

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

**October 19, 2023, 9:00 a.m.**

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. at the Cortez Hall, 12937 North Cortez Avenue, Turlock, CA. 95380 and via Zoom.

**Directors Present:** Ty Angle, Ward Burroughs, Richard Gemperle, Dexter Long, Dino Rossini, Wes Sperry, and Todd Turley.

**Directors Absent:** Carl Evers, III.

**Others Present:** Ryan Aston – SCI Consulting, John Fassler -landowner, Alberto Flores – KL Whipp & Co., Sara Harper – Provost and Pritchard (online), Tim Johnson (on-line as public), Karen Whipp – Board Secretary, Sarah Woolf- General Manager, and Jeanne Zolezzi- Legal Counsel.

**Item 2**            **Public Comment:** There were no public comments.

**Item 3**            **Consent Calendar**  
**It was moved by Board Member Ward Burroughs, seconded by Board Member Dexter Long, and carried unanimously** to approve the consent calendar.

**Item 4**            **Water Availability Analysis on Dry, Sand and Mustang Creeks**  
Sarah Woolf, General Manager reported that there was a meeting October 16 at Hilltop Ranch. It was attended by Cody Aldridge (Manager of Burroughs Family Farms), Ward Burroughs (Board Member), Sam Cunningham (Provost and Pritchard) Richard Gemperle (Board Member), Sara Harper (Provost and Pritchard) and Tim Johnson (Board Member). They walked through the three creeks and pointed out locations that would provide opportunities for recharge. Provost and Pritchard will run a cost analysis based on the locations identified.

**Item 5**            **Surface Water Supply Usage**  
Sarah Woolf, General Manger reported on the following:  
a. Replenishment Water: 3,500 acre-feet have been received from Turlock Irrigation District. (TID) This is 1,300 acre-feet more than in the previous year. TID will take their last water order on October 28 and stop water deliveries November 1. Bills for TID will go out in Mid-November and will be due the end of December.  
b. Merced Irrigation District Water: Did not have an updated number. 457 acre-feet has been taken through August. Continued use of MID will be reported in the coming months.

**This item was information only.**

**Item 6**            **Infrastructure Reimbursement Program for 2023-2024**  
Sarah Woolf, General Manager reviewed the schedule for the 2023-2024 Infrastructure Reimbursement Program. Once applications are received the Ad Hoc Committee will review the applications, with a plan to make recommendations to the board by the first of the year.

### **Item 7**

#### **East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Update**

- a. Multi Benefit Land Repurposing Grant Proposal – the ETS GSA agreement with the Department of Conservation has been finalized. Staff attended a Statewide Support Meeting September 25. It was a facilitated meeting to demonstrate Best Practices of previous Land Repurposing Projects, which included a field trip. Staff has been meeting and talking with our partner agencies.
- b. Prop 218 and Groundwater Pumping Fee – Ryan Aston, SCI Consulting gave the EWD board an update. There was discussion regarding lands that primarily use surface water and what percentage should they pay for the Projects and Management Actions budget. There was additional discussion about the Operations budget that was only being funded 70% by land assessments and 30% by pumping fees that will not take effect until 2025-2026. Ryan stated that Mike Tietze was developing Surface Water Policies, Rules and Regulations for the review and action by the ETS GSA board. The board provided Ryan with input that the Operational budget needs to be funded at 100%. They also recommended that the non-irrigated landowners fee be closer to 20 or 25 percent of the share of costs.
- c. Groundwater Pumping Pilot Program – In 2024 everyone will be able to participate in the pilot program without the fees. Land IQ will be operational. Savannah Tjaden (Formation Environmental), has scheduled interviews with landowners that are participating in the current Pilot Program.
- d. Policy Discussion – that item was reviewed in Item 7b.
- e. Accounting Framework – To be discussed in closed session.

**These items were information only.**

### **Item 13**

#### **Other Business**

Sarah Woolf reported that spraying at Mustang Creek was done yesterday and will be done again today.

Todd Turley will give an update on the ACWA Forum tour at the November board meeting.

**This item was information only.**

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry closed the regular meeting at 11:15 a.m.

### **Item 14**

#### **Closed Session**

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry opened the closed session at 11:15 a.m.

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Pursuant to Gov. Code 54956.9(d) Significant exposure to litigation: 2 cases. No action was taken.

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry closed the Closed Session at 11:45 a.m.

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry opened the regular meeting at 11:45 a.m.

### **Item 15**

#### **Adjournment**

Vice-Chairman Wes Sperry adjourned the meeting at 11:45 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.

October 19, 2023

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*Karen Whipp*

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KAREN L. WHIPP

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK