

**EXETER IRRIGATION DISTRICT**  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

150 South E Street  
Exeter, California

**March 14, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Exeter Irrigation District was called to order by President Ferrara at 1:30 p.m. Directors present were Joe Ferrara, Greg Crosson, Bob Ward, and David Nielsen. Director Keith Cosart was absent. Others Present were General Manager Gene Kilgore, Office Manager Selena Rossman, engineering consultant Nick Keller, and Craig Hornung, representative for AC Foods Inc., and Christina Saenger, landowner.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Ferrara opened the floor for public comments, none were presented.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Kilgore announced Director Cosart attended the Friant WA Board of Directors special meeting on February 12, 2024. Director Ferrara attended the Friant WA Board of Directors special meeting on February 12, 2024, the Friant WA Board of Directors meeting on February 29, 2024, and the East Kaweah GSA Technical Advisory Committee meeting on February 23, 2024.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

President Ferrara called for the approval of the February 8, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes. On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Ward and carried, the Minutes were approved as presented.

**WARRANTS/ACCOUNTS PAYABLES**

Mr. Kilgore presented February Payroll and Accounts Payables, which amounted to \$251,221.48. Petty Cash expenses amounted to \$102.26. Following review and discussion, on motion of Director Ward, seconded by Director Crosson, and carried, the Board approved the February's expenditures as presented and ordered payments of warrants #40513, #40608 through #40651, inclusive, and included herewith as Exhibit "A".

**SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT**

Ms. Rossman presented the Financial Statements and Reports prepared for February, noting receipts of \$91,994.01. As of February 29<sup>th</sup>, the District had an active ending bank balances in the Bank of Sierra and Bank of America, of \$1,720,048.46 and \$43,800.15, respectively. Both accounts amounted to \$1,763,848.61, a decrease of \$159,277.47 from the previous month's ending

balance. Investments amounted to \$3,379,569.55, for total District funds amounting to \$5,143,418.16. Following review and discussion, on motion of Director Ward, seconded by Director Crosson, and carried, the Financial Reports were approved as presented and ordered placed on file, copies of which are included herewith as Exhibit "B." Ms. Rossman presented the Grower Delinquent Accounts summary showing delinquent balances for 2021, 2022, and 2023 amounted to \$3027.23, \$5,251.53, and \$14,141.36, respectively. Property liens have been filed on delinquent accounts for the years 2021 and 2022. Liens were filed on 2023 delinquent account properties on March 14, 2024.

#### WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Kilgore reported that the 2023/2024 CVP allocation is tracking between 70-85 percent. The Bureau's current allocation of 65 percent amounts to 7,215 acre-feet of CVP supply. Unreleased Restoration Flow water may be made available by the end of March. The District used two (2) acre-feet in February to charge the reservoirs. Precipitation and Snowpack in the Tulare Basin and Southern Sierra was 85 % and 90%, respectively. In February, the District recorded an average rainfall of 3.86 inches. Annual precipitation recorded to date equals 8.45 inches. As of March 14<sup>th</sup>, approximate reservoir conditions for Shasta, Millerton and San Luis were 3,881,038 acre-feet, 354,371 acre-feet and 1,486,508 acre-feet, respectively.

#### MANAGERS REPORT

Mr. Kilgore reported that locks continue to be stolen from line #E1. Staff continue to surcharge the lines in preparation to begin the irrigation season. Mr. Kilgore provided an update on the status of the Yokohl Landing project, awaiting final approval of the pipe relocation agreement. Mr. Kilgore reported legal counsel is amending the TDWA Joint Powers Agreement that all three Districts will have to execute.

#### 2024 REVISED BUDGET

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

#### 2024 WATER RATE

On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Nielsen, and carried, the Board set the 2024 water rate at \$249 per acre-foot, subject to be reduced if further water allocations are made.

#### 2024 GROWER ALLOCATION

On motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Nielsen, and carried, the Board set the 2024 grower allocation at .72 Acre-feet per acre, subject to be increased if further water allocations are made.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Kilgore reiterated his recommendation to the Board, that they consider joining Friant Water Authority, the Board is taking it into consideration.

Mr. Kilgore reported the contractors asked for a thirty-day extension to complete the removal of the plugs and additional work. April 15<sup>th</sup> would be the completion date if the extension is granted. This extension does not affect contractors above the canal correction.

RECHARGE PROJECTS

Mr. Kilgore reported that no communications have been received from AC Foods regarding the land lease agreement for the KEX project. The District's other land lease proposal is being considered by the current tenant and landowner. Staff met with Dennis and Nick Keller to discuss the viability of the Rocky Hill Yokohl project. The initial project may not be viable, but other potential projects were proposed, in which staff will evaluate and present to the Board once the projects have been researched.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Nick Keller provided information on the proposed matrix, provided by the consulting hydrogeologist, Intera, to be used to assist the GSA's in setting minimum thresholds and measurable objectives. Mr. Keller, after his review, can only recommend to the EKGSA Board, at most, the 7X component, but prefers the 5X component. The Board agreed with Mr. Keller's recommendation.

SOUTH VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Kilgore reported no current reportable activity.

CLOSED SESSION

Convened to closed session at 3:00 p.m.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION

The meeting reconvened to open session at 4:09, no recordable action was taken closed session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Ferrara adjourned the Board meeting at 4:10 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Irrigation District Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, April 22, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Kilgore

Secretary/Manager