

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)

P. O. BOX 218 ORLAND, CALIFORNIA 95963

Telephone (530) 865-4304 • Fax (530) 865-8497

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

TUESDAY DECEMBER 19, 2023

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

- Emil Cavagnolo, Manager.
- Angel Stephens, Administrative Assistant.
- Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent.
- Jenny Scheer, Water & Land Solutions.
- Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector.
- Don Rust, County of Glenn Public Works Director.

Roll call was as above and a quorum was determined.

1. **Public Hearing at 1:30 PM.** The Board, acting as a Board of Equalization, to Consider Resolution 2023-12, Determining Gross Assessed Value and Fixing and Ordering Assessment.

President Vereschagin Opened the Public Hearing at 1:32 PM. There were no comments from the public. The Directors reviewed Resolution 2023-12, and after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Schonauer) to approve Resolution 2023-12, Determining Gross Assessed Value and Fixing and Ordering Assessment by the following vote:

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

President Vereschagin closed the Public Hearing at 1:35 PM

2. Introduction of new Directors and Election of Officers.

President Vereschagin introduced and welcomed the two new Directors, Steve Carlos and Brian Erickson, to the Board. President Vereschagin opened the floor for nomination for President of the Board. Director Jones nominated Director Vereschagin and Director Erickson seconded the nomination. President Vereschagin then opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President of the Board. Director Jones nominated Director Schonauer and Director Carlos seconded the nomination. President Vereschagin asked the Board to vote for the President and Vice-President nominees. The Board approved Mike Vereschagin as Board President and Charles Schonauer as Board Vice-President by the following vote:

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

3. Approval of the Minutes of the November 21st Board Meeting.

The Directors reviewed the November 21st minutes, and after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the November 21st minutes by the following vote:

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

4. Approval of the Minutes of the November 29th Special Board Meeting.

The Directors reviewed the November 29th minutes, and after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Schonauer) to approve the November 29th minutes by the following vote:

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

5. Public Forum.

There were no comments from the public.

6. The Board to Review and Approve the November Internal Financial Statements.

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for November 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 (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the November Financial Report and checks #14436 thru #14482 by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, S. Carlos, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

7. The Board to Review and Approve Payment of Checks.

The Board combined the approval of checks with Item 6., approval of financial statements.

8. Water Superintendent's Report:

Water Superintendent Chris Drouillard reported on the shop and field activities over the past month. He reported that the canal in the 44.1 area is being refilled. The sump at 44.1 was inspected and found clean. The canal in the rest of the District will start being drained on Wednesday. This will allow for inspection and cleaning of the remaining diversion sumps. Superintendent Drouillard reported the District billed 451 AF of water for the month of November and delivered approximately 214 AF so far for December. Chris reported that the wells are still low but rising. Water quality is good. Superintendent Drouillard reported on the current status of the District vehicles and that the new 2022 Chevy Pickup is getting 22 miles to the gallon.

9. Manager's Report:

Manager Cavagnolo reviewed the manager report in the Board Packet and answered any questions the Board had. Manager Cavagnolo reported that the 2014 F150 was sold at the Bid-Cal auction for \$2,800. The District will receive a check for that amount less 15% commission in a few days. Manager Cavagnolo reported that the screen at 35.2 that needs maintenance and repair work will be inspected while the canal is drained. We have an estimate for parts, \$135,000 to replace all of the mechanicals. Hopefully it will not need a complete rebuild. Lely's Pump will do most of the work.

10. General Business:

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

Director Jones reported to the Board on the 12/06/2023 TCCA Board meeting.

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

i. Report on GGA Board Meeting.

Director Schonauer reported to the Board on the 12/12/2023 GGA Board meeting. He updated the Board on the incomplete status of the Ground Water Sustainability Plan and the direction the GGA is taking to rectify this.

County of Glenn Public Works Director, Don Rust, said that he had the go ahead to work on a recharge project south of the airport on the corner of P and 24.

ii. Recharge well level update.

The Well levels for the recharge sites are in the Board Packet.

