able to work all aspects of the department. We hope to advertise within the next week.
- The Water Treatment Plant fiscal year budget is going to get underway as it needs to be presented to the Cities by March.

Communications

- The Crab Feed for the Boys and Girls Club is this Saturday. Mr. Bologna and Directors Holbrook and Roos plan on attending.

Sam Bologna, Engineering Department Manager

- The Conservation Program has committed \$236,419 and paid \$192,024.
- On January 12, he met with the City of Manteca along with Joe Catanzarite, Keith Saucedo and Jerry Donahue regarding the City’s Family Entertainment Zone Project. This project affects the FCOC and they discussed sizing and capacity needs.
- Meeting with the City of Manteca on January 14 regarding the Zone 39.
- Staff is working on revising the Application for Annexation to coincide with the policy. The Voortman Annexation can proceed once a payment of \$1,500 is made by Voortman to the Board of Equalization.
- The Engineering and Water Departments have been working together on the installation of float devices on various laterals.
- TID has a group of people who will be touring the Division 9 Project on Friday.

Jeff Shields, General Manager

- State Water Resources Control Board has started Board briefings on the proposed release of the Supplemental Environmental Document (SED) for the proposed Water Quality Control Plan. The plan is rumored to call for 35%-40% of unimpaired flow on the Tuolumne, Merced and Stanislaus Rivers. Nothing new in all of this from what we had previously heard and testified to except that the WQCP was initially to be released last

fall, but was put off while the SWB dealt with the Drought and Emergency Curtailment orders.

- The SJTA Commissioners will meet tomorrow morning in Turlock to discuss a coordinated response to the WQCP (although that is not on their agenda). Also discussed, will be authorizing a new Executive Director position. Merced's GM has informed Mr. Shields that he and TID are prepared to move forward and he believes Modesto will join them to hire someone outside the SJTA if the rest vote against it.
- Mr. Shields handed out the Bureau of Reclamation's Revised Plan of Operations (RPO) for the Stanislaus. This plan was not designed to meet the WQCP, but it effectively does that by committing about 35% of the average annual runoff in most years. The RPO violates OID/SSJID's water rights and the 1988 Stipulation and Agreement in two fundamental ways. First, it assumes the Districts only use the historical average amount of water that we have diverted under our rights and ignores the fact that we have 600,000 AF of diversion rights. Secondly, the RPO completely ignores the Districts' Conservation Account. The RPO give SEWD and Central a limited supply and only when NM is above 1.4MAF. Between 1.4-1.8MAF the Contractors would get 49TAF for Ag and no M&I water. Above 1.8MAF, the Contractors will get 155TAF.
- The ESJGBA meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> is canceled.
- Mr. Shields offered the Board tickets to the Superbowl Omelet Breakfast.
- Meetings with SJTSP continue.
- CMUA dues are \$5,691 (7.5% increase); the new Director for Water, Danielle Blacet, wants to schedule a time to come for an office visit; CMUA Capitol Day is Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Sheraton Grant in Sacramento from 10:30a.m. to 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$130.
- Mr. Shields handed out the 2015 Emergency On-Call List.

It was announced that items 8 a & d would be discussed in Closed Session.

**Item #8 – Closed Session**

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9  
- 1 case
- d. Conference with Real Property Negotiator  
Property: Water  
Agency Negotiator: Jeff Shields, General Manager  
Negotiating Parties: District and Stockton East Water District, District and Semitropic Water Storage District, District and Westlands Water District  
Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment

Upon their return from closed session, it was announced that no reportable action was taken.

**ITEM #13 – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Director Kuil and seconded by Director Holmes to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5 to 0 as follows:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Driesen, Interim Executive Secretary