

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

April 12, 2023

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 12th day of April 2023, at 9 a.m.

Present were Karen Hull, President (Division III) and Rich Johansen, Vice President (Division V), and Chris Bierwagen, (Division II); and Trevor Caulder (Division IV).

Director Ricki Heck (Division I), was absent – attended remotely as a member of the public.

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; Tonia Tabucchi Hererra, Senior Engineer; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; Susan Lauer, Communications Specialist; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; Joanne Phillips, Engineering Management Assistant, and Katie Kemp, Office Assistant II.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Hull called the meeting to order
- President Hull led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 4 Members Present 1 Member Absent

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- Ricki Heck, attending as a member of the public, commented on the final comments due soon for the Final Environmental Impact Report for the Rise Gold Mine Proposal
- Judy Valentine, resident of Rough and Ready, addressed the Board regarding algae in canals and concerns about the use of Round-Up

CONSENT AGENDA

Director Johansen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, with one addition to the Minutes of March 22nd, to add the name of Aurora Tipton, Customer Service Administrator, so that she is included in being recognized for her work helping to solve private conduit issues on Oak Canyon, under Board Member Reports on Page 31. Director Bierwagen seconded the motion

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Public Comment: None

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Absent
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Hull, Division 3	Aye
Caulder, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON MARCH 22, 2023

Director Johansen made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting on March 22, 2023, as amended to add the name of Aurora Tipton, Customer Service Administrator, under Board Member Reports on Page 31. Director Bierwagen seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Absent
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Hull, Division 3	Aye
Caulder, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

WARRANTS, PROJECT AND FACILITY REPORT, AND INVESTMENT REPORT

Director Johansen made a motion to ratify the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check registers, the Project and Facility Report, and the Investment Transaction Report for the period January 28th through February 10th. Director Bierwagen seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Absent
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Hull, Division 3	Aye
Caulder, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

GENERAL ORDERS

NID STRATEGIC PLAN

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, presented the item.

Public Comment:

- Ricki Heck, Division 1 Director (attending remotely as a member of the public), commented on defining the different funds when referring to them under Strategic Priority Financial Sustainability, Goal 3 – Develop 5-Year Financial Plan Objectives

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Board Discussion ensued regarding updating the timeframe for South Yuba Canal Repair Plan to 2024, reviewing the progress of the Strategic Plan, the different funds identified in the 5-Year Financial Plan, and in support of the history information included in the Strategic Plan.

Director Johansen made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-17 - Adopting the NID 2023 Strategic Plan, amended as follows:

- **Page 8, Goal 3 Objectives – Change the timeframe for the “South Yuba Canal Repair Plan” to reflect 2024**
- **Page 11, Goal 3, 5-Year Financial Plan Objectives - Add the name of each of the funds**

Director Caulder seconded the motion.

Motion passed on the following roll call vote:

Heck, Division 1	Absent
Bierwagen, Division 2	Aye
Hull, Division 3	Aye
Caulder, Division 4	Aye
Johansen, Division 5	Aye

WORKSHOP ITEMS

President Hull moved item 5B – E. George to Lake Wildwood Pipeline Project Workshop to occur before item 5A – NID Communications Plan.

E. GEORGE TO LAKE WILDWOOD PIPELINE PROJECT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced the item, and Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering, led a workshop discussion on the E. George to Lake Wildwood Pipeline Project (BEP).

