

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

September 22, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in regular session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 22nd day of September 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Present were Chris Bierwagen, President (Division II); Laura L. Peters, Vice-President (Division IV); and Directors Ricki Heck (Division I); and Karen Hull (Division III). Director Rich Johansen (Division V) attended remotely.

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Marvin Davis, Finance Manager/Treasurer; Doug Roderick, Interim Engineering Manager; Keane Sommers, Hydroelectric Manager; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Bierwagen called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by President Bierwagen
- Roll Call: 5 members present, 1 member absent (Director Hull arrived and joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- None

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Peters requested the following items to be pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

- Item 3 - Hemphill Diversion Structure Project (Project #7032) Fish Passage Design Contract

Director Peters motioned for approval of the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Item 3. Director Heck seconded the motion.

Public Comment: None

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division I	Aye
Bierwagen, Division II	Aye
Hull, Division III	Absent
Peters, Division IV	Aye
Johansen, Division V	Aye

Consent Agenda items approved were:

MINUTES – September 8, 2021, Regular Meeting

Approved the Minutes of the regular meeting on September 8, 2021.

CABY INTEGRATED REGIONAL PLANNING UPDATE

Adopted Resolution No. 2021-33 (Supporting the Cosumnes, American, Bear, and Yuba Watersheds Integrated Regional Water Management Plan).

DAVID WAY PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT (FATR #2322)

Awarded a manufacturing contract with EFI-Solutions in the amount of \$412,475.77, approved Budget Amendment 2021-182 and authorized the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents.

WARRANTS, PROJECTS & FACILITIES, INVESTMENT REPORT

Approved the Check Register and received and filed the Project & Facility and Investment Transaction Reports for the period ending September 7, 2021.

ITEM PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION

HEMPHILL DIVERSION STRUCTURE PROJECT (PROJECT #7032) FISH PASSAGE DESIGN CONTRACT

Doug Roderick, Interim Engineering Manager, presented the item clarifying the full scope of the design contract and the District’s experience working with McMillen Jacobs Associates.

Public Comment: None

Director Peters made a motion to award a consulting contract for professional engineering design services in the amount of \$294,166 to McMillen Jacobs, approve Budget Amendment 2021-183, and authorize the General Manager to execute the appropriate documents. Director Johansen seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division I	Aye
Bierwagen, Division II	Aye
Hull, Division III	Absent
Peters, Division IV	Aye
Johansen, Division V	Aye

GENERAL ORDERS

LABOR CONTRACT – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH AFSCME REGARDING WAGES, HOURS, AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REPRESENTED EMPLOYMENT (FIELD, SUPERVISORY AND OFFICE UNITS) FOR 2021-2023

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item.

The three bargaining units of AFSCME recently voted to ratify the MOUs as presented, and it is understood that 100% of those that voted were in favor.

The Board thanked the Labor Committee and staff for their hard work and discussed the budget amendment, clarifying no funds would be needed in 2021 from reserves due to a reduction in budgeted expenses for OPEB in 2021.

Public Comment: None

Director Heck made a motion to ratify the Memorandums of Understanding by AFSCME pertaining to represented employees, adopted Resolution No. 2021-31 (Authorizing Changes in Wages, Hours, and Terms and Conditions of Employment for Employees Represented by AFSCME), and approve the associated 2021 Budget Amendment 2021-181. Director Johansen seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division I	Aye
Bierwagen, Division II	Aye
Hull, Division III	Absent
Peters, Division IV	Aye
Johansen, Division V	Aye

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT – 2020

Marvin Davis, Finance Manager/Treasurer, presented the item and introduced Brian Nash, CPA/Partner with Richardson & Company, LLP, who provided an informational presentation.

Director Hull arrived and joined the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Board discussions ensued regarding projects shown under Construction in Progress, negative findings, recreation cash handling, accounting methods, and standards, and the District’s investment strategy and funding mechanisms. Robust discussions also ensued regarding continuing financial process improvements to address and/or remove auditor findings.

Public Comment: None

September 22, 2021

Authorized the Finance Manager to publish the report. M/S/C Hull/Peters, unanimously approved.

The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened at 11:23 a.m.

UPDATING DISTRICT POLICIES – MINUTES

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, presented the item and walked the Board through the proposed policy changes.

Numerous requests have been made by members of the Board to modify the official record from video to minutes and to modify minutes from action minutes to summary-based minutes.

The Board engaged in a robust discussion regarding industry standards, the District's retention policy pertaining to video recordings, nuances of summary minutes, the public's ability to access video recordings, and the California Public Records Act.

Public Comment:

- Keiko Mertz, Policy Manager with South Yuba River Citizens League, addressed the Board in opposition of the item and shared concerns and suggestions
- Dianna Suarez, Resident of Colfax, addressed the Board in opposition of the item as presented, but in support of summary minutes
- Deborah Totoonchie with Nevada County Farm Bureau, addressed the Board in support of the item
- Mike Pasner, owner of Indian Springs Organic Farm in Penn Valley, addressed the Board in opposition of the item and shared his concerns
- Traci Sheehan, with Foothills Water Network, addressed the Board in opposition of the item and shared her concerns and suggestions

Board consensus was reached to direct staff to provide summary minutes for the next few Board meetings and research video storage costs. The item will be brought back to the Board at a future date for further input.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, reported on the following items:

- Water Rates Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 23rd at 2:00 p.m.
- Special Board Meeting is scheduled for September 23rd at 4:00 p.m. for a 2022 Budget - Capital Improvement Workshop

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, reported on the following items:

- Partnering with Sierra Streams Institute and Cottage Hill School for the Our Forests Project, a watershed education program funded by the National Science Foundation

September 22, 2021

- River Fire Update provided indicating inter-agency collaboration, sharing of resources, and working together on emergency actions

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

Director Hull, Division III, reported on the following items:

- Attended Placer County Ag Commission meeting where Placer County Water Agency provided a presentation on the River Fire

Director Peters, Division IV, reported on the following items:

- Attended Placer County Ag Commission meeting where Placer County Water Agency provided a presentation on the River Fire
- Participated with District in Bear River Clean-up at the Dog Bar Bridge
- Attended Lincoln Municipal Advisory Committee meeting, where key topics included how to mitigate and improve traffic and accidents

Director Heck, Division I, reported on the following items:

- Inquired about Rise Gold Mine and the District's role if any
- Requested a look ahead for topics coming to future Board meetings, including Plan for Water

Director Johansen, Division V, reported on the following items:

- Commented on concerns he has received from constituents that the Lake Wildwood to E. George Backbone Extension Project is not reflected in the agenda packet for the Special Board Workshop regarding the 2022 Budget – Capital Improvement Planning Workshop, scheduled for September 23rd
- Commented on Rise Gold Mine and requested more information

Director Bierwagen, Division II, reported on the following items:

- Shared old Union Newspaper inserts from past District celebrations and suggested the District do something similar in local papers for 100th Anniversary

MEETING ADJOURNED at 1:10 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

September 22, 2021

Board Secretary

Attest a true record of actions
had and taken at the above and
foregoing meeting our presence
thereat and our consent thereto.

Division I

Division II

Division III

Division IV

Division V

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