

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY was held at the (old) West Side Irrigation District Office located at 1320 N. Tracy Blvd., Tracy, CA 95376 on September 4, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

There were present at the meeting the following named Directors:

Natalino Bacchetti	Division No. 2
Paul Marchini	Division No. 3
Jack Alvarez	Division No. 4
Mary Hildebrand	Division No. 5

Absent was Director and Chairman Jerry Robinson. Also in attendance were Ali Stevens Esq., counsel for RD 2058, Lea Emmons of the City of Tracy, Dominic Gulli engineer for RD 1007, Bruce Blodgett Executive Director of the Delta Protection Commission and John Herrick, Esq., counsel and manager for the Agency. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Hildebrand who acted as Chair. She declared a quorum present and Attorney Herrick acted as secretary.

**I.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-22
RESOLUTION APPROVING MINUTES**

Attorney Herrick presented the Board with the minutes for the August 7, 2024 regular meeting. After review and motion made and duly seconded, it was

RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY as follows:

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held on August 7, 2024 were adopted with corrections.

**II.
REPORTS**

1. Current Conditions. Attorney Herrick gave a report on current conditions in the southern Delta, including water quality, water levels, exports, reservoir storage and river flows. Director Marchini asked about how the reservoir operators decide carryover storage amounts at the end of the water year. The three rock barriers are scheduled to be “notched” for fishery passage later in the month. Attorney Herrick he would try to notify various diverters of potentially lower water levels..

DWR notified Attorney Herrick that the weir on GLC barrier is being checked to see if its in compliance with the permits after low water levels were noticed.

The Directors discussed the hyacinth problem and Director Bacchetti gave an update on RD 2058's efforts at removal. The costs of such removal are prohibitive. One option is to pay the Division of Boating and Waterways for localized treatment, but that also has a substantial cost. The Board discussed the pros and cons of such treatment and were concerned about the dead hyacinth settling to the bottom of the channel. Attorney Herrick reminded the District that SDWA would need an official request if they sought financial help.

2. Lawsuits. Attorney Herrick gave a brief update on ongoing litigation including the hearing for the Sites Reservoir permits which began last month. Attorney Ruiz is mostly handling the hearing for SDWA and CDWA, but Attorney Herrick will assist as needed.

3. Permanent Barriers. DWR is coordinating with the landowners at the proposed permanent barrier sites for access for testing and surveys.

4. Silt Removal. Attorney Herrick noted he has given a number of tours for the Paradise Cut project (including dredging) and is scheduled to given another one with the consultants for SJAFCA later this month. SDWA's engineer continues to evaluate the recent data in preparation for future short term efforts.

5. COP and MSS. The process continues but there has been no further update on expected DWR modeling of how increased San Joaquin River flows can meet interior southern Delta salinity standards. Attorney Herrick is attempting to meet with the Regional Director of USBR to get them on board this and other processes.

6. Delta Conveyance/Single Tunnel. The SWRCB withdrew its notice scheduling hearings for the Tunnel permits, with no new dates being set.

7. DPC and DSC. Executive Director Blodgett gave reports on DPC matters. He noted the Tunnel project still needs a consistency finding from the DSC. He also reiterated the need for SDWA to replace its member on the DPC Board. He also mentioned the upcoming Delta Clean-Up day.

8. Legislation. The only legislation raised at the meeting was the upcoming Water Bond bill on the November Ballot.

9. Irrigated Lands program/RCD. Attorney Herrick gave an update on the Irrigated Lands Program and on the Resource Conservation District efforts

10. Paradise Cut/South Delta Restoration Project. Attorney Herrick gave an update on the project. As mentioned before, another tour is scheduled for the project's consultants to view the project site. Pursuant to his discussions with Congressman Duarte, Attorney Herrick is invited to be a panelist at an upcoming Congressional Sub Committee hearing in Santa Nella. His presentation will deal with the need for dredging.

11. Public Comments. Mr. Gulli raised the issue of the Delta Corridors proposal and asked if it was supported by the Board. Attorney Herrick explained the project and

how it could benefit the area, but also explained that it depended on additional flows being added to Old River which may not be guaranteed.

III. FINANCES

1. Attorney Herrick presented the Board with current bills and reviewed the most up-to-date County accounting of the SDWA financials. After explaining the current invoices, and upon motion made and duly seconded,

It was RESOLVED

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-23 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS AND AUTHORIZING DRAWING AND PAYMENT OF WARRANTS

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY as follows:

1. That the obligations of this Agency hereinafter set forth in Section 2 of this Resolution are hereby approved for payment; and

2. For the account of the SOUTH DELTA WATER AGENCY, request is hereby made that the Auditor of the County of San Joaquin draw, and the Treasurer of the County of San Joaquin pay, warrants as follows:

SEE ATTACHMENTS "A" hereto.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated: September 4, 2024

JOHN HERRICK, Acting Secretary