

# NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### MINUTES

April 24, 2024

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 24th day of April 2024, at 9 a.m.

Present were Rich Johansen, President (Division V); Ricki Heck, Vice President (Division I); and Directors Chris Bierwagen (Division II); Karen Hull (Division III); 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; Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

#### STANDING ORDERS

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

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Jodi Rein, member of the public, addressed the Board regarding recreational impacts related to tourism on Rollins Lake due to lack of PG&E water coming from Spaulding Lake
  - Workshop Item later in the agenda

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

#### INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Michael Kronbetter with PFM Asset Management, who provided a presentation on the Investment Performance Review for the Quarter ended March 31, 2024

Board discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Job number adjustments
- Industry numbers
- Portfolio performance improvements

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- Appreciation expressed to PFM Asset Management for their approach and professionalism
- Interest rates, factoring them in, and how they impact market trends

Public Comment: None

### CONSENT AGENDA

**Director Hull motioned for approval of the Consent Agenda, and Director Bierwagen seconded the motion.**

President Johansen pulled the following item from the Consent Agenda for discussion at the request of Director Heck:

- Item 4D: Community Facilities District No. 2007-1 (Cement Hill) Special Tax Levies for FY 2024/2025

Public Comment: None

**Director Hull amended her motion to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding Item 4D. Director Bierwagen seconded the amended motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

#### MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON APRIL 10, 2024

**M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.**

#### ALTA SIERRA RESERVOIR REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PROJECT #6971)

**Adopted a resolution approving an amendment of the Fund 15 Capital Budget to include the Alta Sierra Reservoir Replacement Project (Project #6971) in the amount of \$272,710. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.**

#### ASSISTANT WATER SUPERINTENDENT JOB DESCRIPTION REVISION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL REGULATIONS

**Adopted a resolution approving changes to the job description and salary for the Assistant Water Superintendent position as discussed at the Board of Directors meeting on April 10, 2024. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.**

#### ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2008-1 (RODEO FLAT) SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVIES FOR FY 2024/2025

**Adopted a resolution acting as the legislative body of Assessment District (Ad) No. 2008-1, authorizing the levy of special taxes within Ad No. 2008-1 for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.**

#### PURCHASE OF REPLACEMENT CHIPPER

**Approved the purchase of one (1) 2024 Intimidator 12XP Tow-Behind Chipper in the amount of \$75,222.16 from Cal-Line Equipment in Sacramento, California, and**

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authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.

FILTER MEDIA REPLACEMENT - E. GEORGE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Awarded the Filter Media Project at the E. George Water Treatment Plant to ERS Industrial Services, Inc., in the amount of \$187,830.00, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.

COMBIE-OPHIR II & III SIPHON REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PROJECT #2645), CONTRACT WITH ECORP CONSULTING, INC.

Approved a new Task Order No. 3 for the Consulting Services Agreement with ECORP Consulting, Inc. (ECORP) in the amount of \$94,075 for additional permitting requirements, pre-construction surveys, and construction monitoring and reporting required for the Combie-Ophir II & III Siphon Replacement Project (Project #2645) and authorized the General Manager to execute the necessary documents. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.

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 March 30<sup>th</sup> through April 12, 2024. M/S/C Hull/Bierwagen, unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 4D pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

COMMUNITY FACILITIES DISTRICT NO. 2007-1 (CEMENT HILL) SPECIAL TAX LEVIES FOR FY 2024/2025

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, responded to questions from the Board.

Board Discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Interest rate and if it continues to accrue
- Clarify backup special tax
- Overall delinquency rate
- Assessment terms
- Are assessments paid in full or annually when property is sold or transferred
- Bringing back a workshop item
- Financial mechanism/strategy regarding District Financed Water Line Extensions

Public Comment: None

Adopted a resolution acting as the Legislative Body of Community Facilities District (CFD) No 2007-1, Authorizing the Levy of Special Taxes Within CFD No. 2007-1 for Fiscal YEAR 2024/2025. M/S/C Heck/Hull, unanimously approved as submitted.

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## WORKSHOP ITEMS

### PG&E UPDATE – WORKSHOP

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Brandon Sanders, Senior Representative with Pacific Gas and Electric Company.

Board discussion ensued regarding the following:

