

**Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Meeting of
Board of Directors Eastside Water District**

Thursday, April 20, 2023, 9:00 AM

Chairman Tim Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. at the Cortez Hall, 12937 North Cortez Avenue, Turlock, CA 95380 and via Zoom.

Directors Present: Ward Burroughs, Carl Evers III Tim Johnson, Dexter Long (*arrived at 9:20 am*), Norik Naraghi Dino Rossini, Wes Sperry and Maryse Suppiger.

Directors Absent: Ty Angle

Others Present: Alberto Flores-KL Whipp and Co, John Lambie-EPUR, Betty Lindeman Hurley-Landowner, Cal Mast-Landowner, Brian Powell-Wood Rodgers (on-line), Lilliana Selke- Legal Counsel, Brent Stout – Stout Farms, Michael Stack-Landowner, Todd Turley-Landowner (online), Karen Whipp-EWD Board Secretary, and Sarah Woolf-EWD General Manager.

Item 2 **Public Comment:** Mr. Mast expressed his concerns about participating in the Highline Canal infrastructure Program and being penalized if surface water wasn't available and he had to pump water. The board assured him that landowners wouldn't be penalized for pumping if surface water for irrigation districts wasn't available.

Item 3 **Consent Calendar:** It was moved by Member Ward Burroughs, seconded by Member Carl Evers, III, and carried unanimously to approve the consent calendar.

Item 4 **Resolution to Appoint New Board Member**
The General Manger reviewed the duties of the board members as stated in the District's bylaws that were amended April 21, 2022. She also stated that there were three (3) applicants and recommended an Ad Hoc Committee be established to interview the candidates before the next board meeting, at which time a recommendation would be made to the board. The committee includes: Chairman Tim Johnson, Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry, Treasurer Ward Burroughs, and Carl Evers. **No action was taken.**

(Member Dexter Long arrived at 9:20 am.)

Item 5 **New Treasurer for Eastside Water District**
It was moved by Member Dino Rossini, seconded by Member Dexter Long, and carried unanimously to appoint Ward Burroughs at Treasurer.

Item 6 **Investment Committee**
Wes Sperry gave a report on a local investment company he has been working with. **It was moved by Member Carl Evers, III, seconded by Member Dexter Long, and carried unanimously** to authorize the Investment Committee to work with a trustworthy investment firm, secure reasonable management fee, and invest a reasonable amount of funds that will allow Eastside Water District to maintain a solid working balance to achieve its financial obligations over the next fiscal year.

Item 7

Disclosure and Waiver of Potential Conflict with General Counsel

Following the review of the Waiver of Potential Conflict with General Counsel between Eastside Water District and Ballico Cortez Water District, **it was moved by Member Carl Evers, III, seconded by Member Ward Burroughs, and carried unanimously** to approve the Waiver of Potential Conflict with General Counsel, Herum Crabtree and Suntag, and Ballico Cortez Water District, and authorize the board chairman to sign the waiver.

Item 8

Wood Rodgers Evaluation of Replenishment Property of Highline Canal

Brian Powell, Wood Rodgers, has met with everyone who is interested in participating in the replenishment project along the Highline Canal. Turlock Irrigation District (TID) is very pleased with the project and the water landowners are willing to take. TID is not ready to expand the program on to additional lands outside of the existing historical replenishment lands until the water accounting framework is complete. The final report is being sent out to the board and landowners. It will also be made available on the district's website. **This item was information only.**

Item 9

East Turlock Subbasin GSA Update:

Sarah Woolf, General Manager, gave a GSP Update that included the following:

- a. The Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Proposal was submitted to the Department of Conservation. The GSA is requesting \$10 million for planning.
- b. The Prop 218 and a Groundwater Pumping Fee RFP has been released. The GSA should be in contract with a firm in June.
- c. The 2023/24 DRAFT GSA budget has been reviewed by the TAC. It will be reviewed by the board at their April meeting next week.
- d. The Accounting Framework will be discussed in Closed Session.
- e. To date there are 14 applicants for the Groundwater Pumping Pilot Program. The board asked when the next workshop was going to be. They said that June would be a good time and then November after harvest.

Item 10

Other Business

Dexter Long reported that their farming company is planning to build a recharge pond in Ballico Cortez Water District near Sunny Acres and New Port Road. He asked who would be the best people to contact to begin constructing it. It was recommended that Dexter Long reach out to Scott Bradford with USDA.

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the regular meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Item 11

Closed Session

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the Closed Session meeting at 10:26 a.m.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION, Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 – 1 case. No Action was taken.

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the Closed Session at 11:06 a.m.

Chairman Tim Johnson Opened the regular meeting at 11:07 a.m.

There being no further business, Chairman Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 11:08 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.

April 20, 2023

KAREN L. WHIPP
EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK