

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

October 12, 2022

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 October 2022, at 9 a.m.

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

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; Dustin Cooper, District Counsel; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Bierwagen called the meeting to order
- President Bierwagen led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 5 Members Present

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- None

**CONSENT AGENDA**

President Bierwagen pulled the following items from the Consent Agenda for discussion at the request of Director Peters:

- Item 3A: Minutes of the Special Meeting on September 28, 2022
- Item 3C: District Policy 2175- Employee Training
- Item 3E: Resolution of Appreciation

Public Comment: None

**Director Heck motioned for approval of the Consent Agenda, excluding Items 3A, 3C, and 3E. Director Johansen seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.**

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The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

AB-361 COMPLIANCE - BROWN ACT/COVID-19 TELECONFERENCE AND REMOTE MEETING REQUIREMENTS

**Adopted Resolution No. 2022-51 (Re-Authorizing Remote Meetings Consistent with AB-361). M/S/C Heck/Johansen, unanimously approved.**

UPDATE JOB DESCRIPTIONS - SR. FINANCE ASSISTANT & FINANCE ASSISTANT I/II

**Adopted Resolution No. 2022-55 (Revision of Sr. Finance Assistant and Finance Assistant I/II Job Descriptions). M/S/C Heck/Johansen, unanimously approved.**

WARRANTS, PROJECT AND FACILITY REPORT AND INVESTMENT TRANSACTION REPORT

**Ratified the issuance of warrants by receiving and filing the check registers, Project and Facility Report and the Investment Transaction Report for the period September 10 to September 23, 2022. M/S/C Heck/Johansen, unanimously approved.**

Items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Public Comment: None

**Approved as amended to add the following to Page 121, under Policy 3080 – Procurement: “The Board asked Director Peters to provide her comments in written format.” M/S/C Peters/Hull, unanimously approved.**

DISTRICT POLICY 2175 - EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Board discussion ensued regarding the General Manager’s approval authority subject to limits in the District’s Procurement Policy and department training plans.

Public Comment: None

**Adopted Resolution No. 2022-52 (Authorizing Update to District Policy 2175 - Employee Training) as amended to replace “has” with “have” in the first sentence of Section 2175.2. M/S/C Johansen/Hull, unanimously approved.**

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS - Resolution of Appreciation for R. McConnehey

Board discussion ensued regarding the position of the employee retiring and if the resolution would be formally presented during the meeting.

Public Comment: None

**Adopt Resolution No. 2022-56 (Resolution of Appreciation - Rich McConnehey). M/S/C Peters/Hull, unanimously approved.**

**GENERAL ORDERS**

**GRANT APPLICATION- USFS COLLABORATION FOR UPPER MIDDLE YUBA WATERSHED NEPA (PLANNING GRANT REQUEST)**

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, and Neysa King, Environmental Resources Administrator, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding dispersed camping and recreation, benefits of work at headwater levels, lead agency, timing, reimbursement, and administrative expenses.

Public Comment: None

**Adopted Resolution No. 2022-53 (Authorizing the Application for Grant Funds for the 2022 Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the Upper Middle Yuba Watershed Forest Restoration Project: NEPA Planning in the amount of \$560,000). M/S/C Peters/Johansen, unanimously approved.**

**GRANT APPLICATION - UPPER YUBA HEADWATERS FOREST RESTORATION PROJECT (400-ACRES IMPLEMENTATION ON NID PARCELS)**

Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager, and Neysa King, Environmental Resources Administrator, presented the item.

Board discussion ensued regarding the work area and timeframe.

Public Comment:

- Trevor Caulder, member of the public, commented on how this work benefits District customers in addition to fire fuel reduction

**Adopted Resolution No. 2022-54 (Authorizing the Application for Grant Funds for the 2022 Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience Directed Grant Program of the Sierra Nevada Conservancy for the Upper Yuba Headwaters Forest Restoration Project in the amount of \$1,420,000). M/S/C Heck/Peters, unanimously approved.**

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

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

- Update on the Hemphill Diversion Structure Fish Passage Project
- Nevada County Climate Summit in the Truckee area on Oct. 13
- FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) relicensing update
- Announcement of PG&E selling off power generation assets (exclusions include South Yuba Canal) stay tuned
- Audit Update provided and anticipate bringing to the Board by early November
- Upcoming Budget Workshops

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS' ITEMS / REPORTS

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

- Attended the California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force meeting

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

- Participated in a site visit at Scotts Flat Reservoir and shared highlights
- Attended RWA (Regional Water Authority) Program on American River Basin with Director Heck
- Attended California Special District's "Special District Leadership Academy" and shared highlights, including generational equity, Brown Act legislation pertaining to social media, reserve policies, and strategies for contentious Board meetings
- Inquired about when the following items will be brought to the Board:
  - o 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financials
  - o The District's existing bonds

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

- Met with constituents
- Interviewing for the Hemphill movie
- Scheduled to attend ACWA Region 3 Event in Murphys on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> and offered to extend her ticket to Management
- Requested a hearing status update (brief update provided by Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, and Dustin Cooper, District Counsel)

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

- Announced it is pumpkin patch time

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

- Commented on generational equity
- Irrigation season ends this weekend and inquired what an 8-month irrigation season would look like
- Presenting in Lake Wildwood on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN CLOSED SESSION

- None

Dustin Cooper, District Counsel, announced that there would be no reportable action resulting from Closed Session items.

The meeting recessed at 10:19 a.m. and reconvened in Closed Session at 10:25 a.m.

Closed Session - Existing Litigation was declared at 10:25 a.m. pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(D)(1). Application Of Pacific Gas And Electric Company (U 39 E) and Pacific Generation LLC for Approval to Transfer Certain Generation Assets, for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, for Authorization to File Tariffs and to

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Issue Debt, and for Related Determinations. California Public Utilities Commission, Application No. 22-09-\_\_\_\_.

**Board Action: None**

Closed Session – Anticipated Litigation was declared at 10:25 a.m., pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(4). Initiation of litigation; one case.

**Board Action: None**

MEETING ADJOURNED at 11:00 a.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 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

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