

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Vereschagin, President
Ernest Pieper, Vice President
James A. Jones
John Erickson
Charles Schonauer

SECRETARY-MANAGER

Emil Cavagnolo



ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT

(A UNIT OF THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY CANALS)

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**MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE
ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT**

TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2023

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President of the Board Ernie Pieper called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.

- Mike Vereschagin
- X Ernie Pieper
- X John Erickson
- X Jim Jones
- X Chuck Schonauer

Roll call was as above and a quorum was determined.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

- X Emil Cavagnolo, Manager.
- X Karen Osborn, District Secretary.
- X Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent.
- X Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector.
- X Jenny Scheer, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.
- X Chase Hurley, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

The minutes of the May 16th Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones / Schonauer) to approve the May 16th Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

- AYES: E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.
- ABSTAIN: J. Erickson.
- ABSENT: M. Vereschagin

PUBLIC FORUM:

There were no comments from the public.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for May and the check register. Manager Cavagnolo answered questions the Board had regarding the financials and the check register. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Erickson / Jones) to approve the May Financial Report and checks#14154 thru # 14200 by the following vote:

AYES: E. Pieper, J. Erickson, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: M. Vereschagin

WATER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Water Superintendent Chris Drouillard reported on shop and field activities over the past month. The District vehicles are in good shape but the Water Superintendent's 2015 F150 is at 178,000 miles and showing its age. The Directors commented that it is most likely due to be replaced. Chris updated the board on this month's water use. Chris also reported that the District wells are still low. The field staff have been installing new meters and checking meters which have not been used in recent years. Water quality has been poor due to high flows in the river. Superintendent Drouillard reported that with the very dirty water we have had complaints of low pressure and or low flows. The problems have been mostly plugged filters. District staff have been working with landowners on how to operate filter systems for better results and passing the information on to other water users. At plant 35.2, the side-sweep screens have been adjusted for a more efficient operations.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Manager Cavagnolo reviewed with the Board his Manager's Report, which was included in the Board packet, and answered any questions the Board had. Manager Cavagnolo reported to the Board that the final payment from the IRWM grant was paid for the amount of \$8,114.04. Manager Cavagnolo also reported the office staff is working on the invoices for the second installment of the 2023 water purchases. Director Jones mentioned that there are some good opportunities on interest rates right now with some money market accounts and Treasury Bonds. He told Manager Cavagnolo he would get him more information. Manager Cavagnolo gave the Board an update on water tracking software.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

A. The Board to receive an update on Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Activities.

- a. Director Jones reported to the Board on the TCCA Board meeting held on June 7th.

B. The Board to receive an update on Glenn Groundwater Authority.

a. Report on GGA Board Meeting.

Director Schonauer reported to the Board on the GGA Board Meeting on 06/13/2023. Director Schonauer reported that the fee survey has been adopted. It is a 3-rate system. One for non-irrigated land, another for irrigated land in a water or irrigation district, and a rate for irrigated non-district land. Director Schonauer

reported that the Colusa Sub Basin received zero funding from the Prop 68, round 2 grant.

b. Report on pilot ground water recharge projects.

Manager Cavagnolo reported that the OAWD recharge projects ended on June 12th with the ending of Section 215 Water. 1,742 acre-feet of water was recharged at a cost of \$21,204 for water and \$11,676 for the three permanent connections. The GGA will be operating two projects in the OUWUA in Orland.

C. The Board to receive an update on annexations.

a. The Board will receive an update from Water and Lands Solutions on the Orland A Farmers Group annexation project.

Jenny Scheer and Chase Hurley, Water & Land Solutions, updated the Board on the progress on the Orland A Farmers Group Annexation. 30% designs are almost done. But due to the lack of funding from the grant, some construction will be delayed. The environmental documents will include the whole project, but the Highway 99 pipeline will not be included in the 60% designs.

b. The Board to consider the formation of an improvement district for the Orland A Farmers Group.

Chase Hurley explained that setting up an improvement district could be useful for financing, planning, and construction of new infrastructure for an annexation. After Board discussion, the consensus of the Board was to keep moving forward with the improvement district idea.

c. The Board to discuss the ownership of the new infrastructure to be built by the Orland A Farmers Group.

Manager Cavagnolo reported that during a conference call updating Reclamation on the progress on the OAFG Annexation this topic was discussed. Reclamation staff felt that the Bureau was not interested in owning infrastructure they did not build and/or finance. (*Note: this was confirmed by an email from Jake Berens and Natalie Taylor just after the meeting ended.*) There was discussion with the Board and Jenny Scheer on private ownership of infrastructure and public ownership by the District. While private ownership would cost the landowners less for construction but, control and maintenance of the pipeline would be better with District ownership. The consensus of the group was that there is a lot to consider and this discussion will need to continue.

d. The Board to discuss and consider Orland A Farmers Group Annexation and Class II Water Supply Agreement

e. The Board to discuss and consider Updated OAWD Annexation Policy and Criteria.

f. The Board to discuss and consider OAWD Easement Deed.

g. The Board to discuss and consider Resolution 2023-03 Rescinding Resolution No. 2003-5 and Amending District Policy on Agricultural Water Service to Newly Created Parcels Within the District.

After Board discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to take more time to review items d, e, f, and g and move approval to a future meeting. The Directors

requested that Manager Cavagnolo send them the original documents and any marked-up copies for comparison.

D. The Board to discuss 2023 elections for Directors.

a. The Board will receive an update on the 2023 Election process.

Manager Cavagnolo reported that 5 Candidates filed election papers. Office staff sent out voter designation letters with forms to all landowners. Votes are weighted by acres/value, \$100/acre. The election will be August 29th by mail in ballots. Election information is on the website. Candidates are as follows: Jim Jones, Brian Erickson, Staci Buttermore, Adam Kennedy, and Steve Carlos. All are landowners in the District.

E. The Board to discuss General Manager Search.

Manager Cavagnolo provided the Directors with draft documents including a flyer, job description, and application. After Board discussion and the Directors offered some revisions. Manager Cavagnolo was then directed to make the revisions and send the draft document to District Counsel for legal review.

F. The Board to discuss and consider Central Valley Project Water Association membership.

After Board discussion the consensus of the Board was to wait and see if the annual costs are correct and see if a representative from Central Valley Project Water Association could come and talk to the Board.

G. CLOSED SESSION: Existing Litigation [Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)]: A discussion on litigation resulting from the WIIN Act Loan Conversion.

Being there was nothing new to discuss on the WIIN Act Loan Conversion litigation, the Board did not go into closed session.

H. Report from Closed Session.

There was no report from closed session.

1. ADJOURNMENT.

Being there was no further District business, Board Vice-President Pieper adjourned the meeting at 3:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Emil Cavagnolo
Manager

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE June 20, 2023
MEETING OF THE BOARD**