

# Sacramento River West Side Levee District

## Minutes of the Public Hearing/Regular Meeting

### Of the Board of Commissioners

April , 2013

President Ellis called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners to order at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 240 , 2013 at Reclamation District No. 108 headquarters, Wilkins Slough, Colusa County, California.

**Trustees Present:** Tom Ellis, Fritz Durst, Dan Tibbitts

**Trustees Absent:** Roger Cornwell, Paul Sankey

**Others Present:** Lewis Bair, General Manager  
Kathryn Chandler, Assistant Manager  
Chad Navarrot, Superintendent  
Cathy Busch, Executive Secretary

Beverly Walls, Bookkeeper  
Bill Driver, Landowner  
Barry O'Regan, Conf Call

**Agenda** – On motion by Commissioner Durst, seconded by Commissioner Tibbitts, the Agenda was approved as submitted

**Public Participation:** Landowner Bill Driver addressed the Board with concern regarding his trees on the levee and the District's practice of burning the levee. Mr. Driver said that he understood that his trees are located on the District's maintenance right-a-way, but he does not want to remove the trees as long as they are producing a crop. He also noted that the trees were on the property long before he purchased the land. He understands the issues and reasons for burning the levees and asked to get advance notice of when the District would burn the area adjacent to his trees so that he can prepare the area around the trees to prevent any damage. Manager Bair said that it is District policy to do a continued burn and not jump back and forth since burn days are few and to keep costs down. If the landowner prefers, they can burn their own area. After further discussion, the Board directed Superintendent Navarrot to come up with a temporary solution for 2013 and to work with the Board and impacted landowners on a long-term solution.

#### ADMINISTRATION

**Minutes, Financial Report and Accounts Payable** – After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Durst, seconded by Commissioner Tibbitts and unanimously approved to approve the minutes as presented. It was further moved by Trustee Durst, seconded by Trustee Tibbitts and unanimously approved to approve March/April Financial Reports, the April Accounts Payables in the amount of \$26,908 and payments made in March to be ratified in the amount of \$47.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

- 1. Operations Report** – Superintendent Navarrot reported on current maintenance efforts. There was discussion regarding the impacts of aerial spraying on the stability of the River levees. It was suggested that a letter be drafted for applicators regarding this issue to be distributed by Colusa and Yolo County Ag Commissioners.
- 2. Maintenance Projects** – Manager Bair reviewed the additional maintenance and flood control projects that the additional assessment income will allow the District to complete. He reviewed staff's recommended priority of the maintenance and projects starting with the waterside and landside fire breaks. After further discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Durst, seconded by Commissioner Tibbitts and unanimously approved to authorize Manager Bair to increase Levee Maintenance for 2013 for \$70,000 (from \$151,000 to \$221,000). It was noted that the increased assessment will be split 50 percent additional maintenance and 50 percent into reserves for flood control projects. Manager Bair said that he will adjust the five year budget to show the additional assessment and present it at the June Board meeting.
- 2. Five Year Budget** - Manager Bair will revise the Five Year Budget based on the \$70,000 additional expenses for 2013 for discussion and action at the June Board meeting.
- 7. Adopt Resolution No. 13-01 in the Matter of LAIF Investment Fund** – After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Durst, seconded by Commissioner Tibbitts and unanimously approved to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 13-01 in the matter of Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund. RESOLUTION NO. 13-01 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.
- 4. Eligibility for PL 84-99** - Manager Bair reported that the District had the periodical inspection and received the report with DWR's findings. All the critical findings (in red) have been addressed and a response was sent to DWR. At this time the District has not had any response from DWR. The Board discussed losing PL 84-99 eligibility and what steps would be

needed to regain eligibility including applying for a System Wide Improvement Framework Plan (SWIF) which if approved would extend the District's eligibility for two years while completing a compliance plan. Mr. Barry O'Regan reported that the District would draft a letter of intent to the Central Valley Flood Control Board (CVFCB) requesting that they forward the District's request for a SWIF to the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). After further discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Tibbitts, seconded by Commissioner Durst and unanimously approved to authorize Manager Bair to work with Consultant O'Regan to draft a letter of intent to the CVFCB requesting that they forward the District's request for a SWIF to the Corps and do all things necessary to procure the SWIF at a cost up to \$2,000 for consultant fees.

**5. Mid-Sacramento Regional Flood Planning** – Manager Bair reported on the kickoff of the Mid-Sacramento Regional Flood Planning group. Focus groups are being setup and a work plan is beginning to be developed. The Emergency Flood Response Project has been approved for funding and should see some portion of the submitted \$2.4 million.

**6. CVFPB's Draft Legislation regarding Encroachment Enforcement** – Manager Bair reviewed proposed legislation that would give the CVFPB enforcement authority in respect to encroachments.

**8. AFMA Support Letter** – Manager Bair reported that Agricultural Floodplain Management Alliance (AFMA) is seeking support from the District to develop a study to ensure that the interests of agricultural areas and rural communities are considered under the National Flood Insurance Program. After discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Durst, seconded by Commissioner Tibbitts and unanimously approved to authorize President Ellis to issue a letter of support for the Agricultural Floodplain Management Alliance in developing a study to evaluate agricultural impacts from the National Flood Insurance Program.

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **Manager's Report**

Manager Bair reported that the Water Education Foundation has a flood management tour setup for May 16 and 17. This will be a good tour for anyone interested in flood control.

There was discussion regarding the Sutter Bypass modeling project. The modeling report shows that the Bypass is not working according to design and that growth in the Bypass chokes up the system.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no comments from the public and no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lewis Bair". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lewis Bair  
Secretary/Manager