

# RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

## Minutes of the Regular Meeting

### Of the Board of Trustees

February 20, 2014

President Durst called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:33 a.m. on Thursday, February 20, 2014 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

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

**Trustees Absent:** None

**Others Present:** Lewis Bair, General Manager  
Bryan Busch, Asst. Manager  
Chad Navarrot, Operations Manager  
Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary

18 Landowners/Water Users  
(see attached sign-in sheet)

**Agenda** – On motion by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty the Agenda was approved as presented.

#### OPEN FORUM

Manager Bair gave an update on the projected water supply for 2014. He said that on Monday, February 17 the Bureau announced a 40 percent allocation for the Settlement Contractors. A meeting has been setup with the Bureau and Settlement Contractors to see what assumptions they used to determine the 40% and hear how they could cut senior water holders first. Since the District is now diverting water using our water licenses we can divert water until March 30. It was suggested that if we pre-irrigate fields now it will take less water to irrigate after April 1.

#### ADMINISTRATION

**Public Participation:** There was no further public participation.

**Consent Agenda** – After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to approve the consent agenda as presented with the addition of the meeting sign-in to be attached to the minutes.

**Accounts Payable**

After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to approve the February Accounts Payable: Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$566,794, payments issued in January/February to be ratified totaled \$95,883 and on-line payments to be ratified in the amount of \$58,133; and Irrigation Fund in the amount of \$712 and checks to be ratified in the amount of \$3,180 and online payments totaling \$612.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

**1. Operations Report** – Operations Manager Navarrot gave a status report of current maintenance work to be completed within the District. He reported that the long-reach excavator was in route and should be here the first of next month. He also reported that if the River levels are lower than the pump bowls this year the District could have a large problem. Manager Bair reported that the groundwater wells have not all been connected to power sources, but should be completed by April 1. President Durst noted that District staff has been encouraging District Water Users to pre-irrigate lands prior to April 1.

Manager Bair reported that a Water User approached him about flooding ground for a Nature Conservancy Shore Bird Project prior to April 1 and was seeking Board approval. It was the consensus of the Board that this Project shows that the District is more than willing to work with the environmental community. The Board did request a letter from the Nature Conservancy regarding participation in this Project.

## **2. Review of 2014 Drought Planning**

- **Drought Planning Update** – Assistant Manager Busch reviewed the Drought package and the forms that Landowners and Water Users will need to fill out for 2014 water year. The Groundwater wells owned by the District will be used first on the lands the well is on and excess will be distributed District wide. Landowners who choose to use their own private wells will be able to use that water on other fields but will be required to meter the groundwater. The Policy will have to include issues such as splitting fields, use of ET or applied water and what buffer rate to use to keep the District from over drafting their water supply.

- **District Drought Plan** – Assistant Manager Busch reviewed proposed Extreme Condition Allocation and Water Management Policy (Policy). The Policy detailed the District water supplies and how water will be allocated to Landowners. The Policy also includes groundwater and water wheeling. The Board reviewed 15 and 20 percent buffers and the possible risk of overdraft with each buffer amount. After discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Leonard to adopt the Extreme Condition Allocation and Water Management Policy with changes, direct staff to draft an Emergency Notice of Exemption for CEQA. After further discussion it was the consensus of the Board to table this motion until Assistant Manager Busch could recalculate District risk based on the last 10 driest years.

- **Water Transfers** – There was discussion regarding transferring water outside of the District. It was the recommendation from Attorney O'Brien that the District not adopt a Water Transfer Policy for 2014 until a Resolution can be drafted that details the Policy, terms and emphasizes that this policy is only for 2014.

**3. Landowner/Water User Annual Meeting** – Manager Bair reported that the Annual Landowner/Water User meeting will be held on March 5 at the Grimes Scout Cabin.

**4. Water Banking Project** – The Board reviewed the Proposal from David's Engineer to write a White Paper on creating a Water Banking Project for a cost not to exceed \$20,000. It was suggested that both Dunnigan Water District and Colusa County Water District be invited to costs share on this project since they could benefit from the Water Bank. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved to approve the Water Bank White Paper Scope of Work by David's Engineering pending participation and cost share by Dunnigan Water District and Colusa County Water District. The Board further directed Manager Bair to contact both Districts regarding this issue.

**5. El Dorado Bend Pumping Plant Cost Adjustment** – Manager Bair reported that the Flow Serve invoice for El Dorado Bend Pumping Plant (EBPP) came in \$200,000 over quote. Flowserve joined the meeting by phone and provided an explanation of the cost increases. He was asked to meet with his team to reduce review and consider sharing these cost overruns. The telephone conversation was ended and the Board continued further discussion. It was moved by Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Leonard and unanimously approved to offer Flow Serve \$700,000 to finish the project, with a maximum amount to Flow Serve of no more than \$720,000.

**6. Standing Committees** – President Durst reviewed the Standing Committees with the Board. He made the following appointments: Capital Outlay Committee Trustee Leonard replaced Trustee Andreotti; Power & Energy Committee and PWRPA Assistant Manager Busch replaced Kathryn Chandler; NCWA Alternate Trustee Leonard replaced Trustee Doherty; Water Resource Agency Trustee Cornwell was added; Strain-West Committee Trustee Leonard replaced past Trustee Erdman; Water Conservation Assistant Manager Busch replaced Kathryn Chandler; and Infrastructure Committee Trustee Leonard replaced Trustee Doherty. A copy of the revised Standing Committee List is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

**7. Amend the Irrigation and Maintenance Budgets** – Manager Bair reviewed a budget example that estimated income and expenses with a 40% water allocation. The results for the Irrigation Budget showed expenses greater than income by \$1,195,946. After discussion, it was moved to adjust USBR Water Charges to 40 percent and include restoration costs; to adjust

Water Conservation Program by 50 percent and to reduce System Rental by \$1,195,946 to balance the Irrigation Budget. After further discussion it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee Doherty and unanimously approved to approve the Budget adjustments proposed by staff and to reduce the System Rental by \$1,195,946 to balance the budget. The Board reviewed the Maintenance Budget and the proposed adjustments for the 40 percent water year. After further discussion, it was moved by Trustee Cornwell, seconded by Trustee and unanimously approved to reduce System Rental Income by \$1,195,946; increase Tract 6 Income by \$527,601; reduce Wages by \$101,395; reduce benefits by \$9,675; reduce Power and Energy by \$120,000; increase Pumping Plant Maintenance by \$165,000; and to decrease Capital Outlay by \$220,000.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into Closed Session at 12:07 p.m. to confer with Legal Counsel regarding a potential litigation pursuant to subdivision (b) of section 54956.9. The Board came out of Closed Session at 12:15 p.m. and President Durst reported that one action was taken. On motion by Trustee Doherty, seconded by Trustee Cornwell and unanimously approved Attorney O'Brien was authorized to –cosign a letter to Mr. David Murillo, USBR Regional Director, regarding water allocations to the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors.

### **INFORMATION REPORTS**

**NCWA Report** – Trustee Cornwell reported on the NCWA meeting he attended. Discussions centered on drought issues.

**Sites JPA** – President Durst reported on the Sites JPA. The District provided a site visit with Senator Feinstein's staffers of the Sites Reservoir project site. Because of the drought more urgency is being given to water storage.

**Attorneys Report** – Attorney O'Brien said that nothing more to report at this time.

**Assistant Manager's Report** - Assistant Manager Busch presented the graphic used to decide on the appropriate Buffer to prevent mid season water shortages within the District's Draft Allocation Policy. After careful consideration and review of numbers provided by staff, the Board determined that a 20 percent buffer would be appropriate.

