

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

March 8, 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 8th day of February 2022, at 2 p.m.

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

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; Monica Reyes, Recreation Manager; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; 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

PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Monique Spyke with PFM Asset Management, LLC, who provided a presentation to review the District's portfolio and Investment Policy.

Board discussion ensued regarding the benefits and value of utilizing a professional investment management firm. Board consensus was reached directing staff to bring PFM Management's recommended updates to District Policy 3035 – Investments to the Board for consideration at a future meeting.

Public Comment: None

The meeting recessed at 3:36 p.m. and reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

PLAN FOR WATER MATRIX AND PROCESS CHECK-IN

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, opened the workshop, confirmed the recent update made to the matrix adding Stage 4 – Risk, and shared suggestions received pertaining to the process and workshop format for decision-making items.

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Public Comment:

- Stewart Feldman, member of the public, requested clarification of "mapping" when referring to "narrative and mapping" shown under Water Rights - Outcomes
- Otis Wollan, member of the public, recommended including SWOT analysis when working on the Risk stage
- Ms. Fischer, member of the public, commented on behalf of the Neighbors on Maranatha Place and Pekolee Road regarding being next in line to have water brought to their homes and was provided the General Manager's email address to continue the discussion offline

PLAN FOR WATER WORKSHOP #5 – WATER RIGHTS (continued)

Chip Close, Water Operations Manager, and Thor Larsen, Water Resource Superintendent, provided a presentation regarding Water Rights, continued from the February 8th meeting.

Board discussion ensued regarding pre-1914 water rights, purposes, beneficial uses, FERC licensing, environmental flows, and ongoing compliance.

Public Comment:

- Miriam Limov, with Nevada County Food Policy Council, provided the following comments:
 - o Commented on new FERC licensing requirements and the District's priority list determining who will receive water in a drought situation when local farmers/ranchers could go out of business without water
 - o Shared that the Nevada County Food Policy Council encourages the District to plan for a system that prioritizes water for food production agriculture and spoke about the importance of local food production for community health and well-being
 - o Expressed appreciation for NID's legacy of agricultural support and encouraged the District to continue this vital service to the community
- Keiko Mertz, Policy Manager with South Yuba River Citizens League, provided the following comments:
 - o Inquired how selling water fits into water rights and if the District can sell water purchased from others
- Josie Crawford, with S. Wolf Creek Alliance, provided the following comments:
 - o Expressed her thanks for an informative presentation
 - o Shared concerns about yearly drying up of South Wolf Creek and inquired about those water rights
- Aimee Retzler, with Sierra Harvest, provided the following comments:
 - o Expressed her thanks for an incredible meeting
 - o Spoke about training and education provided to farmers by Sierra Harvest, including encouraging season extension and working with farmers to grow their markets locally

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- Shared concerns of the farming community that their water will be cut off after they have invested in season extension strategies
- Asked how NID and Sierra Harvest can partner together on important discussions

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:00 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, March 9, 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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