

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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

President of the Board Mike Vereschagin called the meeting to order at 1:32 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 August 15th Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Pieper) to approve the August 15th Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

There were no comments from the public.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS:

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for August 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 (Pieper/Erickson) to approve the August Financial Report and checks#14290 thru # 14342 by the following vote:

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

WATER SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens gave the Water Superintendent’s report because Water Superintendent Chris Drouillard was not available. Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens reported on the repairs done on the traveling screen and sweeping screen at 35.2, as well as the pipe break on Road 35 just east of 44.1. She also reported on Justin working on repairing/rebuilding some air vents and in the shop. The board was informed we billed 7665AF of water for the month of August and delivered approximately 2500AF so far for September. Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens reported that DW1 was at 159ft (down 6ft), DW2 was at 130ft (with no gain or loss), and the monitoring well was at 71ft (up 2ft). There is a hold on the district truck that was ordered to replace the Water Superintendent’s truck due to a backordered transmission and labor strike. Water quality was cleaner than previous months.

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, Field Staff Operations, Election Information, Manager Posting, 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 09/06/2023 TCCA Board meeting.

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 09/12/2023

b. Report on pilot ground water recharge projects.

Jenny Scheer, Water & Land Solutions, reported to the Board that the GGA is planning a press release on recharge at Lely Park. They were hoping to get someone from the District to come as a representative to speak about water recharge. President Mike Vereschagin and Director Schonauer both volunteered depending on availability. Jenny was going to inform us further when a date was determined.

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 of Water & Land Solutions, updated the Board on the progress on the Orland A Farmers Group Annexation. They discussed with the board that finding funding for Phase 1 of the Annexation would prove difficult without OAWD being the borrower. OAWD having in place the structure to collect on defaulted payments (through our County Tax Roll) makes it much easier to be approved for the financial backing, whereas finding loan approval with 24 different borrowers can prove to be much more difficult. The Board asked that they come back next month with some proposals for review.

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

Jenny Scheer, Water & Land Solutions, asked that the board review the Draft Agreement answers given by District Counsel Josh Horowitz over the next Month and we come back to it in October. She asked that any concerns/questions be sent to Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens and Angel gather/forward to her and to District Counsel Josh Horowitz. She has not been able to get the landowners to review yet and receive any feedback. She is hoping to have that by next month for the Board to discuss any concerns they may have.

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

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

D. The Board to discuss 2023 elections for Directors.

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

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens reported to the Board the election has ended and the final results were as follows, Jim Jones, Brian Erickson, and Steve Carlos were elected by the landowners. The Certificate of County Clerk & Statement of Votes will be turned into the Board of Supervisors for approval. She also received the Certificates for them to be signed into Oath which she will review and schedule accordingly.

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

The Board discussed the 3 candidates that have sent in applications or resumes so far and instructed Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens to post the job in some of the more local publications. After discussion it was decided to look into the areas of Redding, Red Bluff, Chico, Colusa and Glenn County Newspaper Publications and get another round of advertising out as soon as possible.

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

The Directors reviewed the draft bylaws and after discussion the Board directed Angel to have District Counsel make necessary edits and bring it back to the October Board Meeting.

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 President Vereschagin adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Angel Stephens

Administrative Assistant

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE OCTOBER 17th, 2023
MEETING OF THE BOARD**