

RAISIN CITY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES

Meeting Date:
Monday, July 1, 2024
1:30 PM

Meeting Location:
455 W Fir Ave
Clovis, CA 93611

Directors Present: Gere Gunlund
Don Cameron (arrived 1:35)
John Verwey
Jonathon DeGroot

Directors Absent Gagan Batth

Other Attendees: Randy Hopkins, Provost & Pritchard
Laurie Sales, Provost & Pritchard
Rick Besecker, Provost & Pritchard
Jeff O'Neal, Provost & Pritchard
Martin Scheidt
Matt Hurley (MAGSA)
Matt Abercrombie
Eric Abrahamsen
Manny Amorelli
Jeanne Harguindeguy
Ken Alles
Jerry Radinoff
Greg Berg
Lori Jalonen

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Gunlund)

Called to order at 1:32 pm

2. RECOGNITION OF ATTENDEES (Hopkins)
Attendees introduced.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (Gunlund)

The first fifteen minutes of this portion of the meeting are reserved for members of the public to address the Board of Directors. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes. Speakers will be asked to identify themselves and state the subject of their comment(s). The Board is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Board does not respond to public comment at this time.

No comments

4. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (Gunlund)

Any Board Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter. [FPPC §87105]

None noted.

5. MINUTES (Hopkins)

- A. Discussion / possible action to approve minutes for:
 - i. May 21, 2024, Regular Board Meeting

Director DeGroot moved to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Director Verwey and passed by those present.

6. FINANCIAL (Besecker)

- A. Discussion / possible action to approve the financial report and District bills.

Mr. Besecker presented one invoice for payment. Director DeGroot made a motion to approve the payment, which was seconded by Director Verwey and passed by those present.

Mr. Besecker presented the final budget report for the 2023/24 Fiscal year. He then presented a new budget for the 2024/25 fiscal year. He noted the annexation is not included in the budget.

Director Cameron made a motion to approve the 2024/25 budget, which was seconded by Director DeGroot. The motion passed unanimously with those present.

Mr. Besecker presented the service contract for Audit services from Cuttone & Mastro. The board requested Mr. Besecker to solicit new bids and offer Mr. Cuttone the option to resubmit. The audit currently is 10% of annual expenses.

7. BENEFIT ASSESSMENT HEARING (Besecker)

- A. The Board will hear a report, convene as the District's Board of Equalization to conduct a hearing, be asked to adopt benefit assessments for 2024/25 (**Resolution No. 2024-02**), and authorize a notice to be submitted to Fresno County.

The public meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm and reopened as a meeting of the Board of Equalization. Mr. Besecker reported that the hearing was noticed publicly and no public showed up or asked for a review of their valuation. Director Verwey made a motion to accept the roll; which was seconded by Director DeGroot and passed unanimously by those present.

The board returned to their meeting at 1:48 pm.

Mr. Besecker then requested that the Board adopt a rate of \$0.75 per \$100 of value. Mr. Hopkins pointed out that this is the most that can be charged without a Proposition 218 hearing.

Director Verwey made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-02; which was seconded by Director DeGroot and passed unanimously by those present.

8. DISTRICT ELECTIONS (Hopkins)

- A. Discussion / possible action on Resolution (**Resolution No. 2024-03**) to approve conducting the election.

Directors Cameron, Verwey, and DeGroot terms expire this year. Director DeGroot made a motion to approve the corrected Resolution 2024-03 approving conducting the election, which was seconded by Director Verwey. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

9. ANNEXATION (Hopkins/O'Neal)

- A. Report on the status of the annexation process.

Mr. O’Neal reported the status of the annexation. The question was asked about the assessment for the new members. Because we didn’t get the annexation finalized prior to the deadline to submit the tax roll to the county for inclusion in the landowner’s county tax bill, the district will need to send out a supplemental bill directly.

Once LAFCO determines the application is complete, LAFCO will schedule a public hearing and send a notification to all landowners and registered voters in the area. At that time, they will inform those affected of a protest hearing deadline. If there is 25% or higher, a note must take place. Only those in the area being annexed can protest.

Those landowners already in the District can make a public comment, but it does not count towards the 25% threshold.

Director DeGroot suggested that at a minimum, an outreach letter be sent to keep people informed.

Mr. Hopkins and Matt Abercrombie will work together on outreach needs.

1. Mailer
2. Webinar

10. AD-HOC COMMITTEES

A. The Board of Directors will hear reports from the following Ad-Hoc Committees:

- i. Fresno ID Committee (*Cameron/DeGroot*)

Nothing to report

- ii. James ID Committee (*Gunlund/DeGroot*)

A Lunch meeting is scheduled for July 30.

11. EXPANSION PROJECT (*Moeller/Hurley*)

A. Report on the status of the project.

Mr. Hurley reported the project is still waiting on the NRCS to provide direction on the environmental documents.

12. MAGSA ACTIVITIES (*Cameron/DeGroot/Hurley/Moeller*)

A. Report on MAGSA activities.

Mr. Hurley indicated they will schedule a special meeting in July.

Regarding Aquaterra Water Bank, public comments have been received through the CEQA process, and are being addressed. Some of the language was clarified. Also, MAGSA is still meeting with landowners along the alignment like with the expansion project. Feedback from the landowners has been positive.

MAGSA is really focused on the well meters. Growers must be on meters by January 31, 2025. He encourages anyone who has not started this process to do so as soon as possible to make sure they are done by January 31, 2025. Being able to accurately measure will provide the District with the ability to defend themselves to demonstrate compliance with SGMA.

Director Cameron reported he has heard positive feedback on the webinar for the meters. The District is rebating up to 50% on the meters. The District is taking care of the rebates themselves, so a quick process. There is also a discount on the telemetry if completed by January 31, 2025.

Mr. Hurley responded to a question about the readings and data security saying that the data storage provider is using a high level of security.

13. CORRESPONDENCE (Hopkins)

A. Correspondence since the previous Board of Directors meeting may be presented.

None received.

14. NEXT REGULAR MEETING (Hopkins)

A. Discussion / possible action regarding the date of the scheduled regular meeting of the Board of Directors, currently scheduled for August 20, 2024.

No conflicts noted.

15. UPCOMING EVENTS (Hopkins)

None

16. ADJOURNMENT (Gunlund)

Director Gunlund adjourned the meeting at 2:35 pm.

APPROVED:



Randy Hopkins, Secretary