

**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 October 17, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.**

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

Roll call was as above and a quorum was determined.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

- Emil Cavagnolo, Manager.
- Angel Stephens, Administrative Assistant.
- Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent.
- Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector.
- Jenny Scheer, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.
- Chase Hurley, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

The minutes of the September 19th Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Erickson/Schonauer) to approve the September 19th Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

- AYES: E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones, J. Erickson.
- NOES: None
- ABSTAIN: None
- 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 September and the check register. Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens answered questions the Board had regarding the financials and the check register. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the September Financial Report and checks#14343 thru # 14387 by the following vote:

AYES: E. Pieper, J. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN. None  
ABSENT: M. Vereschagin

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Water Superintendent Chris Drouillard reported on the shop and field activities over the past month. He reported about the current status of the company vehicles, and how we may need to look into a used vehicle to purchase due to the continued backorder issues the Ford dealership is having. He will get with Manager Cavagnolo in the next week and come up with a plan for that. Superintendent Drouillard reported we billed 4,728 AF of water for the month of September and delivered approximately 1,300 AF so far for October. Chris reported that the wells are still low. Water quality has improved with very little debris floating, and the screens do not need much maintenance.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens in Manager Cavagnolo’s absence reviewed with the Board the Manager’s Report that she prepared, which was included in the Board packet. She reported about Office Operations, LAIF Interest, Field Staff Operations, General Manager Search, and answered any questions the Board had.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- A. **The Board to receive an update on Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Activities.**  
Director Jones reported to the Board on the 10/4/2023 TCCA Board meeting and the Special Budget Planning Meeting he attended 10/17/2023. It was reported that Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> the Canal would be shut down for maintenance.
  
- 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 10/09/2023.

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

Chase and Jenny from Water and Lands Solutions/Orland A Farms Group thanked the OAWD office staff for their help over the past week with needed paperwork for the USBR Water SMART grant application. The Water Smart grant was due 10/17/23, it is a grant that if awarded will facilitate Engineering cost by \$300,000. The second grant that will be applied for is towards the construction of the project, it could mean up to \$1,000,000.00 in funding and that grant is due 10/31/23.

Water and Lands Solutions reported that A NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE ANNEXATION, SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE, AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT came back stamped Received by the Glenn County Recorder on 10/13/2023, with the help of OAWD staff it was posted to oawd.org the OAWD website for Public Review, and will be mailed out to every landowner as well as posted in the OAWD office. This must be out for 30 days before the Public Hearing/Review date of 11/21/23.

Chase proposed to the Board a deferred payment option for the O&M and CVP Construction/Assessments for lands that will have new infrastructure, until it is built. It was also discussed that the Orland A Farmers Group would like to have a decision on the Final Annexation Agreement and Water Supply Agreement. After discussion, the thought was the Board would like to see something they could review and have requested the Landowners and Board hold a special board meeting to discuss further, so no action was taken at this time. Chase & Jenny will coordinate with the Landowners and Board on a date a Special Board Meeting can be scheduled prior to the regularly scheduled November Board meeting.

D. **The Board to discuss General Manager Search.**

The Board received one additional application. It was discussed, so far there have been 4 total candidates for the General Manager Position. Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens updated the Board on the additional listing sites that the Board requested in the prior meeting. After discussion it was decided to wait for any further candidates, with the possibility of extending the time frame. They will discuss further actions on how to proceed during the November Special Board Meeting.

E. **The Board to review and consider draft amended Bylaws and Resolution 2023-05, Amending District Bylaws.**

The Directors reviewed the draft bylaws and after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to approve the Amended Bylaws and Resolution 2023-05 by the following vote:

AYES: E. Pieper, J. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: M. Vereschagin

F. **The Board to review and consider Resolution 2023-06, Resolution Commencing Alternative Assessment Procedure for Fiscal Year 2024, and Setting a Public Hearing for the per-acre valuation for all district lands on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

The Directors reviewed the resolution and after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the Resolution 2023-06, Resolution Commencing Alternative Assessment Procedure for Fiscal Year 2024, and Setting a Public Hearing for the per-acre valuation for all district lands on November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 by the following vote:

AYES: E. Pieper, J. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: M. Vereschagin

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.

**10. ADJOURNMENT.**

Being there was no further District business, Board Vice President Pieper adjourned the meeting at 2:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angel Stephens

Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 21, 2023  
MEETING OF THE BOARD**