- South Yuba Canal pipe repair status
- Pipe construction plan/timing
- Scope of pipe that fell off the hillside
- Expected flows once the temporary repair is complete
- Any updates on the timing of materials
- Rock stabilization timing, materials, and methods
- Schedule for anticipated permanent fix and impact to refill Scotts Flat next year
- PG&E Team
- Repairs to Horn No. 1
- Confirmed the current anticipated repair date of June 18<sup>th</sup>
- Detailed construction schedule shared with NID staff – confidential document
- Historical flow managed when both horns were in service
- Requested detailed explanation from PG&E on the collapse of columns
- Previous inspection in the Fall of 2023 and inspections leading up to new discovery
- Has it been determined if horn failure and column failure are related, or did one lead to the other
- Repairs vs. replacement of columns
- Confirmed horn cannot operate without column
- Frequency of underwater inspections and sharing inspections with the public
- Schedule to repair 2<sup>nd</sup> horn after October 15<sup>th</sup>
- Access to the area and road into Spaulding
- Estimate time for all future outages while making future outages in the Fall
- A robust discussion ensued requesting that PG&E consider releasing a schedule that also includes future outages that can be shared with the public
- Allowing NID staff access to inspect repairs
- Confirmed a four-part preliminary confidential schedule has been received by District staff
- Low-level outlet benefits
- Visual tools at the next meeting
- At a recent South Yuba River Citizens League event, treated water users had concerns they were going to run out of treated water – communication needed
- Conservation to date – Irrigation season started April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Financial Impact on District
- 2025 Analysis and Projections
- State or regulatory mandate for flows, options for variance, District's regulatory commitments
- Requested an update on the anchoring of the S. Yuba pipe in the slide area
- Thanked Juan Browne for his videos
- Thanked Brandon Sanders from PG&E for being here

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- Expressed why sharing the schedule with the ag communities and surrounding areas is so important
- Commented on the building at a high scale and making sure there is a bypass in place
- Recommended reading the article *Tale it Scale*
- Coordinating with counties
- Options and good practices for small businesses and those experiencing financial damages
- Financial impacts to the District
- 2018 Campfire lawsuits are still under the process of winding down – it takes time
- NID has adopted an “Emergency Declaration” in our service area
- List of questions for PG&E to respond to

Public Comment:

- Juan Browne, member of the public:
  - Discharge horn repair is in Spaulding Powerhouse #1- upper powerhouse
  - Repairs to discharge horn: Narrative is neglected infrastructure:
    - Is it actually from repairs back in 2011 that need to be redone?
    - Technical information and a timeline would be helpful
    - Is the horn a concrete tube or a concrete/steel tube, and what failed?
    - Did failure also cause problems with the footings of the powerhouse itself?
  - River valve outlet system:
    - Are there problems with the valves there?
    - Will we have a Deadpool situation with Spaulding this summer once the spillway stops spilling over the spillway and we are at extreme low levels?
  - Requested clarification on the sequence of events
  - An update was provided on the size and scope of the Yuba pipe failure from an airplane view last week, and PG&E was on the scene
- Concerned Citizen
  - Has NID staff been given additional access to inspect damaged pipe
  - Considered manufactured steel pipe locally or regionally
  - Asked if NID has a plan for immediate and large-scale public outreach campaign for voluntary water reduction conservation and provided suggestions
  - Inquired on testing downstream regularly below Rollins and Scotts Flat after water levels get lower for heavy metals in sediment or if there is a need
  - Is there a contingency plan for fire hydrants in place for Nevada City and Grass Valley – they are pressurized, and cities can contact NID
  - Inquired if any knowledge of any known imposed regulatory penalties have been imposed through FERC or CPUC on PG&E
  - NID obtaining documentation on inspections and investigations
  - Thanked the Board and PG&E representative for being here
  - Commented on potential civil lawsuits against PG&E
- Jodi Rein, member of the public and owner of three businesses on Rollins Lake:
  - Concerned about the impacts on small businesses

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- Has there been any discussion with small business owners and who they should contact for assistance or guidelines
  - Asked if it is common for PG&E powerhouses to go out due to water force
  - Thanked the Board and General Manager for the workshop
  - Asked if a state of emergency rolls forward and remains open from year to year
- Barbara Bashall, member of the public:
- Clarification on determining a mandatory conservation date
  - Inquired how the repair to the 2<sup>nd</sup> horn in the Fall will impact filling up Rollins Lake
  - Spoke about declaring a State of Emergency to help small businesses
- Michael Taylor, member of the public:
- Commented on Fordyce Lake
  - Inquired if NID has legal access to Spalding Dam and Pumphouse
  - Asked if PG&E could begin to address anticipated losses now

#### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Update regarding the Voluntary Agreement Proposal to the Bay-Delta Plan and upcoming workshop
- Staff participated in an Employee Engagement leadership training event earlier this month focused on emotional intelligence

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- No report

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

- Attended South Yuba River Citizen League's State of the Yuba Event

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

- Hosting an AAUW (American Association of University Women) Nevada County Chapter Fundraiser to raise scholarship funds
- Attending Placer County Farm Tour next week
- Attended South Yuba River Citizen League's State of the Yuba Event

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

- Going to the Kentucky Derby next week, so unable to attend the Placer County Farm Tour this year

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

- Attended the Penn Valley Municipal Advisory Council meeting
- Interviewed by Barbara Bashall for the Greater Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce

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- Thanked Pascale Fusshoeller with Yuba Net for the coverage provided
- Met with the father of NID employee Kyle Hampton and learned through the dad's eye about this incredible young man working at NID
- Spoke about changes in farming and planning and opportunity loss
- Thanked everyone for attending

MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:22 a.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Submitted By

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kris Stepanian". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "K".

Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary

