

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1
OCTOBER 20, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, was held at 3:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 20, 2020 via video/teleconference only** due to the COVID-19 Emergency and Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders.

Trustees Present: Michael Burchardi Jeff Clay
 Brad Joos Lori Parker
 Lee Rosenberg

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Paeter Garcia Mary Martone Gary Kvistad
 Karen King Eric Tambini Ernest Kim

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m., he stated this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Martone conducted roll call and reported all members of the Board were present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Clay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE AGENDA:

Ms. Martone presented the affidavit of posting of the agenda, along with a true copy of the agenda for this meeting. She reported that the agenda was posted in accordance with the California Government Code commencing at Section 54950 and pursuant to Resolution No. 340 of the District. The affidavit was filed as evidence of the posting of the agenda items contained therein.

Ms. Martone added that as a result of the COVID-19 emergency and Governor Newsom’s Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this Board meeting would occur solely via video/ teleconference as authorized by and in furtherance of Executive Order Nos. N-29-20 and N-33-20 and applicable amendments to the California Brown Act as set forth in those Executive Orders.

IV. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Garcia stated there were no additions or corrections to the agenda.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Clay welcomed any members of the public participating via video or telephonically and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the agenda.

Mr. Ernest Kim, Siemens Energy representative, announced he was present.

There were no other comments received from the public.

Mr. Garcia stated that the Notice and Agenda for this Regular Meeting requested members of the public to submit advance written comments to the District via electronic mail by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2020. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting.

VI. CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE:

A. General Manager's Report

The Board packet included copies of press releases issued by the Santa Barbara County Health Department dated October 13, 2020 and September 29, 2020 regarding the current requirements pertaining to COVID-19.

Mr. Garcia reported on the current activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the District's actions. Mr. Garcia indicated that staff continues to receive and review updates related to COVID from federal, state, regional, and local agencies. Mr. Garcia referenced materials that were included in the Board packet from the County of Santa Barbara. He explained the District continues to maintain the same response plan, with staff being divided into two teams alternating each week. He also reported that construction of plexiglass barriers were installed recently in the front office workstations as a preventative measure and to assist with social distancing requirements.

VII. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2020

The Regular Meeting Minutes from September 15, 2020 were presented for consideration.

President Clay asked if there were any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2020. There were no changes or additions requested.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Rosenberg, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by 5-0-0 roll call vote, to approve the September 15, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA:

The Consent Agenda Report was provided in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of September.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Rosenberg, and carried by a 5-0-0 roll call vote, to approve the Consent Agenda.

IX. MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters

a) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements - Revenues and Expenses

Ms. Martone reported that the Board was provided the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of September via email. She also explained that the reports were posted on the District's website in the Board packet materials for any members of the public wishing to follow along or receive a copy.

Ms. Martone reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of September. She highlighted various line-items and reported that District expenses exceeded the revenues by \$33,804.96 and the year-to-date net income was \$648,383.96. Ms. Martone stated that there is typically a decline in water demand in the winter months, which will be reflected on the financials in October, November, and December. She explained that all accumulated revenues during the fiscal year to date will be earmarked and utilized for the annual State Water Project and COMB Bond payments due in June 2021.

b) Approval of Accounts Payable

Ms. Martone reported that the Board was provided the Warrant List for September 15, 2020 through October 20, 2020 via email, and it was posted on the District's website in the Board packet materials for any member of the public wishing to receive a copy.

The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 23367 through 23429 for the period of September 15, 2020 through October 20, 2020 in the amount of \$897,793.10.

It was **MOVED** by Trustee Rosenberg, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 5-0-0 roll call vote to approve the Warrant List for September 15, 2020 through October 20, 2020.

B. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE:

1. Purchase of Two Fleet Vehicles

a) Consideration and Award of Bid

The Board packet included bids results for the purchase of two new fleet vehicles.

Mr. Garcia explained that a request for bids was opened for the purchase of two 2021 Ford F250 Regular Cab, 4wd Trucks equipped with service bodies and lift gates. He indicated that funds for this purchase were included in the adopted Fiscal Year 2020-21 Budget. Mr. Garcia reported that bid requests were sent to nine potential vendors and three bid responses were received by the deadline date. Discussion ensued regarding the bid process, results, and compliance with the District's Purchasing Policy which requires the bid to be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

Mr. Garcia stated that after thoroughly comparing all bid submittals, the bid results reflect that Perry Ford was the lowest responsible bid in the amount of \$85,290.60. Mr. Garcia recommended acceptance of the bid from Perry Ford and authorization to purchase the two fleet vehicles.

After a brief discussion, it was **MOVED** by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by Trustee Rosenberg, and carried by a unanimous 5-0-0 roll call vote, to accept the lowest responsible bid of \$85,290.60 from Perry Ford of San Luis Obispo for the purchase of two 2021 Ford F250 Regular Cab 4wd Trucks with service bodies and lift gates.

X. REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. CACHUMA PROJECT - OPERATIONS AND SUPPLIES

1. Amendment to Contract No. I75r-1802R between United States Bureau of Reclamation and Santa Barbara County Water Agency (Amendatory Contract No. I75r-1802RA)
2. First Amendment to Cachuma Project Member Unit Contract between Santa Barbara County Water Agency and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1

Agenda Items X. A. 1. & 2. were discussed together.

The Board packet included an executed September 28, 2020 Amendment to Contract between the United States and Santa Barbara County Water Agency for Water Service from the Cachuma Project (Amendatory Contract No. I75r-1802RA) and an Executed September 24, 2020 First Amendment to Cachuma Project Member Unit Contract - Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1.

Mr. Garcia provided background information and reported that the negotiations for an interim Master Contract for Cachuma Water Supplies and the related Cachuma Project Member Unit Contracts have been finalized. He reported that the Amendment to the existing Cachuma Project Master Contract between USBR and the County Water Agency and the First Amendments to the Cachuma Project Member Unit Contract for ID No.1 have been executed and signed by all parties. Mr. Garcia stated the amendments retain all of the substantive provisions of the existing Master Contract and current Cachuma Project Member Unit Contract(s), and extends the contract terms for up to an additional three years to allow time for negotiations to take place on the next long-term contracts. Mr. Garcia stated that negotiations for the next long-term contract will likely begin soon and will be a lengthy process which will allow the Cachuma Project Member Units an opportunity to address important substantive issues that will affect the Cachuma Project supply, operation of the Project, environmental review, and contract compliance.

3. Draft Yield Study for the Cachuma Project

Mr. Garcia reported that the County Water Agency released a Draft Yield Study for the Cachuma Project in August of 2020. He explained the Draft Yield Study proposes some significant reductions in the Project yield, yet the Draft Study was prepared without input from the Cachuma Project Member Units. Mr. Garcia stated that the Cachuma Member Units have reviewed the Draft Study and sent a collective response letter to the Water Agency setting forth various concerns and objections. He explained that the letter also indicates that the Cachuma Member Units intend to undertake an independent study to evaluate Project yield and related issues. An additional letter from the Cachuma Member Units dated October 16, 2020 was sent to USBR.

B. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

1. Eastern Management Area Update

Mr. Garcia stated that the next meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Eastern Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin will be held on November 19, 2020 via teleconference at 6:30 p.m. He reported that the consultants, GSI Solutions, are currently working on various technical matters, including the hydrogeological conceptual model and water budgets which will be discussed at the November meeting. Mr. Garcia stated that significant milestones in the SGMA process are upcoming in the near future, and that all stakeholders are encouraged to participate.

XI. UPDATE FROM ALTERNATIVE POWER / SOLAR AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE:

Mr. Garcia welcomed Mr. Ernest Kim from Siemens Energy and thanked him for attending the teleconference. Mr. Garcia recapped staff's ongoing research on alternative power options for the District. He stated that staff has provided District utility data to two solar agencies for their review. He indicated that staff is currently in the process of scheduling site visits with each of the solar representatives in the near future.

XII. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, OBSERVATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING ACTION:

The Board packet included an October 9, 2020 letter from the District to the California Department of Transportation regarding comments on the Initial Study and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Alamo Pintado Creek Pedestrian Bridge Project. Mr. Garcia stated that Caltrans is considering alternatives of removing the bridge, removing and replacing the bridge, or leaving the bridge in its current condition. He reported that the District submitted a formal comment letter as part of the environmental review process. He explained that the District's has a critical interest in the project because the District's six-inch water main is attached to the bridge

that spans Alamo Pintado Creek. Mr. Garcia stated that a virtual meeting was held where members of the public provided comments which were mostly in opposition to removing the bridge. Mr. Garcia stated that the District's letter explains why the 6-inch main is an integral component of the District's water distribution system.

The Board packet included a September 28, 2020 letter from the District to the Solvang Chamber of Commerce and Allan Hancock College regarding support for the Nationwide Rural Prosperity Initiative.

The Board packet included the Family Farm Alliance Monthly Briefing for the month of September 2020.

Trustee Parker reported that she had been contacted by Ms. Lisa Palmer, Board President of the Los Olivos Community Services District (CSD). Trustee Parker stated that she had met with Ms. Palmer and that CSD representatives would like to attend an upcoming District Board meeting to discuss possible collaboration between ID No.1 and the CSD.

Mr. Garcia reported that the Water Resources Technician position has been filled by Mr. Austin McCollum who started work at the District on October 1, 2020.

XIII. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS THE ITEMS NOT MARKED WITH AN ASTERISK (*) FOR FILE:

The Correspondence list was received by the Board.

XIV. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Trustee Parker requested that the Los Olivos Community Services District be added to the November 17, 2020 Meeting Agenda.

There were no other requests from the Board.

XV. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

President Clay stated the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for November 17, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Garcia announced that the Open Session public participation video and phone lines would be closed for the next thirty (30) minutes to allow the Board to convene into Closed Session. He explained that the public participation video and phone lines would be reopened thirty (30) minutes later for the remaining Agenda items. Mr. Garcia thanked everyone for participating in the video/teleconference and stated that Open Session meeting would reconvene at 5:35 p.m. to report any action taken during Closed Session.

XVI. CLOSED SESSION:

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:03

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code - 1 case]

1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests

XVII. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

The public participation video and phone lines were re-opened, and the Board reconvened to Open Session at approximately 5:35 p.m. Ms. Martone conducted roll call and reported that four Trustees were present when the meeting reconvened, with Trustee Burchardi absent.

Mr. Garcia announced that the Board met in Closed Session concerning Agenda Item XVI.A.1. He stated that there was no reportable action from Closed Session.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, it was **MOVED** by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Parker, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Burchardi absent, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:35 p.m.

THE OCTOBER 20, 2020 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE NOVEMBER 17, 2020 MEETING.