

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

October 25, 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 25th day of October 2023, at 9 a.m.

Present were Karen Hull, President (Division III) and 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; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; 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**

- None

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, pulled the following item from the agenda and shared that it would likely be rescheduled for December:

- Item 6A: Hydroelectric Finances

**SPECIAL ORDERS**

**RETIREMENT PRESENTATION**

Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems, recognized the following retiree:

- Dean Rutter (Resolution No. 2023-44 – Resolution of Appreciation upon Retirement)

The meeting recessed at 9:10 a.m. and reconvened at 9:15 a.m.

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INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Allison Kaune with PFM Asset Management, who provided a presentation for the Investment Performance Review for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2023.

Board discussion ensued as follows:

- Factoring in increasing credit card debt
- Labor Market: Government hiring and growing labor market in ag community
- Turmoil in the Middle East factoring into energy prices
- How feds exclude energy and food
- Interest rates and global influences
- Thanked consultant for the work they are doing

Public Comment:

- None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Public Comment: None

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING ON OCTOBER 10, 2023

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

MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 11, 2023

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

BOARD POLICY 3200 - CLAIMS AGAINST THE DISTRICT

**Adopted a resolution amending Policy 3200 - Claims Against the District. M/S/C M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.**

BEAUCHAINE CONSULTING ACCOUNTING SERVICES CONTRACT AMENDMENT

**Approved amendment of the consultant services contract with Beauchaine Consulting Group, LLC, in the amount of \$35,000 for a total contract authorization of \$235,000 for the initial one-year term (ending December 31, 2023) and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. 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 30 through October 13, 2023. M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.**

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## **GENERAL ORDERS**

### **LABOR CONTRACT – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES LOCAL 146, AFL-CIO REGARDING WAGES, HOURS, AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND BENEFIT AND COMPENSATION PLANS**

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding:

- COLA increases
- Class A pay and insurance
- Market salary survey
- The District's employee retention rate
- Vacation caps and payouts
- Removal of Health Reimbursement Accounts
- Clerical update on the last column of the table on Page 10 to reflect totals as 3,4 & 5
- Adding Customer Service Administrator to the Appendix
- Remove Appendix B
- Possible future Wellness Program
- Current number of represented employees
- Messaging regarding new MOU
- Progress made and employee longevity
- Turnover and retention
- GovInvest
- Legal firm utilized
- Expressed appreciation to staff for work done

Public Comment: None

**Adopted a resolution authorizing the ratification of the 2024 – 2026 Memorandum of Understanding Between the Nevada Irrigation District and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Local 146, authorizing changes in wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment for represented employees, and authorized the General Manager to execute all necessary documentation and make minor grammatical adjustments as needed. M/S/C Bierwagen/Heck, unanimously approved.**

The meeting recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

## **WORKSHOP ITEMS**

### **FLEET MANAGEMENT**

Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance, introduced Jonathan Hoover, Equipment Mechanic Supervisor – Maintenance Department/Shop Operations, who provided an informational presentation on Fleet Management.

Board discussion and input:

- Carb rules in place and upcoming regulations
- Recently purchased dump trucks
- Fuel distribution systems
- Hydrogen vehicles/equipment
- Amount of power needed to charge vehicles
- Considering collaborations for charging station infrastructure
- 2023 purchases made for tools and vehicles
- Scoring/calculations
- Slide 19 is a snapshot of a portion of the fleet
- Auctioning off old equipment
- Short timelines and staying in compliance
- Expressed appreciation for staff's work on the analysis
- Impact new regulations have on the District's budget and water rates
- Certified mechanics and warranty work
- Lithium batteries

Public Comment:

- None

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

- South Yuba Canal is likely to close this week
- A status hearing with the Administrating Hearing Officer is scheduled for this Thursday
- Nevada County Farm Bureau Membership Dinner on Nov. 11th

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS**

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

- No Report

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

- No Report

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

- Attended the RCD Dinner
- Mandarins not ready

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

- Met with Barbara Bashall with the Nevada County Contractors' Association
- NID participation with trades programs & voiced her support for these types of programs
- The county's interest in the District sharing climate information as part of their upcoming planning

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

- Attended the Placer County Farm Bureau dinner  
Attended event put on by the American Association of University Women - Nevada County, where Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) was a speaker

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:15 p.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, November 8, 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