Board reviewed the routes, costs, and pros/cons of each alternative, and Board discussion ensued regarding:

- History of the Backbone Extension Program (BEP)
- Other projects done under the BEP and interties
- Funding of capital projects vs expansion projects to accommodate growth
- Isolating Hydroelectric expenditures
- Outages
- Prioritizing work on the Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant
- New connections and projecting over time
- Financing/funding options
- Considering upcoming higher-priority capital projects that are of greater expense
- Timing and completion of the capacity fee study
- Clarifying numbers in the Summary of Alternatives Capital and O&M Costs
- Property tax revenue discussed
- Serving communities within the District

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Public Comment:

- An anonymous member of the Public:
 - o Requested clarification of the location of the Elizabeth George Treatment Plant and where the water comes from
 - o Inquired if flushing out of the system is needed between the different alternatives
 - o Requested clarification of area included when referring to Penn Valley area
 - o Confirming reference to the treated water system area within Penn Valley

- Ricki Heck, Division 1 Director (attending remotely as a member of the public) commented on the following:
 - o Clarification of Lake Wildwood Treatment Plant usage and capacity
 - o Ability to expand Lake Wildwood Treatment Plant or if necessary
 - o Water loss from flushing the system – under Alternative #1
 - o Length of time, complexity, and number of customers potentially being served for each alternative
 - o Requested an Operating & Maintenance cost comparison of the different alternatives
 - o Projected number of units coming online for housing under Nevada County General Plan
 - o Alternatives allowing for redundancy to make improvements to the Lake Wildwood Treatment Plant now and build the pipeline sometime in the future
 - o Seeing alternatives in the same format as the CIP scoring
 - o Routing pipeline through an area because it is economically disadvantaged, while those in that area cannot afford to connect
 - o Commented on property taxes being a general benefit

- Ann Driver, member of the public:
 - o Requested clarification that Alternative #1 would support an 18" pipeline to supplement flows to the Lake Wildwood Water Treatment Plant
 - o Costs for service and fire hydrants
 - o Requested clarification of how potential connections are determined
 - o Asked where the Newtown Canal comes from

- Kathy Hinman, Nevada County Association of Realtors and resident of Penn Valley, Lake Wildwood:
 - o Commented in support of Alternative #3 and its potential to provide water to a denser population which may result in less costs than Alternative #2

- Barbara Bashall, with Nevada County Contractors' Association:
 - o Grant opportunities available:
 - Federal Infrastructure Program
 - Fire Hydrants
 - Disadvantaged Communities (Penn Valley and Rough & Ready)
 - o Spoke in support of Alternative #3 and asked the Board to consider approval

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- Commented on Penn Valley as an emerging area
- Commented on more wells going dry and the importance of providing water to our community

Staff to complete additional work on the capacity fee study and bring the item back to the Board with more information related to what the capacity fees are collected for, slated for, and planned for, to provide a better perspective on the utilization of those particular funds. Additional information to also include potential financing plans for Alternatives #5,3 and 1 and the feasibility of developing a community development district that would isolate the cost to the benefiting community area.

The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened at 11:25 a.m.

NID COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, introduced Tyler Campbell, CEO/Founder of Titanium Ideas, Inc., who provided a presentation.

Board discussion ensued regarding improvements made to the District's social media presence, The Brown Act, photos, Nevada County Peeps, social media growth, new vs. returning website visitors, budget, data, including mutual benefit stories, and positive feedback on the GM newsletter.

Public Comment:

- Ricki Heck, Division 1 Director, attending remotely as a member of the public:
 - Nevada County Peeps postings

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, had no items to report.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Attended Placer County Board of Realtors meeting with President Hull
- Lincoln High School Farm Event – April 12th
- Farm Tours are coming up soon

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

- Nevada County Farm Bureau's Farm Tour on May 17th
- Presented at the Placer County/Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting with President Hull
- Attended a Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting

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

- Attended Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting
- Thanked staff who recently visited Johansen Farms
- A new look at where the water goes in California indicates 15% is agricultural water

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- Commented on business news/economy
- California Realtors Association endorsing a bill that would not require CEQA for the construction of storage/reservoirs

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

- Presented at Placer County Association of Realtors with Director Caulder
- Presented at Placer County/Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting with Director Bierwagen
- Met with the Nevada County Contractor's Association Board with Director Johansen
- Attended the Nevada County Farm Bureau meeting
- Attended meeting with two environmental community members along with Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, and Doug Roderick Director of Engineering

MEETING ADJOURNED at 12:25 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Submitted By



Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary