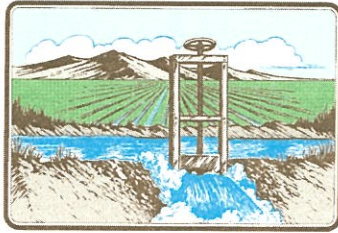


Reclamation District No. 1004



BOARD OF TRUSTEES BOARD MEETING May 12th, 2021 1:30 p. m. MINUTES

Board of Trustees present Ed Hulbert, Leanne Mord, Hans Herkert, Larry Borrelli and Travis Laviolette. Others present: District Manager Terry Bressler, Secretary to the Board of Trustees Barbara Sachs, Vanessa Padilla, with others attending by zoom.

Agenda:

M/S/C (Herkert, Laviolette) approve May 12th agenda.

Vote: Unanimous

Minutes:

M/S/C (Laviolette, Mord) approve April 14th Board meeting minutes.

Vote: Unanimous

Public Comment:

None

Financials:

Treasurer's Report:

M/S/C (Borrelli, Mord) approve Treasurer's report as presented.

Vote: Unanimous

Barbara Sachs presented the Cash report and designation of financial accounts.

M/S/C (Borrelli, Laviolette) approve cash report and designation of financial accounts as submitted.

Vote: Unanimous

Interim transactions:

M/S/C (Herkert, Mord) approve interim transaction in the amount of \$518,862.39

Vote: Unanimous

Accounts Payable:

Barbara presented the accounts payable in the amount of \$384,079.21

M/S/C (Laviolette, Herkert) approve accounts payable in the amount of \$384,079.21

Vote: Unanimous

Barbara presented the balance sheet, profit and loss.

Barbara presented the accounts receivable.

Barbara requested a transfer from Fund One to Fund Three in the amount of \$10,000.

(Mord, Laviolette) approve transfer from Fund One to Fund Three in the amount of \$10,000.

Barbara said she would like to deposit checks from San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority water sale to the Wells Fargo checking account to keep the funds separated. The Board agreed.

Employee Sick and Vacation Leave:

No Comment

Old Business:

Item 9d.

Chairman Hulbert recognized Glenn Wellborn and Jack Baber regarding the water rights on Drumheller Slough. A file was presented with information Mr. Wellborn and Mr. Baber were able to obtain for the historic files. In Summary, Mr. Wellborn feels the District has riparian rights off of Drumheller Slough from work and water used in past years from previous owners. He said riparian rights have to show usage and the legal department will have to clarify this. He said Mr. Brown a past owner moved the point of diversion which shows usage but there was nowhere to file the usage documents.

New Business:

a. State of Emergency Drought proclamation 4.21.21:

Trustee Herkert handed out information from NCWA regarding the above proclamation. Chairman Hulbert said Dustin Cooper read the proclamation and one key note (#14) is balancing water supply needs which means the salmon which means taking water from farming. Trustee Herkert said this is an opportunity for a federal/state grant. However, the District would need to list their wants and needs to show environmental benefit and water saving benefit. NCWA suggested we get letters of support from the public which should include some from environmentalist and list the benefits. Chairman Hulbert said we should watch what is going on for all these opportunities.

b. Policy regarding Butte Creek and southern lands (Rancho Caleta & Butte Creek Farms:

Larry Borrelli said Butte Creek is the main water source for Rancho Caleta. He said with the drought its almost impossible to pump water. Chairman Hulbert said it's the Board's duty to set the policy and Terry's job to run the District. He does not want to micromanage Terry in running the District. Trustee Borrelli said you can walk across Butte Creek right now where the outfall is. It's Rancho Caleta main source of water. When Terry started the pumps April 8th or 9th you could see the water drop in Butte Creek. Shut the pumps off the level comes up and when you turn the pumps on it goes down again. Water at the outflow gates drops below 39 1/2 they can't use the pumps. The level before the pumps were started was 41 feet and that was plenty of water to pump. When Butte Creek gets below 39 ½ feet at the outfall gate, Trustee Borrelli suggested the District use the Sacramento River as its main source of water. Trustee Borrelli said the last two years have been the worse. Jack Baber said Fish & Wildlife purchased so much water from M&T Farms and that water

has to remain in Butte Creek for wildlife. If the water isn't there he said, Fish and Wildlife can shut us down. Hayden Harter said the Board should consider the needs of the District and not just the water users north or south. Larry said he's looking for guidelines for when water drops below a certain level, Sacramento River water becomes the main source of water not Butte Creek. Trustee Mord asked what level of water would be acceptable. Trustee Borrelli said 39 ½ feet. Terry said he needs 1400 acre feet of Butte Creek water each year.