C. The Board to receive an update on annexations.

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

Jenny Scheer, of Water and Land Solutions, updated the Board on the OAFG Annexation. The Draft Municipal Services Report and Sphere of Influence was approved by the Glenn LAFCO Board and the Annexation Application has been submitted. Mrs. Scheer asked the Board to consider allowing the landowners who will be using the Patton Pump to irrigate the Patton property and annexed land to the south of the Patton property to take over responsibility of the canal-side facility. The landowners will be responsible for any future operations, power costs, maintenance, repair, upgrades, and replacement of the facility. The District will continue to own and maintain the meter. The consensus of the Board was to turn responsibility of the Patton Pump over to the landowners who will use the facility. There will need to be an agreement between the District and the landowners addressing the transfer of responsibility to be recorded with the annexation agreement for the affected lands.

County of Glenn Public Works Director, Don Rust, asked the Board to consider including the Glenn County Transfer Station land included into the District's Sphere of Influence if possible. This will set the stage for the annexation of the Glenn County Transfer Station land into the District for M&I use. The consensus of the Board was that they are in favor of including the Transfer Station in the District's Sphere of Influence, if possible. President Vereschagin suggested that Mr. Rust and the County work with the District's General Manager on annexing the Transfer Station into the District.

D. The Board to consider Resolution 2023-13 Ordering District Assessor to add unpaid charges to Assessments.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2023-13, after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Carlos) to approve Resolution 2023-13, Ordering District Assessor to add unpaid charges to Assessments by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, S. Carlos, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

E. The Board will consider sending a letter of support for the United States Bureau of Reclamation, California Great Basin Region's proposed use of Fiscal year 2024 Aging Infrastructure Account funds for the Central Valley Project's extraordinary maintenance projects.

The Board reviewed the letter of support and the affected projects. Manager Cavagnolo explained that the TCCA will be sending a letter of support that would cover the TC

Districts, but OAWD can send its own letter. The consensus of the Board was to send a letter from the District and the General Manager was directed to do so.

F. CLOSED SESSION:

- i. Public employee appointment or employment involving the position of General Manager. (Government Code section 54957(b)).**
- ii. Public Employee Performance Evaluation involving the position of General Manager. (Government Code section 54954.5(e)).**

President Vereschagin adjourned the regular meeting and the Board went into closed session at 2:50 PM.

The Board came out of closed session and President Vereschagin reopened the regular meeting at 3:30 PM.

G. Report from Closed Session.

There was no report from closed session.

H. The Board to consider appointing a General Manager and approving their compensation and benefits.

The appointment of a General Manager was tabled for a future meeting.

I. The Board will consider 2024 Draft Budget.

The Board reviewed the 2024 Proposed Budget that was included in the Board Packet. Director Jones suggested that funds from the Water Contingency Reserves be used to offset the \$7.77 per-acre increase to the Operations Charge. Director Schonauer suggested the Operations Charge should be reduced to \$37.50 per-acre. The cost of doing this would be \$227,297. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the 2024 Proposed Budget with the addition of funds from the Water Contingency Reserves to make the 2024 Operations Charge \$37.50 per acre by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, S. Carlos, B. Erickson, J. Jones, C. Schonauer.

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

J. The Board will consider the draft updated OAWD Investment Policy.

The Board reviewed the Draft OAWD Investment Policy, which was included in the Board packet. President Vereschagin felt that the Investment Committee should be the full board and the general manager. Director Jones felt the policy was complete and would work well for the District. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Jones/Schonauer) to approve the Draft OAWD Investment Policy with the Investment Committee to include the full board and the general manager by the following vote:

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

K. The Board will consider Resolution 2023-14, Honoring Ernie Pieper Upon His Retirement from the Board of Directors.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2023-14, after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to approve Resolution 2023-14, Honoring Ernie Pieper Upon His Retirement from the Board of Directors by the following vote:

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

L. The Board will consider Resolution 2023-15, Honoring John Erickson Upon His Retirement from the Board of Directors.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2023-15, after Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Erickson) to approve Resolution 2023-15, Honoring John Erickson Upon His Retirement from the Board of Directors by the following vote:

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

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Being there was no further District business, Board President Vereschagin adjourned the meeting at 4:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Emil Cavagnolo

Manager

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE JANUARY 16, 2024
MEETING OF THE BOARD**