

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

June 12, 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 12th day of June 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; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; 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: 4 Members Present / 1 Member Arrived at 9:02 (Director Hull)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- None

SPECIAL ORDERS

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION UPON RETIREMENT FOR SHANNON WOOD (RESOLUTION NO. 2024-20)

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; and members of the Board of Directors all thanked Ms. Wood for her contribution to the District and congratulated her on her retirement.

The meeting recessed at 9:16 a.m. and reconvened at 9:30 a.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Public Comment: None

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 22, 2024

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

RESOLUTIONS CALLING FOR GENERAL DISTRICT ELECTIONS

**Adopted Resolution No. 2024-21 – Declaring an Election be Held in its Jurisdiction; Requesting the Board of Supervisors to Consolidate This Election With any Other Election Conducted on Said Date; and Requesting Election Services by the County Clerk – County of Nevada. M/S/C Bierwagen/Hull, unanimously approved.**

**Adopted Resolution No.2024-22 - Declaring an Election be Held in its Jurisdiction; Requesting the Board of Supervisors to Consolidate This Election With any Other Election Conducted on Said Date; and Requesting Election Services by the County Clerk – County of Placer. M/S/C Bierwagen/Hull, unanimously approved.**

ROLLINS POWERHOUSE GOVERNOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT (PROJECT #2392)

**Awarded a Consultant Services Agreement and a Construction Contract to L&S Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$262,295, including a 10% contingency (for a total of \$288,525) for design engineering, material procurement, and construction services, and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. M/S/C Bierwagen/Hull, unanimously approved.**

BEAR RIVER WILDFIRE RECOVERY PROJECT (SNC GRANT, PROJECT #2651)

**Awarded a contract to Frank Dial Logging for \$134,800 to complete large debris removal and cleanup on District-owned lands as part of the Bear River Wildfire Recovery Project (SNC Grant) and authorized the General Manager to execute all appropriate documents. M/S/C Bierwagen/Hull, 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 May 11, 2024 through May 31, 2024. M/S/C Bierwagen/Hull, unanimously approved.**

WORKSHOP ITEM

PG&E Update

President Johansen introduced Brandon Sanders, Local Government Affairs Representative with Pacific Gas and Electric Company, who provided an update.

Board discussion ensued:

- Newest projected completion date of July 30<sup>th</sup>
- Requests made for PG&E to elaborate on the cause of welding taking longer than initially planned
- Requests for release of detailed schedule and activities
- Actual cause clarification
- Pressure testing to determine calculations and sharing those findings with NID
- Has the scheduled date for 2<sup>nd</sup> horn repair also been pushed back
- Requested confirmation that inspections have been performed on the other two columns to verify their condition
- Confirmed no safety injuries to this point

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- Clarification was requested to confirm if the two shifts that work each day are 8-hour shifts or 12-hour shifts
- Has PG&E inspected the tunnel
- How does PG&E plan to compensate the ag community specifically for any losses they are about to incur
- Determining an extraordinary event and fact-finding
- Benefits of ponds
- Looking into forms of goodwill gestures from PG&E for the ag community
- PG&E's messaging, or lack thereof
- Utilizing sub-contractors in addition to PG&E employees
- Disclosing sub-contractor construction contracts with NID staff
- Possible special meeting
- Assessment on the July 30<sup>th</sup> date
- Requested PG&E send someone to NID Board meetings from the PG&E Hydropower Division to respond to questions
- Number of PG&E staff, including support and logistics, working on this issue
- Informational video
- PG&E's need to take ownership
- Clarification on repairs Powerhouse 1 and Powerhouse 2 / timing, and how to get water needed to Scotts Flat and Bear River/Rollins
- Community Townhall Meetings and the challenge of changing information

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, requested follow-up regarding:

- Release of Root Cause Analysis
- Release of the formal, detailed schedule
- Release Construction Contracts
- Engineering Data related to the ability to put 400cfs thru 1<sup>st</sup> horn
- Explore if any 2<sup>nd</sup> horn work can be done while in extended outage period
- Explore whether if extended schedule delays related to startup operations and maintenance can be shortened up and if all that work is necessary
- Need to have a better understanding of how much water will be going through the horns and what has changed with operations between before event and now

Public Comment:

- Jodi Rein, member of the public:
  - o PG&E needs to publicly acknowledge this is their responsibility
  - o Next year's flow
  - o Calling for a State of Emergency
  - o Help with messaging with t-shirt press, hat press, and engraving
- Michael Taylor, member of the public:
  - o PG&E needs a better plan to communicate with the public
  - o PG&E needs to look to the future – make these needed repairs and offer to sell facilities to NID for \$1- so that NID can manage in the future

