

**EXETER IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
150 South E Street  
Exeter, California

**April 23, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Exeter Irrigation District was called to order by President Ferrara at 8:00 a.m. Directors present were Joe Ferrara, Greg Crosson, Bob Ward, Keith Cosart, and David Nielsen. Others Present were General Manager Gene Kilgore, Growers/Landowners Christina Saenger, Matt McEwen, Zack Stuller, Milo Gordon, Mark Rip, Aaron Henderson, and Craig Hornung.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Ferrara opened the floor for public comments, Mr. Stuller and Mr. Rip commented that the District's delivery system has been down more than in recent times and questioned staff's abilities. Mr. McEwen commented he should not be responsible to pay for recharge water if the District is unable to deliver it. Ms. Saenger commented that office staff communications and the water ordering process lacks cohesiveness. Mr. Gordon echoed the comments of others but understood the learning curve required for inexperienced staff.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Kilgore announced Director Ferrara attended the East Kaweah GSA Board of Directors meeting on April 22, 2024.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

President Ferrara made a call to accept the Agenda. On motion by Director Cosart, seconded by Director Ward and unanimously carried, the Agenda was accepted as presented.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Ferrara called for the approval of the March 14, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes. On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Nielsen and unanimously carried, the Minutes were approved as presented.

**WARRANTS/ACCOUNTS PAYABLES**

Mr. Kilgore presented the March Payroll and Accounts Payables, which amounted to \$655,805.91, collectively. Petty Cash expenses amounted to \$103.62. Following review and discussion, on motion of Director Cossart, seconded by Director Ward, and unanimously carried, the Board approved the March's expenditures as presented and ordered payments of warrants #40649 - #40650-and #40652- #40711 inclusive, and included herewith as Exhibit "A".

### SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Mr. Kilgore presented the Financial Statements and Reports prepared for March, noting receipts of \$78,315.73. As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, the District had an active ending bank balances in the Bank of Sierra and Bank of America, of \$1,096,585.24 and \$89,095.11, respectively. Both banking accounts amounted to \$1,185,680.30, a decrease of \$ 577,490.18 from the previous month's ending balances. Investments amounted to \$3,394,140.50, for total District funds amounting to \$4,579,820.94. Following review and discussion, on motion of Director Cossart, seconded by Director Ward, and unanimously carried, the Financial Reports were approved as presented and ordered placed on file, copies of which are included herewith as Exhibit "B." Mr. Kilgore provided the Grower Delinquent Accounts summary showing delinquent balances for 2021, 2022, and 2023 amounted to \$2,365.13, \$4,640.22, and \$9,890.94, respectively. Property liens have been filed on delinquent accounts.

### WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Kilgore reported the Bureau increased its 2023/2024 CVP allocation from 65% to 100% of Class 1 supply plus 5% of Class 2 supply. Unreleased Restoration Flow (URF) water was made available, the District accepted its allocation of Block A supply amounting to 542 acre-feet. The URF water and 2023 Rescheduled water of 1,261 acre-feet will need to be delivered by May 5, 2024. The District delivered twenty-four (24) acre-feet in March for irrigation demands. Average precipitation and snowpack to-date in the Tulare Basin and Southern Sierra recorded was 84% and 84%, respectively. In March, the District recorded an average rainfall of 2.27 inches. Annual precipitation recorded to date equals 10.72 inches. As of April 22<sup>nd</sup>, approximate reservoir conditions for Shasta, Millerton and San Luis were 4,380,193 acre-feet, 467,240 acre-feet and 1,488,335 acre-feet, respectively. There are routings that indicate that Millerton has a potential in going into uncontrolled season releases depending on demand and weather.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilgore reported there have been multiple leaks that may be attributed to the lines being dewatered since November 2023, which have kept growers from taking water deliveries. Pumps station E1 and E2 were having reservoir communication interruptions due to the old hardwire installation that was grounding out. New radio communications were installed at both sites and during startup there were problems encountered due to the old and new interface. The integrator is the process of debugging the system. Mr. Kilgore reported that the Agreement between Smees Homes and the District to relocate conveyance lines around the Yokohl Landing project has been executed. Mr. Kilgore reported legal counsel has drafted a TDWA Joint Powers Agreement- Employee Sharing for review the TDWA Board to consider adopting.

2024 REVISED BUDGET

Mr. Kilgore requested the Board to consider revising the preliminary 2024 budget revenue component and maintenance expenses. After discussion, on motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Cosart, and unanimously carried, the Board revised the preliminary 2024 Budget.

2024 WATER RATE

On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Cosart, and unanimously carried, the Board kept the 2024 water rate at \$249 per acre-foot.

2024 GROWER ALLOCATION

On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Nielsen, and unanimously carried, the Board increases the 2024 grower allocation from .72 acre-feet/per acre to 1.10 acre-feet/per acre.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Kilgore reported the Associate Membership is set to expire June 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Board will need to consider joining the Authority at the May Directors meeting or negotiate other alternatives.

Mr. Kilgore reported the contractors have begun removal of the earthen plugs in the canal to bring water through the new canal.

RECHARGE PROJECTS

Mr. Kilgore reported that there was nothing new to report on the proposed projects.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. Kilgore reported the EKGSA's staff and consultant are reviewing the Water Board's probation determination for the Tulare Lake Sub-basin and addressing comparable inadequacies to the Kaweah sub-basin's plan. The three GSAs continue to work through coordination objectives.

SOUTH VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Kilgore reported no current reportable activity.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened to closed session at 10:30 a.m.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting re-convened to open session at 10:48 a.m., no recordable action was taken closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ferrara adjourned the Board meeting at 10:50 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Irrigation District Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Kilgore  
Secretary/Manager