# NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## **MINUTES**

June 9, 2021

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 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

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

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Chip Close, Water Operations Manager; Jana Kolakowski, Human Resources Manager; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

## STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- President Bierwagen introduced Jennifer Hanson, new General Manager

# PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Laura Barhydt, member of the public, addressed the Board regarding the camera angle in the Boardroom

## MINUTES - MAY 26, 2021, Regular Meeting

Approved the Minutes of the regular meeting on May 26, 2021. M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.

#### EMPLOYEE RELATIONS – Cutlip Retirement (Res. No. 2021-14)

Adopted Resolution No. 2021-14 (Resolution of Appreciation – Richard Cutlip). M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.

# REVISED TEKTRONIX – NEVADA CITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS RAW WATER SUPPLY AGREEMENT

Approved an updated agreement with the Nevada City School of the Arts for a raw water supply and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.

#### ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES – NOMINATIONS FOR REGION 3

Adopted Resolution No. 2021-15 (Placing Nomination for Laura Peters as a Member of the Association of California Water Agencies – Region 3). M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.

# WARRANTS, PROJECTS & FACILITIES, INVESTMENT REPORT

Approve the Check Register, and receive and file the Project & Facility and Investment Transaction Reports for the period ending May 28, 2021. M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.

## NID WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN (WSCP) STAGES

Chip Close, Water Operations Manager, presented the item.

#### **Public Comment:**

- Jeremy Mineau, owner of Super Tuber Farm in Chicago Park
- Molly Nakahara, Farm Institute Director with Sierra Harvest
- Tim Van Wagner, owner of First Rain Farm in Nevada City
- Aleta Barrett, local farmer and co-owner of Starbright Acres Family Farm
- Shana Maziarz, owner of Three Forks Bakery & Brewing Co. in Nevada City

The meeting recessed at 11:11 and reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

# GRAND JURY REPORT - NID BILLING AND PAYMENT FEES RESPONSE

Chip Close, Water Operations Manager, presented the item.

#### Public Comment:

- None

The Board unanimously agreed to direct the Board Secretary to finalize and send the response to the Grand Jury with the following amendments on Page 15:

- The last sentence of response to F-10: The calculation stems from multiple pages and divisions in the water budget and can be hard for the general public to track.
- The first sentence of response to R-2: The Board has begun the public discussion recommendation, with discussions at the May 26<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors Meeting.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- She has been getting up to speed on:
  - District policies
  - Understanding the concerns and priorities of the Directors
  - Understanding the business of each of the departments
- Anticipates a lot of good work ahead

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

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

- Spent a two-week vacation on the Green River
- She shared her observation of similarities shared between our area and the Southwest area

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

- Toured the Lake Wildwood Treatment Plant on June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Attended an Ag Round Table meeting on June 7th
- Attended Placer County Cattlemen's meeting on June 8th

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

- Met with several members of the agriculture community in her division
- Appointed Jeremy Mineau, owner of Super Tuber Farm, to the Drought Hardship Ad Hoc Committee
- Attended a Water Rates Committee meeting and shared some highlights
- Met with Hardy Bullock, Supervisor for Nevada County's 5<sup>th</sup> District, and shared highlights, including his concerns about Scotts Flat Lake traffic and an emergency evacuation plan, and the need for water in the Town of Washington
- Participated in Nevada County Covid-19 meetings on reopening and reported the County and cities plan on allowing for public participation in their chambers beginning June 19<sup>th</sup> while following safety guidelines

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

- Colorado River water provided to long-term customers may not be available beginning next year, those in need may be looking to Northern California for water, and should be included in the District's long-range planning
- Attended the Lake Wildwood Treatment Plant Tour on June 1st
- Update regarding letters of support received for the E. George to Lake Wildwood Backbone Extension Project
- It is taking longer to irrigate and saturate the soil as it is very dry, and we are losing a lot of trees

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

- Attended an Ag Round Table meeting

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION

- None

The meeting recessed at 11:44 a.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 11:47 p.m.

Closed Session Conference With Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation. Significant Exposure to Litigation was declared at 11:47 a.m., pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9. One Case.

Board Action: Direction was given to legal counsel.

Closed Session Conference with Labor Negotiators was declared at 11:47 a.m., pursuant to Government Code § 54957.6. District Representatives: Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, Jana Kolakowski, Human Resources Manager, Jackson Lewis, P.C., and Minasian, Meith, Soares, Sexton & Cooper, LLP, District Counsel; Employee Organization: American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 146.

# Board Action: Direction was given to labor negotiators.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:49 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Board Secretary

Attest a true record of actions had and taken at the above and foregoing meeting our presence thereat and our consent thereto.

Richa Hock Division II

Chris Burwaya Division III

Karendfull Division IV

Rich ToRance Division V