

RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 108

Minutes of the Annual Landowner/Water User Meeting

March 5, 2014

President Durst called the Annual Landowner/Water User Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at Grimes Scout Cabin, Grimes, Colusa County, California.

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

Trustees Absent: None

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

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

President Durst welcomed the Landowners and Water Users to the meeting and introduced Board members and staff.

BUSINESS ITEMS

2. El Dorado Bend Update – Operation Manager Navarrot reported on the El Dorado Pumping Plant Maintenance Project. He said that the Pumping Plant was originally built in 1921 and still uses the original pumps. The District had an engineer evaluate the pumping plant and report on needed maintenance. The waterside of the maintenance project has been completed and the full project should be done before the start of the 2014 Water Season.

3. Water Measurement Project – Operation Manager Navarrot reported on the status of the Water Measurement Project. The Project is ahead of schedule and well below budget. He expressed his concern of inaccuracy of water measurement if irrigators make adjustments to the water boards in the measurement facility instead of District staff. He said that it is very important to the measurement process to contact District staff to make any adjustments. The next step will be to setup a rate structure for water pricing. This will be done with landowner and water user participation. The measurement and billing based at least in part on the volume of water delivered will begin in the 2016 water year.

4. Water Supply and Drought Allocation Procedures – Manager Bair reported on current water meetings that he has attended. The State Water Resource Control Board (State Board) has received a change petition from Reclamation and DWR to ease the Delta requirements for

February. During the State Board's review of the Temporary Urgency Change Petition the State Board suggested that their might not be enough water in the system and that Agricultural water could be cut to zero allocation. The State Board based the zero agricultural allocation on maintaining deliveries for Public Health and Safety throughout next year to protect against the possible continuation of drought conditions. The State Board plans to publish their decision about possible curtailments on March 12.

Assistant Manager Busch reviewed the 2014 Water Allocation Policy and went through the procedure to calculate the amount of water allocated per acre. He also reviewed the applied water rates for the different crops grown in the District and the forms that Landowners and Water Users will need to fill out to sign-up for water.

President Durst gave an update on potential 2014 water transfers. He stated that the Board has postponed any transfer decision until the District received written notice that water transferred out of the District would not harm other Water Users in respect to crop insurance coverage.

5. Sites Reservoir Update – President Durst gave a status report on Sites Reservoir. He reported that Senator Feinstein is now promoting more surface water storage for Northern California including: Sites Reservoir, Temperance Flat Reservoir, and raising Shasta Dam. Modeling shows that Sites could provide an average of 500,000 acre-feet annually.

6 Open Discussion – The meeting was opened for public discussion. Landowner John Miller made the following statement: "I think the District is making a huge mistake in letting all landowners sell their water. It is a mistake politically and poses a liability risk of being sued by landowners and environmental groups, similar as to what happened in the Conway tract. Politically, how do we negotiate with the other water groups, such as: the fish temp, Delta salinity, or water for people, when we are okaying a resolution to sell water even though we are at 40 percent. We are telling all the other water users that we don't need the water and are willing to sell. What happens to the District when we are willing sellers? If water is sold we don't need the current personnel and/or overhead."

ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lewis Bair
Secretary/Manager