

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Vereschagin, President
Charles Schonauer, Vice President
James A Jones
Brian Erickson
Steve Carlos



ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT

(A UNIT OF THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY CANALS)
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GENERAL MANAGER

Justin Dahl

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES FOR

FEBRUARY 20TH, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

President Mike Vereschagin called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.

 X Mike Vereschagin
 X Chuck Schonauer
 X Jim Jones
 X Brian Erickson
 X Steve Carlos

Roll call was as above and a quorum was determined.

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

 X Justin Dahl, General Manager
 X Angel Stephens, Administrative Assistant.
 X Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent.
 X Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector.

1. MINUTES APPROVAL:

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

AYES: B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: M. Vereschagin
ABSENT: S. Carlos

The minutes of the January 24th Special Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to approve the January 24th Special Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

2. PUBLIC FORUM:

Retired Director Ernie Pieper was presented with a plaque and framed copy of Resolution 2023-14, in honor of his years of service given to OAWD, by District President Mike Vereschagin. Mike thanked Ernie and expressed how his knowledge and history of the district was appreciated and would be missed. Ernie thanked the Board for all they do and spoke about the knowledge he had learned through the years.

3. FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for January and the check register. Out-going Manager Cavagnolo answered questions the Board had regarding the financials and the check register. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Schonauer) to approve the January Financial Report and checks#14526 thru # 14567 by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

4. WATER SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Operations: Justin is working in the shop and out in the district. We are going to install two deliveries at the old Sutter Home place now Capay Farms. We are ready for frost protection if needed.
- Water Use: We billed nothing for January and delivered approximately 53 A/F of recharge water for February so far.
- Deep Wells: DW1 is at 129 Ft. (Up 5 Ft.) DW2 is at 103 Ft. (Up 6 Ft.) Monitoring Well is at 52 Ft. (Up 5 Ft.)
- District Vehicles: All trucks are running good now.
- Water Quality: The canal is dirty from all the rain and high flow on the river.

5. **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

The Board of Directors reviewed Manager Cavagnolo's Report that was included in the Board packet. He reported about Office Operations, Field Staff Operations, Reno Water Convention, Screen Repair Needs, Meeting's Attended, Recharge Projects, and answered any questions the Board had.

6. **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

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

Director Jones reported to the Board on the 02/07/2024 TCCA Board meeting.

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

- i. **Report on GGA Board Meeting:** Manager Cavagnolo reported in Director Schonauer's absence, on the GGA Board Meeting on 02/12/2024.
- ii. **Recharge update:** Manager Cavagnolo reported on re-starting the 2023 recharge project (as we are still in the 2023 water year). With the rains continuing we have not been able to do much of the 215 water that recently became available again. We still have enough money in the budget that was approved for recharge projects in March of 2023, to add another 1300 A/F of water which we will not be able to use all of before the end of the month/water year.

- iii. **The Board to discuss and consider 2024 recharge projects:** Manager Cavagnolo discussed with the Board what now is referred to as 215 water will be changing to 3F water (high flow water) starting March 1st. 3F water is already part of our contract and does not count against our regular allocation. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to allocate funds, in the amount of \$35,037.67 to bring the total back up to \$50k, using the 3F water (high flow water) when available for Recharge purposes with the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, C. Schonauer, J. Jones, Brian Erickson
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

C. **The Board to receive an update on annexations.**

Manager Cavagnolo, reported the Nepa was still on track for June 1st. All letters are now out to the Tribal Council for review. The Bureau sent an invoice for processing in the amount of \$10k to which has been invoiced to be paid back by Water & Lands/Orland A Farmers Group, we will not send out the check until we receive the payment. Chase and Jenny will be calling to set up a meeting with In-coming Manager Dahl to go over the Annexations.

D. **The Board to consider appointing a General Manager and approving their compensation and benefits as stated in the approved General Manager Agreement.**

The Board welcomed Justin Dahl and it was m/s/c (Jones/Erickson) to approve and appoint the New General Manager Justin Dahl to his position with the approved compensation and benefits previously approved in the General Manager Agreement by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

E. **The Board to consider appointing the New General Manager as Secretary to the Board of Directors**

After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to appoint Manager Dahl as Secretary to the Board of Directors

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

F. **The Board to consider appointing the New General Manager as 2nd Alternate on the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Board of Directors.**

After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Jones/Erickson) to appoint Manager Dahl as 2nd Alternate on the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Board of Directors.

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

G. **The Board to consider appointing the New General Manager as Alternate on the Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors.**

After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to appoint Manager Dahl as Alternate on the Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors.

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

H. **The Board to consider outgoing General Manager and approving their compensation and benefits for services rendered.**

Retiring Manager Cavagnolo discussed with the Board of Directors that since he will not be staying on as an employee and will only be consulting on an as needed basis for the District that he will be charging/requesting \$85 per hour. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the pay request at that rate with Mr. Cavagnolo. The Board

approved up to 80 hours of consulting time for Manager Dahl to use Mr. Cavagnolo's services, starting March 1st ending on March 31st on an as needed basis. The vote was as follows:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

I. **The Board to consider the Notice of Vacancy and Appointment of the Colusa Basin Drainage District Board of Directors.**

After Board discussion, no one was interested in running for the position and it was a consensus of the Board to not take any action on a nomination.

J. **The Board to receive an update on 2024 water supply.**

We received notice the morning of the Board meeting; the initial allocation would be announced 2/21/24.

K. **The Board to consider the 2024 Water Rate.**

Out-going Manager Cavagnolo presented the Board with the cost of water. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Jones/Erickson) to set the 2024 regular water rate at \$51 an acre-foot by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

L. **The Board to review 2023 water use and to consider leaving unused prepaid water to be left as a credit on water accounts.**

Emil explained to the Board of Directors that due to 215 water lasting so long during the 2023 water season, many of our Landowners over estimated on the amount of regular allocation water they would need for the year and still held a substantial amount of water credit on their accounts. Due to this Emil asked the Directors how they felt about carrying over the credits to be used towards this season's water. After Board review it was m/s/c

(Schonauer/Jones) to leave the water credit on the account to be used towards the 2024 season water or if requested could be cashed out by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: S. Carlos

M. **The Board to discuss outgoing General Manager retirement party.**

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens spoke with the Board about what they had in mind for Emil's retirement. After Board discussion it was the consensus of the Board to have Angel check pricing at the Amaris Banquet Hall next to Farwood, with Farwood catering a light lunch. The Board asked that Angel purchase a plaque honoring Emil for his years of service to the District. Angel was asked to get with Emil for a guest list, and set a date preferably the timing would be end of March or in April, from 11:30-1:30.

ADJOURNMENT.

Being there was no further District business, Board President Vereschagin adjourned the meeting at 3:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angel Stephens

Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE
MARCH 19TH, 2024 MEETING OF THE BOARD**