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- Powerhouse 1 - predicting pipe is rated for 400 cfs and curious if PG&E has any concerns
- Inquired if a high-resolution video was made of de-watered pipe
- Suggested the next workshop be held at the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and taken to the next level
- Diana Gamazon, with Nevada County Cannabis Alliance
  - Impacts on all of the ag community
  - Expressed appreciation to the NID Board and General Manager
  - 20% voluntary conservation taken seriously
  - Shared concerns from the ag community related to the rotation schedule
- Michael Hill-Weld, member of the public:
  - Expressed his appreciation that the Board is pushing PG&E for information
  - Urged Board to push for a panel of PG&E personnel to participate if that is what it takes to get the information needed
  - Cost of communications - NID needs to educate customers on how to conserve water on a regular basis and should be funded by PG&E, as they are the source of the problem
- Barbara Bashall, member of the public
  - Need for community meetings
  - PG&E representatives in attendance need to have the ability to respond to questions presented

### GENERAL ORDERS

#### CANAL ROTATIONS DUE TO EMERGENCY WATER SHORTAGE

Chip Close, Director of Water Operations, presented the item.

#### Board Discussion:

- Water to Cement Hill
- Cost to pump water
- Time frame to turn on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> pumps
- DS Canal capacity
- DC Plan
- Possible special Board meeting to discuss further
- Water storage tanks
- Planning ahead in the event repairs are extended out further and more drastic measures are requested
- Deadpool
- Raw water sales
- Contacting cities
- Voluntary reductions and contributions from ag users
- District's declared emergency in March 2024
- Nevada County and Office of Emergency Services

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- Farmers, crops, market share losses, continuing losses
- Thanked the Nevada County Ag Commissioner for attending the meeting
- Requested analysis/ scenarios of risk assessment by taking action now vs later
- Fair and balanced rotation schedule
- Protecting resources and revenue
- Conserving water
- Alternatives and different projected dates
- Clarified if adopted today that staff could begin to contact customers right away, and rollovers could be implemented in the next few weeks

Dustin Cooper, District Legal Council, commented:

- Emergency declared by the Board on March 27, 2024, Resolution No. 2024-10
- Resolution being considered today would be step 2 and would not supersede or amend the prior resolution
- Dynamic situation with date slipping since date drafted
- Resolve paragraph 5, noting nothing in Resolution No. 2024-23 is intended to modify or alter adopted Resolution 2024-10

Public Comment:

- Deb Totoonchie, Nevada County Farm Bureau:
  - o Requested clarification regarding rotations continuing in the order listed on the resolution should the delay continue
- Michael Taylor, member of the public:
  - o Suggested tabling the resolution until next meeting as it was created based on information that was updated in the past 24 hours

**Director Bierwagen made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-23 - Establishing Emergency Canal Outage Rotations Throughout the Duration of the PG&E's Unplanned Spaulding One and South Yuba Canal Outages. Director Heck seconded the motion.**

**Motion passed on the following roll call vote:**

<b>Heck, Division 1</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Bierwagen, Division 2</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Hull, Division 3</b>	<b>Aye</b>
<b>Caulder, Division 4</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Johansen, Division 5</b>	<b>Aye</b>

### **WORKSHOP ITEM**

#### **YUBA-BEAR RELICENSING - CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) NOTICE OF INTENT INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, presented the workshop item to discuss the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of the Yuba-Bear River Project and CEQA compliance.

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Board Discussion:

- Clarified timing
- Rescinded license - underlying issue
- Operating under previous license
- Budgetary Impact

Public Comment: None

- Traci Sheehan, Policy Manager, South Yuba River Citizens League:
  - o Responded to President Johansen regarding SYRCL's last Yuba River Update FERC relicensing
- H. Michael Ross, member of the public:
  - o Thanked the Board for this item
  - o Recommended that the questions of the Board be answered by the professional engineer in responsible charge hired by the public utility

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

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

- Attended the Sierra College Nevada County Campus President's Lunch
- Attended a number of meetings and, along with Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, has spent the past few weeks speaking to a number of groups, including:
  - o Nevada County Contractors Association
  - o The Lake of the Pines Pinesmen
  - o Sierra Streams Institute
  - o Fire Safe Council
  - o Nevada County Sons in Retirement

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Attended a Nevada County Farm Bureau Meeting

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

- In the process of moving and is now an NID-treated water customer

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

- Attended a Lake of the Pines Pinesmen Meeting with Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager
- Has been helping constituents with water issues
- Hosted a fundraising event for Nevada County American Association of University Women, raising \$28,000 that will go directly to scholarships for women and girls in Nevada County

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

- Attended an NID/PCWA Water Committee meeting and toured Hemphill
- Found catfish in NID ditch on his property

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

- Attended an event at Sierra College
- Pond Project
- Presented at the Energy Action Committee Meeting

MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:50 a.m. to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, June 26, 2024, 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

June 12, 1964

Director, Johnson City Division of V. I. ...  
Attention: Mr. ...  
Re: ...

MEETING HELD AT 10:00 a.m. on June 11, 1964, at the ...  
...  
...

Respectfully,  
*[Signature]*  
...  
...