

# NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES

May 10, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in special session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 10th day of May 2022, at 3 p.m.

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

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Doug Roderick, Engineering Manager; Chip Close, Water Operations Manager; Keane Sommers, Hydroelectric Manager; Steve Prosser, Maintenance Manager; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

#### STANDING ORDERS

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

#### DISTRICT FINANCED WATERLINE EXTENSION (DFWLE) PROGRAM PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS

Doug Roderick, Engineering Manager and Shannon Wood, Business Services Technician, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Financing options
- Strategic goals
- Including discussion of the DFWLE Program during the Strategic Planning stage of the Plan for Water process
- Assessment Districts and Community Financed Districts
  - o Administrating responsibilities
  - o Associated costs
  - o Formation processes
- Four groups currently on the DFWLE project list – Discussion ensued about keeping the program as is for these groups and looking into other potential options
- The item will be brought back to the Board at a future meeting

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Public Comment:

- Greg Freitas, participant of Maranantha Place DFWLE, addressed the Board regarding prepaid application fees and good faith deposit, the need for District financing component to make the program work, and urged the Board to move forward with the program including the current funding component

The meeting recessed at 3:59 p.m. and reconvened at 4:05 p.m.

PLAN FOR WATER MATRIX AND PROCESS CHECK-IN

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, opened the workshop, provided a brief review of the Plan for Water matrix, and the following updates:

- Status of facilitator
- Report on Meeting targets
- Plan for Water calendar on the website with 3-month look ahead
- June Workshop to include setting expectations for Strategic Planning Sessions

Public Comment:

- Dianna Suarez, resident of Colfax, commented regarding using a neutral facilitator

PLAN FOR WATER - WEST CONSULTANTS, INC. PROPOSAL

Doug Roderick, Engineering Manager, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding:

- Scope, potential strategies, and including Tribal knowledge in strategies and the larger management plan
- All relevant information to be provided to consultant
- Positive feedback received on the team that was developed

The item will be presented to the Board for approval at the May 11<sup>th</sup> regular Board meeting.

Public Comment:

- Barbara Bashall, with Nevada County Contractors Association, shared with the Board that she was pleased to participate in this process and of the team that has been put together, and spoke in support of the item as the product will be a very useful tool and encouraged the Board to approve the contract
- Melinda Booth, with South Yuba River Citizens League, expressed her appreciation for being included in the process where she was able to hear from the consultants, and supports the proposal as presented

PLAN FOR WATER WORKSHOP - WATER STAGE 3: WATERSHED

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item and Neysa King, Environmental Resources Administrator, and Cameron Townsend, Environmental Resources Technician, provided a presentation.

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Board discussion ensued regarding:

- Watershed, source areas, and service area
- Potential partnering on larger watershed management plan
- Climate and precipitation trends
- Overview of District watersheds shown on Google Earth

Public Comment:

- Stewart Feldman, member of the public:
  - o Inquired if PG&E is partnering on watershed management with NID
  - o Expressed his appreciation for the presentation and thought it was excellent
- Gary Griffith, member of Wolf Creek Community Alliance:
  - o Collaboration with NID to restore service area watershed
  - o Canals and water conveyances that pass through the Wolf Creek Watershed
  - o Expressed confidence that the Plan for Water will include support for all watersheds
  - o
- Bruce Herring, member of the public, asked if the District would be leading a public tour of the restoration efforts at English Meadow this summer
- Dan Macon, Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor:
  - o Appropriate grazing depends on the goals on a particular site
  - o Sometimes higher density grazing can be appropriate
  - o USFS has well-developed standards and guides directing its grazing programs - standards and guides that protect water quality, habitat values, etc.
- Joy Waite, member of the public, requested clarification of District-owned lands indicated on the map
- Miriam Limov, Sierra Harvest Nevada County Food Policy Council:
  - o Expressed appreciation of the District's efforts of caring for the health of the watersheds that supply farmers and ranchers with water so that they may provide food for our community
  - o Environmental stewardship efforts help strengthen our local food system so that we may be more food secure during challenging times such as the pandemic
- Carol McMillan, member of the public:
  - o Read recent green waste disposal results were sent to a biomass plant in Lincoln
  - o Inquired if there are local synergies possible here

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- Otis Wollan, resident of Colfax:
  - o Expressed appreciation to the District for working towards healthy watershed management
  - o Realities to consider if looking out 50 years
  - o Regarding to the consultant contract, inquired about the ability to change the model to expand to source water, storage facilities, etc.
  - o Asked if the District is prepared to expand its newly emerging watershed stewardship business
  - o Commented on NID's projection for this Drum-SpaULDing divestment by PG&E

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:06 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, 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

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