Chairman Hulbert said to try a test. Starting Friday run river water for a week in the District to see what happens to the water levels in Butte Creek. Terry said he can turn Butte Creek pumps off on Friday morning if Rancho Caleta wants to give the District 15 c.f.s. allocation on the river. Trustee Borrelli said he would consider allocating 15 c. f. s. of Rancho Caleta allocation on the river but needed approval from his Board. All were in agreement to see if this is going to work.

c. Landowners Meeting:

Leanne Mord asked if the meeting could be June 16th due to fair week and the livestock auction. The meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on June 16th, lunch to follow with the regular board meeting to follow.

d. \$28.00 water toll after the May 1st call date for SLDMWA:

Chairman Hulbert said he'd like to get further along in the water delivery before deciding on this matter.

Trustee Herkert asked if the water sale doesn't go through and it's too late to plant the fields has anyone looked into how crop insurance will work? Chairman Hulbert said he feels good about the water sale. Trustee Herkert said if the State steps in and cuts the District water allocation from 75% to 60% how does it affect the grower. Chairman Hulbert said Sacramento River Settlement Group will fight the battle to protect everyone.

e. Annexing Harris Landowning field #201 and Green Valley field #012-170-013 into the District:

Terry said he hasn't been to MBK Engineers to discuss this matter. Chairman Hulbert said this was the next step for feasibility and see what we can and cannot do.

f. Fee for water over allotted allocation:

Terry said he's requesting the Board approve a \$100 per acre foot of water fee for any grower who overdrafts their water allocation. He said he would like a letter sent to all water users indicating this

fee, do not overdraft your water, look for additional water now and if you pump well water you'll be charged \$12.50 per acre foot for transfer fee with a 12% loss.

M/S/C (Herkert/Mord) Send letter to water users overage of your allocation is not permitted. If you go over your allocation the cost is \$100.00 per acre foot of water.

Vote: Unanimous

Chairman's Report:

DWR water report came out and it's worse than it was in April. The snow pack isn't what they were expecting. Governor came out with 5.1 billion in investment water. Chairman Hulbert asked Terry to talk with MBK Engineers regarding this so we don't miss out on infrastructure money.

He said further salmon studies are going to be required at a cost of approximately \$300,000 so the District costs are going to go up to double our \$10,000 fee we paid this year.

Chairman Hulbert said the litigations are slow right now and there probably won't be anything substantial until the end of the year.

He said Sacramento River Settlement Contractors had a 6 hour meeting with State Water Resource Control Board, Fish and Wildlife, agencies and discussed all the studies that have been done. They said they recognize the efforts of the SRSC but it's not good enough. Basically, they want more of our water.

Managers Report:

Terry said he's been fighting with SIGMA for the last two years regarding Colusa County boundaries. They agreed to move our line back to the West boundary where we want it. Terry's sending a letter to DWR, he's also requesting Colusa County to write a letter, then DWR will have their legal department check it to see if they can make this happen.

Test hole well in Princeton is being drilled Monday. Also Geyer put a pipe in at the Hall Ranch and what's left is to fix the road. New District well is pumping well. Pearl Well is running continuously.

Terry said we have the opportunity to work with the fields that are dry. Infrastructure in the District should be done now. (Example: 100 foot ditch should be 20 foot wide) Chairman Hulbert said to put the plans in writing and how it will affect each landowner.

Terry said he talked with Sonya of Bureau of Reclamation regarding the past wheeling of water to the refuge. If we want to move forward with seeking payment, we'll need to show what projects were done in the District, the cost and the benefit to the District and Refuge. There's no plan to move forward with wheeling water to the Sutter Refuge in the future.

Terry said he's talking with someone and doing research regarding the Hydro project for the cement ditch.

He said the inspector for the water sale came up to inspect the fields. Two fields on the North and two fields in the South had weeds. He took pictures and will be back to inspect them. The weeds can be disked.

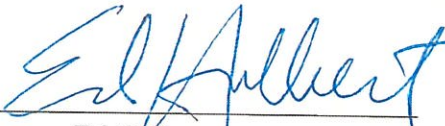
Terry said the water payment from SLDMWA will be \$292,500.00 less on the first payment due to the advance payment. MBK Engineers will invoice for May delivery and payment will be made in June.

3:35 p.m. Closed Session:

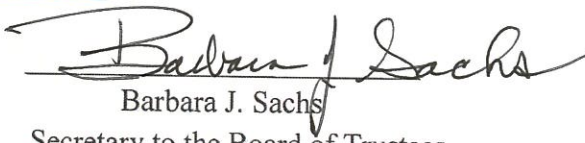
4:20 p.m. Open Session:

The Board gave direction to attorneys.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p. m.



Ed Hulbert
Chairman of the Board



Barbara J. Sachs
Secretary to the Board of Trustees