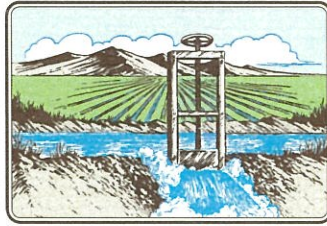


Reclamation District No. 1004



BOARD OF TRUSTEES
LANDOWNERS MEETING
April 13th, 2022
10:00 a.m.

Board of Trustees present Ed Hulbert, Gary Bailey, Leanne Mord, Larry Borrelli and Hans Herkert, District Manager Terry Bressler, Secretary to the Board of Trustees Barbara Sachs.

Chairman Hulbert started the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

Chairman Hulbert introduced the Board of Trustees along with Terry Bressler, District Manager and Barbara Sachs, Secretary to the Board of Trustees. The audience then announced themselves.

Chairman Hulbert thanked Travis Laviolette a previous Trustee for all his work with RD1004. He then introduced Trustee Gary Bailey and said Gary has been in the District since 1981 and was the Districts former General Manager.

Chairman Hulbert said extensive water analysis has been performed this year. After calculating the conveyance loss with 35% ditch loss the water allocation was set at .8 acre feet of water per acre of land.

Chairman Hulbert gave the 2021 review. The 2022 budget has a \$969,000 loss so the water toll was increased to \$28.00 per acre foot. In 2021 the District transferred 12,228 acre feet of water to San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority for \$1.5 million to the District. The Board approved a return of \$8.50 per acre foot of water to the water users leaving the water toll at \$19.50. With the water sale, the District ended up with a \$1 million dollar reserve. Trustee Borrelli said the District also returned \$5.00 per acre (\$436,000) in Standby fees to the landowners. Chairman Hulbert said the District also transferred ground water to Orland Artois Water District and to the Bureau of Reclamation for their Fish Program.

Chairman Hulbert said the Board transfers \$10,000 each month to a reserve account for the Princeton Pumping Facility which has a balance of approximately \$738,000 at present.

The Board agreed to leave the transfer amount as is for now. He said the 2021 audit was completed with a clean opinion. He thanked Barbara for her work and for working with the auditors and preparing for the audit. The net income was a little over \$1 million.

He said for 2022 we are on the 12th draft of the budget. He said the water toll will be \$28.00, water allocation .8 acre feet of water per acre, standby fee at \$22.50 during this critical drought year. He said the Bureau of Reclamation has \$65 million in a program for water districts. He feels the District share could potentially be between \$1.5 and \$2.5 million.

Chairman Hulbert said we're still dealing with temperature issues and they've said July is going to be a rough month that could affect our pumping. Trustee Bailey said if the governor calls a state of emergency there'll be an additional 25% cut.

Chairman Hulbert said growers were interested in the 2022 water transfer due to the low allocation. He said San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority was at a potential \$700-\$800 per acre foot of water and the District absorbs the water cost with the Bureau of Reclamation. However, the State came back and said no out of basin water transfers. Terry said Tehama Colusa Canal decided against purchasing more water. However, the Bureau of Reclamation is interested in purchasing approximately 3,000 acre feet at \$375.00 plus Bureau fees to be transferred to the refuge. Terry said he is encouraging habitat and duck club owners to take water early as we might not have water in October. Hayden Harter asked if selling District water year after year jeopardizes the Districts water rights. Chairman Hulbert said no as we are helping our neighbors by in basin transfers.

Chairman Hulbert said David Guy of NCWA should have an update on the Voluntary agreement (each District would give a little bit of water and the State/Bureau would purchase the water from the Districts) mid summer. There's been no action for 7 months on the Voluntary agreement and now the State is working on it again. The reason for this is unknown at this time.

Chairman Hulbert said the Sites Dam is moving forward. He said there's additional funding being appropriated for the Dam.

He said the District is involved with a new lawsuit from Aqua Alliance regarding the Groundwater Sustainability Agreement and we're still involved with PCFFA, CNRA and NRDC with a shared cost with other Districts.

Terry gave an update on District activity. He said the middle well in Princeton will be up and running soon. He said the staff is cleaning ditches. He requested landowners put in their coffer dams and board up as we can't waste water on dry fields.

He said rice water will start being delivered May 1st and the ditches will be at a high level in 10 days. He said he believes water users will take delivery of water to the rice fields May-July and habitat August-September. He said he doesn't want to pump water off the river if he can help it. He said the river pumps are in good shape. He said last year they covered half the river pumps and he's leaving them covered. Chairman Hulbert said the Districts been working on a wheeling contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for 5 years on delivering water to the Sutter Refuge and after testing the system for 3 years, the deal hasn't been put in a contract to date (approximately \$4 million). The testing worked very well and the District was paid a wheeling fee. If the contract came to fruition, the money would be used for the main canal which includes the land the District purchased from Braly Zumwalt to make it more efficient in delivering water and maybe a few other projects.

Terry said the District is with the Butte Sub-basin GSP. The State is reviewing the GSP now but in the meantime, Aqua Alliance filed lawsuit against everyone in the GSP. He said it'll cost the District approximately \$10,000 per year for maintenance for the GSP in the Butte Sub-basin.


Terry said Steve Crawshaw and Dennis Richardson are full time employees in the field and Matt Garrison works part time. He said he has one full time position available but it's on hold for the time being.


Terry informed those in attendance that once they buy water, there's no refunds.

Barbara asked the water users to have their RRA forms (if necessary), water applications, current FSA maps and payment for water and standby fees into the office by April 20th. She said Lynda Reische is the new Assistant Office Manager and they'd have the opportunity to meet her during lunch.

In closing, Chairman Hulbert said his priority is to protect the Districts water rights and to balance the needs of the landowners, Capital projects, water toll and District operations under extreme conditions this year.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p. m.


Ed Hulbert
CHAIRMAN


Barbara J. Sachs