

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Of the Board of Trustees

July 18, 2013

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, July 18, 2013 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

Trustees Present: Fritz Durst, Roger Cornwell, Sean Doherty and Mike Miller

Trustees Absent: Arnold Andreotti

Others Present:	Lewis Bair, General Manager	Les Canter, RGF
	Kathryn Chandler, Asst. Manager	Marty Stripling, RGF
	Chad Navarrot, Operations Manager	Gus Doherty, Landowner
	Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary	John Miller, Landowner
	Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper	Gary Driver, JR. Landowner
	Kevin O'Brien, Downey Brand	Scott West, Landowner
	Larry Mandelberg, Consultant	

ADMINISTRATION

Agenda – It was moved by Trustee Cornwell seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Public Participation: There was no public present at this time.

Consent Agenda – After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Accounts Payable

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Miller and unanimously approved to approve the July Accounts Payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$333,190; on-line payments to be ratified in the amount of \$26,819; payments to be ratified in the amount of \$104,904 and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$590,914.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Operations Report** – Superintendent Navarrot reported that the 250 hp motor at Sycamore Pumping Plant failed and will have to be repaired. Industrial Electric will be doing the repair work with a 10 to 15 day turn-around period. Sycamore Pumping Plant is the primary source for rice decomposition water in System D after Nov 1 since El Dorado Bend PP does not have a fish screen.

3. **El Dorado Bend Pumping Plant** – Manager Bair reported that the District received three bids for the pipelining and gate work. The lowest responsive bid was Davis Machine for \$1,096,095. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to award the bid to Davis Machine as set forth on the bid summary for a total of \$1,096,095 and to authorize Manager Bair to do all things necessary to execute an agreement.

2. **Water Rights Planning** – Mr. Larry Mandelberg explained what he does and how he could assist the District. He focused on Management evaluation, and District-wide strategic planning and goal setting. There was discussion on what success looks like for the District and how to achieve it. After further discussion, the Board directed Manager Bair to setup a Board Workshop with Mr. Mandelberg as the meeting facilitator and to invite Attorney O'Brien, David Guy, NCWA, and Thad Bettner, GCID, to present the status of Bay-Delta water issues and related risks to Sac Valley Districts.

Attorney O'Brien and Trustee Cornwell stepped out of the meeting so that the Board could discuss the El Dorado Pumping Plant maintenance project and cost-share with RGF.

3. **El Dorado Pumping Plant Cost-Share** – President Durst reviewed the action taken at the June Board meeting to send River Garden Farms (RGF) an invoice for their proportional cost share of the full scope of work and the associated cost estimate. There was a lot of discussion regarding the 1927 agreement between RD108 and RGF regarding cost-share of maintenance projects to the facility and what repairs were intended to be cost shared by RGF in the agreement. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Miller and unanimously approved to rescind the June Board action to send an invoice to RGF and authorize President Durst to work with RGF ownership for an equitable resolution of cost-share

for the El Dorado Bend Pumping Plant repairs and maintenance projects. It was also the consensus of the Board that the District works with RGF to draft an agreement for future cost of repairs, improvements and possibly fish screens.

4. Fall Flow Smoothing Project – Manager Bair explained the Fall Flow Smoothing Project and how the District benefitted and would be impacted by participating in the project. Should the District decide to participate it would be for a three year commitment period. After further discussion it was the consensus of the Board to hold a special Landowner/Water User meeting to review the program, explain the benefits and impacts, and listen to landowner/water user comments prior to taking any action. It was suggested that duck club managers also be invited to the meeting since it would also potentially impact water for ducks.

5. Prop 50 Groundwater Production Wells Project – Assistant Manager Chandler reported on the final costs for the Prop 50 Groundwater Project and what the costs would be to install the motors and pumps with and without a PWRPA connection for power. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to continue with installation of 250 hp motors and to move forward with PWRPA connection to the Groundwater Wells.

6. Water Measurement Project – Assistant Manager reported that the District is starting to work with more landowners that have private lift pumps diverting water into their fields. These pumps are usually operated by the Water User and give them more flexibility on how they manage their water and power. Some of these lift pumps are on private ditches, where the measurement structure can be installed on a lateral basis. The concern is how water would be measured if land ownership changes and now you have multiple landowners with one measurement structure. Superintendent has compiled a list of various fields in the District that are exceptions to the normal procedures. After further discussion, it was the consensus to try and accommodate landowners with lift-pumps and meters, while keeping a uniform policy regarding the measurement program.

7. Agricultural Floodplain Management Alliance (AFMA) – Manager Bair reported that the AFMA is a group of agencies, counties and towns working together to address the challenges presented to landowners in the floodplain under the National Flood Insurance Program focusing largely on agriculture. Up to this point AFMA has been funded by large urban flood agencies but is now seeking funds from membership. It is his recommendation that the

District submits \$1,000 to retain AFMA membership. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Miller and unanimously approved to support AFMA in the amount of \$1,000.

INFORMATION REPORTS

NCWA Report – Trustee Cornwell reported on issues discussed at the NCWA Director’s meeting. There were discussions regarding SBX-1, Bay Delta and Steel Head issues.

Sites Reservoir Report - President Durst reported the JPA has had discussions regarding drought planning and will meet in August to discuss water transfers. The Sites Project is still moving slowly.

Attorney’s Report – Attorney reported that the 9th Circuit Court will hear oral arguments the week of Sept 16 in San Francisco. He felt that the outcome of the appeal would be impacted by which judges were selected to hear the argument. He also reported that the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority lost their case before the 9th Circuit Court, saying that their contracts should have higher authority than out of basin CVP contractors because they are located in the area of origin. They will be filing an appeal.

Manager’s Report - Manager Bair reported on the following issues:

Assistant Manager – Mr. Bryan Busch was offered and accepted the position of Assistant Manager.

Westervelt Status – There has been nothing further to report at this time.

Election Status – Manager Bair reported that Trustee Andreotti submitted his letter of resignation to the Board due to illness. The election will now be for three seats, two will be four year terms and one will be a two year term. Notices will be published once a week for four consecutive weeks in both the Yolo and Colusa newspapers. Postcards will be sent out to landowners and water users announcing the election date and number of seats available.

Geer Easement Consent – Manager Bair reported that Landowner Geer proposes to pay 50 percent of the land value for a ten-foot wide easement for approximately 2,966 feet in length, approximately \$2,792. The total cost for 0.681 acres at \$4,100 per acre, which is 50 percent of agricultural land values. It was the consensus of the Board that agricultural land value is approximately \$8,200 per acre. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty,

seconded by Trustee Miller and unanimously approved to approve an easement to Landowner Geer for access to his property along Tract 6 Field Nos. 211C and 211E and included in the easement an agreement for maintenance of the access road.

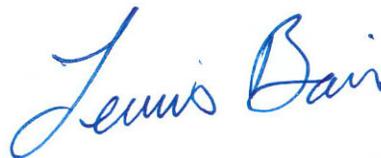
RECESS

At 12:10 a.m. the meeting recessed for lunch. Those present at the meeting were invited to join the Board for lunch. The meeting reconvened at approximately 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted



Lewis Bair

Secretary/Manager