After further discussion a vote was taken on the tabled motion to adopt the Drought Plan for 2014 Water Year with the insertion of a 20 percent buffer. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

**Manager's Report** - Manager Bair reported that he had nothing further to report at this time.

**RECESS**

At 12:35 p.m. the meeting recessed for lunch. Those present at the meeting were invited to join the Board for lunch. The meeting reconvened at approximately 1:10 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 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lewis Bair".

Lewis Bair  
Secretary/Manager

# RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

## 2014 Board of Trustees

### Standing Committees

#### **Capital Outlay Committee**

Jon Leonard  
Sean Doherty

#### **Finance Committee**

Roger Cornwell  
Fritz Durst

#### **Tract 6 Committee**

Roger Cornwell  
Sean Doherty  
Mike Miller

#### **Personnel Committee**

Mike Miller  
Sean Doherty

#### **Groundwater Committee**

Fritz Durst  
Roger Cornwell  
Jim Erdman

#### **Power and Energy Committee**

Fritz Durst  
Roger Cornwell  
Bryan Busch

#### **PWRPA**

Bryan Busch  
Lewis Bair - Alternate

#### **Sites Joint Power**

Fritz Durst  
Sean Doherty – Alternate

**NCWA Board of Directors**

Roger Cornwell –Director  
Jon Leonard - Alternate

**Water Resource Agency (WRA)**

Fritz Durst  
Roger Cornwell

**ACWA Health Benefit Authority**

Roger Cornwell  
Fritz Durst – Alternate

**Retirement Plan Trustees**

Sean Doherty  
Mike Miller  
Lewis Bair

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**AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**Strain-West Drainage**

Mike Miller  
Jon Leonard

**Water Conservation Program**

Mike Miller  
John Miller  
Jim Webster  
Tom Ellis  
Nathan Williams  
Curt Spyres  
Russell Keaton  
Chad Navarrot  
Bryan Busch

**Infrastructure Committee**

Roger Cornwell  
Jon Leonard  
Mike Miller

**Groundwater Management Plan Committee**

Fritz Durst  
Todd Tommeraason (L&M)  
Mark Faye - 735-6412  
Mike Doherty 681-8204  
Scott West 682-0093

Jim Erdman  
Jim Balsdon 458-5655  
Roger Moore 218-2604

**Communication Groups**

Fritz Durst: Tom Ellis, Scott Monckton, Darrel Aoki and Harold Armstrong  
Jon Leonard: George Tibbitts, Gary Driver, Kim Gallagher  
Sean Doherty: Darrin Williams, Blair Voelz, Hafeez Rehman and Rick Strain  
Mike Miller: Starr West, Cameron Kaelin, Mark Andreotti and David Dummar  
Roger Cornwell: Mark Faye, Rodney Schreiner, Bill Geer and David Alves

NOTE: The General Manager is an ex-officio member of all committees





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	Name (Please Print)	Check if you want minutes & Agenda sent	Telephone Number/Email Address
	John Miller-	✓	682-1808
	David Dornes		308-6595
	Scott West		682-0093
	Kurt Kellgren		476-2310
	Candy Kelter Dornier	✓	CDorner@AOL.com
	Deke Dornier		DKDorner@yahoo.com
	Derek Strain		dstrain@strainranches.com
	Dane Nissen		dnissen@strainranches.com
	Vincent Andreatti		VA05720@gmail.com

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	Name (Please Print)	Check if you want minutes & Agenda sent	Telephone Number/Email Address
<i>CF</i>	MIKE ANDREOTTI		458-8324 mdandrecht@hotmail
	DON HUFF, JR		
✓	Fred Duest		439-2263
<i>CF</i>	Ferry Charter		476-3137
<i>CF</i>	David Alvar Abundance Zamwell		570-7712
<i>CF</i>	ED BEALL		530-662-8705
	Marty Strippling		
	Tom Ellis		

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	<b>Name</b> <b>(Please Print)</b>	Check if you want minutes & Agenda sent	<b>Telephone Number/Email Address</b>
	Tom Hayes		hayesfarmers@yahoo.com
	Tim Erdman		you got it

