

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

October 13, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Exeter Irrigation District was called to order by General Manager Gene Kilgore at 1:32 p.m. Director's present were Bob Ward, Keith Cosart, and Ralph Fuller. Directors absent were Joe Ferrara and Greg Crosson. Others Present were Gene Kilgore, Selena Rossman, Dan Vink (Via Telephone), Alex Peltzer, legal counsel, Christina Sanger, landowner, Douglas Jackson.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Director Cosart opened the floor for public comments, none were presented.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

Mr. Kilgore requested to add medical benefits under item 7a. On motion by Director Ward, seconded by Director Fuller, and carried, the Agenda was revised to add an action item for 7a., Consider adding Medical Benefit option.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Director Cosart called for the approval of the September 8, 2022, Board meeting Minutes. On motion by Director Ward, seconded by Director Fuller, and carried, the Minutes were approved as presented.

WARRANTS/ACCOUNTS PAYABLES:

Ms. Rossman presented the Payroll and Accounts Payables in the amount of \$20,718.92 and \$287,695.73, respectively. Total expenditures for Board review amounted to \$308,414.65.

Following review and discussion, on motion of Director Fuller, seconded by Director Ward, and carried, the Board approved the Warrants/Accounts payables as presented and ordered payments warrants #39987 through #40023, inclusive and included herewith as Exhibit "A".

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT:

Ms. Rossman presented the Financial Statements and Reports prepared for the month noting receipts of \$298,493.58 and disbursements of \$302,887.25. It was further reported that as of September 30, 2022, the District had an active ending bank balances in the Bank of Sierra and Bank of America, of \$660,629.90 and \$124,577.83, respectively, amounting to \$785,207.73. Also submitted for Board review was the monthly report of investments amounting to \$2,658,232.91, for total funds amounting to \$3,443,440.64. Petty cash reimbursement amounted to \$21.22 for reimbursement for Bottle Waters for the office. Following review and discussion, on motion by Director Fuller, seconded by Director Ward, and carried, the Financial Reports were approved as presented and ordered placed on file, copies of which are included herewith as Exhibit "B."

WATER SUPPLY:

Manager Kilgore reported no change to the Bureau 2022 water allocation of 30 percent. Also presented was the projected October Friant water schedule for Board review.

Mr. Kilgore reported that September Friant deliveries was 1,702 acre-feet, of which, 623 acre-feet was from District allocation. Remaining Friant water to be delivered amounts to 2,445 Acre-feet, of which 2,265 acre-feet is allocated water, and 180Acre-feet is transferred in water.

The District recorded no rainfall for the month of September. As of September 30th, the season rainfall is 0.11 inches. Last year's 2021-2022, June-July, recorded rainfall was 9.41 inches.

Mr. Kilgore requested the Board to consider allocating up to 25 percent of carryover water dependent on District carryover capacity. On motion by Director Ward, seconded by Director Fuller, and carried the Board granted growers to carry over up to 25% of the grower's current year allocation dependent on District carryover capacity.

MANAGERS REPORT:

Mr. Kilgore recommended the District provide a second medical benefit option, Classic PPO. The District currently offers Advantage PPO as its only medical benefit option. Depending on the employee's medical situation the new plan would be more beneficial in regard to coverage and cost. The annual premium for the Classic PPO would increase from the District's current, 2022 premium costs by 2 percent. However, the 2023 Advantage PPO premium will decrease by 10 percent, thus comparing both 2023 premiums the increase would be 12 percent. Mr. Kilgore requested the Board to consider re-investing the 10 percent savings back into District staff. On motion by Director Fuller, seconded by Director Ward, and carried the Board approved adding Classic PPO as an additional medical plan option.

Staffed continues to repair leaks as they appear. There are multiple meters that need repair or replacement. Staff over the next few months will begin to make the necessary repairs to get them functional and accurate.

Mr. Keller continues to work through details with Southern California Edison and the Bureau to make the necessary repairs on the 3-line.

There was no update provided for the 5-year Water Management Plan update.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY:

Mr. Kilgore supplied an update on the Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Correction Project, Phase 1. He highlighted there was a \$200,000 change order for new pipe at the DCATRA Turnout. However, the project remains on schedule. The Canal, south of Tipton, is scheduled to be dewatered on November 15, 2022, and put back in service on February 1, 2023.

Mr. Kilgore presented the Friant Water Authority's Common Interest and Confidentiality Agreement and an Associate Member (Settlement Act) agreement for approval. After some discussion, action was deferred until all the Directors were present to discuss the agreements.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Kilgore provided the final draft Recharge, and Grower Carryover Policies for final review, the Board had no further comments. Mr. Kilgore stated he will forward the Agreements to legal for final review.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT:

Mr. Kilgore reported the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency at its September 30th Board meeting adopted the Agency's Rules and Regulations and set the groundwater ETa allocation for the 2023 water year. Native allocation was set at 0.85 acre-feet per acre of groundwater ETa per assessed acre. Tier 1 Penalty allocation was set at 0.30 Acre-feet per acre of groundwater ETa per irrigated acre, with a fee of \$500 per acre-foot. No allocation for Tier 2 Penalty was adopted. The cap of 1.15 acre-feet was set, but a provision was allowed to transfer up to 1.35 of other Native or groundwater credit, but a hard cap of 2.5 acre-feet ETa was set. The penalty for exceeding either the 1.15 acre-feet or 2.5 acre-feet ETa caps, is the loss to subsequent year's Native supply in the amount equivalent to the exceedance.

SOUTH VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY:

Mr. Kilgore provided Mr. Vink's summary of South Valley Water Association activities, highlighting the Exchange Contractors potential contract negotiations with the Bureau, discussions held with legislators and a planned trip to Washington DC in December to meet with legislator's staff to elevate awareness to California's water issues.

CLOSED SESSION:

There was no closed session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Director Cosart adjourned the Board meeting at 4:04 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Irrigation District Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Kilgore
Secretary/Manager