

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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



GENERAL MANAGER

Justin Dahl

**MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MINUTES

OCTOBER 15, 2024

DIRECTOR MEMBERS PRESENT

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Justin Dahl, Manager
- Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent
- Justin Rolfs, Field Tech
- Angel Stephens, Administrative Assistant
- Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector
- Jenny Scheer, Water & Land Solutions
- Michael Berens, Sustainable Conservation
- Leigh McDaniel, Land Owner

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President of the Board Schonauer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll was taken and is indicated above.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

The minutes of the September 17th Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Erickson) to approve the September 17th Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

Roll Call Vote	AYES	NOES	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mike Vereschagin:			X	
Steve Carlos:	X			
Brian Erickson:	X			
Jim Jones:	X			
Chuck Schonauer:	X			

PUBLIC FORUM:

No Comments

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for September and the check register. Manager Dahl and Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens answered any questions the Board had regarding the financials. Angel explained to the Directors that upon doing the final reconciliation when closing the checking account with Umpqua Bank, she found a total of 5 checks that had never been cashed, 3 of the 5 were re-issued and 2 of them were credited back to the account/voided to clear them as they were checks from over 10 years ago. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Carlos/Jones) to approve the September Financial Report and checks #15200 through #15244 by the following vote:

Roll Call Vote	AYES	NOES	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mike Vereschagin:			X	
Steve Carlos:	X			
Brian Erickson:	X			
Jim Jones:	X			
Chuck Schonauer:	X			

PRESENTATION: Leigh McDaniel’s Recharge Proposal

Leigh proposed to the Directors his idea about groundwater recharge on his land in two different areas. The first area is a pasture land/gravel pit area that also has an adjacent large storm drain ditch that runs along the property and onto the side of Lassen Land property and is also about 500 yards from Walker Creek. It is off of Plant 38.6 outlet C-16 and OAWD has run recharge/215 water during previous high flow times. Location two used to be a catch basin and holding pond when the area was flood-irrigated. They are proposing to go into the pond area (approx. ten acres) and excavate the area to about 8-10 feet deep. Leigh has found funding to put in infrastructure that would come off of Rd F and the C-47 Outlet to service the filling of the pond area. What Leigh asked of the Board of Directors and OAWD is to maintain the winter recharge program and to provide an MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding) that states we are planning to continue our winter recharge program and

would like to know that he could get as much water (he thinks up to 1,000 A/F) as possible during the high flow months. The development and research company that is interested in providing money for the infrastructure of the project is Google. Leigh introduced Michael Berens from Sustainable Conservation, who explained the “why” Google and Sustainable Conservation wanted to be involved. Director Jones commented that he liked the idea that we had a history of using the gravel pit area for recharge purposes, as long as Google fully understands that it is all dependent on the weather and water supply. We only use an “excess” water supply for a few months when we have the high flow “cheap water” and we do not and cannot guarantee water. Director Schonauer stated that Orland-Artois was committed to groundwater recharge and so is the Glenn Ground Water Authority but the reality is that to do all these projects you need water and that is not always available and never “free”. Manager Dahl explained the cost of water and the Cost of 3F water. He also stated that it takes three things to make a good recharge project, the area, the infrastructure, and the Water. If Leigh is providing the area and Google is providing the infrastructure, would Google provide any money for the water? Mr. Berens said it is not unreasonable to ask and see what they would be able to offer for water. Director Erickson asked what if in 5 years SIGMA came into effect who would receive the water credits going into the ground if a recharge credit system went into effect? Michael and Leigh claimed that had not been discussed at this point. After further Board Discussion, the Board decided that we are going to keep our winter recharge program going as long as we can when water is available. We would treat this project the same as any other of our recharge areas and we cannot guarantee any amount of water, also, if in the future there was a “credit for recharge water” system Orland-Artois Water District would retain the water credits. For now, OAWD will report back that we are interested but would need to review further.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Chris Drouillard updated the Board on District Operations, Water Use, Deep Wells, Vehicles, and Water Quality and answered any questions the Board had.

MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Manager Dahl reviewed with the Board his Manager’s Report, which was included in the Board packet, and answered any questions the Board had.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- A. The Board received an update on the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Activities. Director Jones updated the Board on the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority activities and the meeting he attended on 10/01/2024.
- B. The Board received an update on the Glenn Groundwater Authority activities and Ground Water Recharge Projects. Director Schonauer updated the Board on the Glenn Groundwater Authority activities and meetings he participated in. He reported there was going to be a special joint meeting with Colusa on 10/31/2024 at 9:30 am in Willows about demand management.
- C. The Board received an update from Water and Lands Solutions on the Orland A Farmers Group annexation project. Jenny gave updates on annexation agreements and stated that OAWD’s legal suggested that the agreements needed to be re-signed with new management and needed Mike’s signatures to be notarized. That will be done within the

next few weeks. Manager Dahl asked what the reason behind that was and why would he have to sign since Emil was the manager who previously signed them when the agreement was made. Jenny responded that she took a step back from that process and Chase was the one who talked with Legal about the why. The grants are still in process and the design grant should be ready to be signed before the end of the month or before the next board meeting. Director Jones commented that in the last meeting, we hadn't heard from legal counsel in some time, and he asked if that had been resolved. Manager Dahl expressed his disappointment/frustration with the communication level of the current legal counsel. Director Schonauer asked to have it made as an agenda item during the next meeting. Jenny continued to talk about how Chase was still working with Justin on trying to figure out some pilot projects on infiltration rates on the pit behind the office as a potential recharge basin.

- D. The Board is to consider Resolution 2024-06, Resolution Commencing Alternative Assessment Procedure for Fiscal Year 2025, and setting a Public Hearing for the per-acre valuation for all District lands on November 26th, 2024. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Erickson) to approve the resolution. The vote was as follows:

Roll Call Vote	AYES	NOES	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Mike Vereschagin:			X	
Steve Carlos:	X			
Brian Erickson:	X			
Jim Jones:	X			
Chuck Schonauer:	X			

ADJOURNMENT:

Before adjourning the meeting Vice-President Schonauer reminded the board that the November meeting will be changed to the 26th due to staff vacations. Being there was no further business, Vice-President Schonauer adjourned the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angel Stephens