

July 31, 2024
Regular Meeting
5:01 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, July 31, 2024 at 5:01 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Andrew Shelton, Vice President Doug Williams and Directors Sonny Flores and Mark Wright; Director Joe Tonascia was absent. Also present were Interim General Manager Jeff Cattaneo, District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem, Interim Manager of Administration, Finance and Business Services Brett Miller, Operations and Maintenance Manager Michael Craig, Senior Engineer David Macdonald, Water Resources Technician II Dustin Franco, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk Barbara Mauro and other District staff members were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Shelton at 5:01 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**
President Shelton led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. **Roll Call**
Mrs. Mauro called roll; members present were: President Shelton, Vice President Williams and Directors Flores and Wright; Director Tonascia was absent.
- c. **Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board; rebuttal will be limited to 3 minutes; no new business agenda items will be heard after 8:00 p.m.**
- d. **Approval of Agenda**
With a motion by Director Flores and a second by Vice President Williams, the Board of Directors approved the Agenda with 4 affirmative votes, Shelton, Williams, Flores and Wright and there was 1 absence, Tonascia.
- e. **Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**
There were no public comments.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- | | | | |
|----|--|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Approval of Minutes for: | June 26, 2024 | Regular Meeting |
| | | July 17, 2024 | Special Meeting |
| 2. | Allowance of Claims | | |
| 3. | Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the July Board Meeting | | |
| 4. | On Call Contracts – Status Updates | | |
| 5. | Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, June 30, 2024 | | |
| 6. | Approve Side Letter Agreement between San Benito County Water District and Service Employees’ International Union regarding classification of Board Clerk/Executive Assistant | | |

7. **Approve Resolution Adopting the 2024-2025 Salary Schedule to comply with California Public Employees' Retirement System (CALPERS) statutory and regulatory requirements for compensation earnable and publicly available pay schedules**

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Williams and seconded by Director Flores, the Board of Directors approved the Consent Agenda with 4 affirmative votes, Shelton, Williams, Flores and Wright and there was 1 absence, Tonascia.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. **Consider Extending the Contract for one year (Fiscal Year 2023-2024) with McGilloway, Ray, Brown, & Kaufman for auditing services**

Mr. Miller reviewed this item for the Board, explaining the need to extend the auditor for another year. With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Vice President Williams and seconded by Director Wright, the Board of Directors approved Extending the Contract for one year (Fiscal Year 2023-2024) with McGilloway, Ray, Brown & Kaufman for auditing services with 4 affirmative votes, Shelton, Williams, Flores and Wright and there was 1 absence, Tonascia.

9. **Discuss and Consider Awarding a Contract to MCC Controls LLC DBA Primex for the Scada Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Hardware Upgrades, Programming of PLCs, and Service Contract; Authorize the General Manager to Execute all Documents Necessary (NTE \$813,000)**

Mr. Macdonald reviewed this item for the Board. In September 2022, the Board approved a contract for \$400,000 for Primex to upgrade the District's SCADA and now staff is stating additional funds are needed to complete the remaining sites and add the necessary materials.

Vice President Williams asked how many sites are left to complete. Mr. Macdonald stated there are 12 more. Mr. Cattaneo clarified what is still needed and that this work will make SCADA functional for what the District needs it to do. With a motion by Vice President Williams and a second by Director Wright, the Board of Directors approved Awarding a Contract to MCC Controls LLC DBA Primex for the Scada Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) Hardware Upgrades, Programming of PLCs, and Service Contract; Authorized the General Manager to Execute all Documents Necessary (NTE \$813,000) with 4 affirmative votes, Shelton, Williams, Flores and Wright and there was 1 absence, Tonascia.

10. **Committee/Agency Representative Reports:**

- a. **San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Tonascia/Cattaneo)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, he will cover this under his Manager's report.

- b. **Personnel Committee (Flores/Tonascia)**

As per Director Flores, the committee met with the recruiters about the General Manager's position.

11. **Monthly Operations and Maintenance Report**

Mr. Craig reported Hernandez is drained and the maintenance staff is scheduled to work there around mid-September. Staff will pull out both cylinders (The District has them in the shop ready to go) and replace them as well as the hoses. Staff will also install new hydraulics in the pump house and then test it all. Mr. Craig further explained that staff will put stops in the hydraulic rams. His estimation is the work should take 3 days.

Vice President Williams asked if staff will need to use a crane. Mr. Craig stated he didn't think so, as it is possible to disassemble and take it out in pieces, using the backhoe arm.

Director Wright asked if water is still going in? Mr. Craig stated it is. Mr. Cattaneo added it is currently about 2-3" over the lip, but in six-seven weeks, it should be dry. Mr. Craig reported that area has had 25 days of temperatures over 100 degrees, so that is helping. He further added, his opinion is staff has until the end of October before the weather changes. Director Wright asked how long the valve has been open. Mr. Cattaneo stated it failed in the fall of 2022 and provisions were made to get in there in 2023 and that didn't work. Mr. Craig added he is confident his staff can complete the work in 3 days.

12. **General Manager's Report:**

a) **Reach 1 Operations**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, he had nothing to report at this time.

b) **Zone 3 Operations**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, Mr. Craig addressed Hernandez. He further reported there is some maintenance work needed at the Paicines Canal. About 15-16 years ago, staff installed a bentonite mat to seal leaks at the canal, and the District may need to repeat this work again but should continue the mat to the top of the canal this time. Also, Mr. Cattaneo reported before the rainy season, staff should spray some pre-emergent to prevent weed growth and cut down on the mowing.

c) **Zone 6 Operations**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the District changed how it is handling the Ag contracts for this year. Normally, the balance of the contract is billed in July but Mr. Cattaneo directed staff to allow ag customers to pay as they use their water because we have enough water to fulfill the needs of the contracts. He further discussed contracting for Exchange Contractor water and Yuba Water next year.

d) **Accelerated Drought Response Project (ADRoP)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, this project continues to move forward. Three landowners have agreed to have cultural surveys done. The grant from the Bureau (\$6.7 million) is driving the schedule. The CEQA/NEPA work is complete at West Hills, but the District also needs that environmental work done for the well field.

e) **San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority Activities**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the only item to report is the \$1.5 million needed for the pump station work.

f) City of San Juan Bautista Water Supply Plan

As per Mr. Cattaneo, the meeting scheduled for today was cancelled. There is no change, as the District is waiting for the San Juan Bautista agreement on who is doing the pipeline work from Union Road to Highway 156 to the connection at San Juan Bautista and also who will own the pipeline.

g) B F Sisk Dam Raise Project

As per Mr. Cattaneo, negotiations continue, with a meeting tomorrow and one on Friday. There are still some agencies on the fence, especially regarding project water and when and how the Bureau could access it. Mr. Cattaneo reported it would change the dynamics if some of the larger players were to pull out of the project.

h) Miscellaneous District items

Mr. Miller reported, as discussed at the special meeting the Board recently held, the District purchased \$35 million in treasury notes.

Also, Mr. Miller reported there was a break at 9L at Best Road/Highway 25. Vice President Williams asked if this is the first leak in some time. Mr. Craig stated, it has been more than 2 years.

Mrs. Mauro reviewed the timeline for filing papers for the November elections.

13. Adjournment

With no further business to report, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Minutes were approved at the August 28, 2024 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Andrew Shelton
Andrew Shelton, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro
Barbara L. Mauro, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk