

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Eastside Water District  
Thursday, July 16, 2020**

Chairman Tim Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. via conference call due to COVID-19 and shelter in place orders. California State Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, signed March 4, 2020 allows local and state legislative bodies to hold meetings via teleconference and to make meetings accessible electronically during the pandemic. Once the governor's shelter in place orders have been lifted the board will go back to regular meetings at Turlock Irrigation District.

**Present Directors:** Roll Call-Ty Angle, Ward Burroughs, Tim Johnson, Dexter Long, Al Rossini, and Wes Sperry

**Others Present:** Matt Brady, Frank and Inga Brumley, Gilbert and Gloria Erickson, Kevin Kauffman, John Lambie, EPUR, and Jeanne Zolezzi, Legal Counsel

**ITEM 2**     **Public Comments:** Gloria Erickson informed the Board that they and the Brumley's were shocked by the invoices that they received for annexing to the EWD. If these invoices must be paid, they preferred not to be part of the EWD. Legal Counsel was asked if the Board could remove these property owners from the recently completed annexation. Counsel Zolezzi reported that the annexation process was complete and that it was too late for the Board to do this.

A significant discussion occurred in the Board's attempt to address the concerns of these property owners. Payment plans, seeking a reduction from the State, EWD absorbing some of these costs and other options were voiced. Mr. Brady cautioned that any absorbed portion of these bills would be absorbed by other EWD landowners. The Board also wanted each landowner to be treated equally in any resolution of this issue. Consultant Kauffman was directed to bring the Board a spreadsheet showing how each annexed property was invoiced and a proposal to resolve this matter.

**ITEM 3**     It was moved by Ward Burroughs, seconded by Al Rossini, and **carried unanimously** to table the minutes of the June 18, 2020 board meeting. **Roll Call Vote: Ty Angle-Yes, Ward Burroughs-Yes, Tim Johnson-Yes, Dexter Long-Yes, Al Rossini-Yes, Wes Sperry-Yes.**

**ITEM 4**     Kevin Kauffman presented the Balance Sheet for the board secretary who was out ill. The balance showed \$3,064,900.28 as of June 30, 2020. It should be noted that Stanislaus County did not provide financial reports for June, so the books could not be reconciled. This is an annual occurrence for the county when they close their fiscal year. Any checks written and deposits for June and July will be shown when the County submits their financial reports in August and will be reflected in the board's treasury report in August. It was moved by Al Rossini, seconded by Dexter Long, and **carried unanimously**, that the bills as presented

for July 2020 be paid. **Roll Call Vote: Ty Angle-Yes, Ward Burroughs-Yes, Tim Johnson-Yes, Dexter Long-Yes, Al Rossini-Yes, Wes Sperry-Yes.**

**ITEM 5**

Regarding the Diffused Surface Water Project:

**a. TID Water for Potential Groundwater Recharge Projects – 2020 Status:**

Consultant Kauffman reported that no water was available from TID but was hoping for the ‘shoulder season’ for at least the F-1 recharge project.

**b. Rouse Lake Area (North System) Any Landowner Update:**

Ty Angle reported that the landowners continue to work with Chase Hurley on the potential for using surface water in this area, but with no water from TID this year progress was slow.

**c. Grizzly Nut Ranch F-1 Gate and Other Pilot Projects:**

i. Data collection and the current progress on the project. Consultant Lambie reported that the pond at LRGNR has been dried for the Phase II EGRP construction and the level sensor removed. It will be replaced later this week now that construction is complete. The fall is expected to provide good data especially if TID water is provided

ii. Regarding TID Water out to F-1 Drain (Grizzly Nut Ranch) Phase II Under Construction:

Consultant Kauffman reported that The Water Group’s contractor (Ferguson/Miller) installed 1,420 feet of Parjana EGRP into the bottom of the LRGNR pond on Tuesday, July 14. He showed a brief video showing how three intertwined 20-foot EGRP devices were inserted into the 22-foot deep 1-1/2 inch boring. He explained that the five and ten-foot EGRP devices consist of one device, but the 20 and 40-foot bores contain three intertwined devices. It is expected that once acclimated, this pond will not be able to store much water and will only pond when water is imported from the TID Highline canal at a rate faster than it can recharge it to the groundwater. This work was done at The Water Group LLC’s expense to promote the effectiveness of the Parjana EGRP system.

**d. Mustang Creek (South System):**

i. Pilot Dry Wells Project -

• **Torrent Dry Well Permitting Status**

Consultant Lambie provided the Board with an update on submitting the water quality monitoring plan to the SWRCB regional office using their form 200. With their approval, EWD can apply for the well drilling permits at Merced County.

• **Water Rights**

Legal Counsel Zolezzi reported that her next step is to meet with SWRCB water rights attorneys to develop a plan to secure any water rights available on Mustang Creek.

ii. Operations:

• **Maintenance-**

Consultant Kauffman will pursue a contract with a company that does the overflow maintenance work for TID. The plan is to annually contract with TID.

iii Regarding the Proposed Upland Pipeline Project East of Turlock, CA:

- After significant discussion, it was the direction of the Board to hold this in-person workshop on Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 9:00 am, in an outdoor tent at the Hilltop Ranch office on Turlock Road. It will be an EWD Special Meeting and landowners adjacent to the proposed pipeline will be contacted and asked to attend.
- Consultant Kauffman plans to present the latest exhibits available from Waterford Irrigation and their design efforts, along with a map showing a potential extension in the pipeline that will eliminate the need for any taking of land between the current terminus of the proposed pipeline and the Mustang Creek reservoir.
- Legal Counsel Zolezzi said that she will continue her work on the water rights, easements and an agreement with MID.
- Director Rossini reported that per Board direction, he has been in discussions with Larry Marcus about the interest EWD has in an 80-acre parcel at the terminus of the proposed pipeline. Consultant Kauffman was asked to draft a letter for the Chair's signature that would express this interest.
- Consultant Lambie said he would provide an updated aerial photo map showing the project and the 80-acre parcel identified as a potential GW recharge site.
- Director Long reported that Merced ID has made 40,000 AFA available to interested parties. He recommended that EWD 'get-in-line' for this water ASAP. Consultant Kauffman commented that the ETSGSA has previously sent a letter of interest to MID regarding this water saying it would be willing to pay \$300 per AF. The Board directed Consultant Kauffman to draft a letter under the Chair's signature to MID expressing its interest in this water with or without the ETSGSA JPA actions. The maximum volume amount available to ETSGSA or EWD will be based on the capacity of the MID North Canal's capacity.

**ITEM 8**

Kevin Kauffman and John Lambie gave an update on the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Joint Powers Authority, including:

**a. GSP Update –Proposition 218 Election, Share of Costs & Outreach Updates**

Consultant Kauffman presented two exhibits that he will send to the Board following the meeting. The first is the provides the response to policy questions raised by Provost & Pritchard in regards to the Prop 218 report. The second is Consultant Kauffman's attempt to suggest a cost share of this Prop 218 report. It shows EWD's share if it does not participate and the costs at a 10, 20, and 30% level. The Board directed its consultant to offer that EWD participate at a 10% level recognizing the EWD will benefit from the parcel information updating to be completed as part of this effort.

- b. Groundwater Monitoring Updates**  
Consultant Lambie provided this update and with this new budget year what is expected to be completed.
- c. DWR TSS & Grant Program for Monitoring Wells Update**  
Consultant Lambie noted that the idea of combining these efforts has been started.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

I hereby certify that this is a full and correct copy of the minutes of the Board of Directors of the Eastside Water District of Merced and Stanislaus Counties, California.

July 16, 2020 (notes provided by Kevin Kauffman)

Karen L. Whipp

KAREN L. WHIPP  
EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK