

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

March 21, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

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, Richard Gemperle, Tim Johnson, Dexter Long, and Dino Rossini.

Directors Absent: Wes Sperry, and Todd Turley

Others Present: Alberto Flores – KL Whipp & Co., Kip Hudson – Hudson, Henderson, and Company, Michael Stack – landowner, Karen Whipp – Board Secretary, Sarah Woolf- General Manager and Jeanne Zolezzi – Legal Counsel.

Item 2 **Public Comment:** Ward Burroughs shared a White Paper prepared by Tim LaSalle and Rosie Burroughs, titled “Concerns Regarding Policies for Agricultural Land Management and Farmland Retirement for California”.

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

Item 4 **Eastside Water District 2021-2022 Fiscal Audit**
Independent Auditor, Kip Hudson, Hudson, Henderson, and Company, presented the audit to the board. He reported there were no deficiencies or noncompliance issues. The audit will be up for adoption at the April board meeting. **This item was information only.**

Item 5 **A Resolution of the Eastside Water District Board of Directors**
It was moved by Board Member Ward Burroughs, seconded by Board Member Dexter Long, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-01 confirming a board vacancy and to recognize the contribution of Ty Angle to the Board of Directors and the District.

Item 6 **Approve Filing a Notice of Exemption Under California Environmental Quality Act**
It was moved by Board Member Carl Evers III, seconded by Board Member Dino Rossini, and carried unanimously to approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act for the property located on Hall Road.

Item 7 **A Resolution of the Eastside Water District Board of Directors Approving Purchase of Real Property and Authorizing General Manager to Execute Documents**
Sarah Woolf, General Manager reported on the initial environmental report that there was nothing negative to report. She also reported on the findings of the soil testing for recharge.
It was moved by Board Member Dexter Long, seconded by Board Member Ward Burroughs, and carried unanimously to adopt Resolution 2024-02 approving the

purchase of real property and amending the resolution to authorize the General Manager and Board Chairman to execute documents reasonably necessary to complete the purchase of the property.

Item 8

Infrastructure Reimbursement Program for 2023-2024 Schedule

Sarah Woolf, General Manager provided an update on the two approved applications. The documents have been signed and they have both received two bids. The General Manager also received a quote on another property. It requires additional information before moving forward.

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the regular meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Item 11

Closed Session

Chairman Tim Johnson opened the closed session at 9:50 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.

Chairman Tim Johnson closed the Closed Session at 10:09 a.m.

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

Item 9

East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Update

- a. GSP Deficiencies - The General Manager reported that working to address the deficiencies and preparing the annual report at the same time. One of the issues being addressed is the potential subsidence of a well on the WTS/ETS GSA border. In discussions with DWR, their concerns were the thresholds and cone of depression. DWR wants a plan showing a proactive pumping reduction schedule and the MLRP following program.
- b. Multi Benefit Land Repurposing Grant– The General Manager reported two proposals to prepare the MLRP Plan were received. The Ad Hoc Committee reviewed the proposals and recommended ETS GSA enter into two separate contracts with EKI and ESA, instead of EKI subcontracting with ESA, to reduce EKI’s contract by \$25,000; eliminate travel markup not allowed in grant reimbursement; and labor surcharge. The TAC recommended staff prepare contracts with EKI and ESA for the MLRP Plan and bring the contracts before the ETS GSA Board on March 28, 2024 for their action.
- c. Prop 218 Schedule – To date the GSA has received 237 ballots which will be opened at the April 2 Public Hearing. The General Manager also reported if the Proposition 218 passes, ETS GSA Board will also vote to request a second loan from Eastside Water District at 9.5% interest.
- d. Prop 218 Meetings with EWD Landowners – The General Manager and Board Members reviewed landowners they have talked to about Proposition 218, and those they need to talk to.
- e. Land IQ Update- the data and tracking of the consumptive groundwater will interface with awarded software developer.
- f. Groundwater Accounting Platforms – The Ad Hoc Committee recommended ESA to develop software to support the implementation of a Pumping Management Framework to the ETS GSA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The TAC approved bringing a contract with ESA to the ETS GSA Board at the March 28 meeting.

- g. GSA Policy Development– We are putting together an Ad Hoc committee to develop Rules and Regulations for the Water Accounting Platform. The General Manager asked the board to think about who would like to participate. There was also a brief discussion on parcels being split for assessment purposes.
 - h. Accounting Framework – Was discussed in closed session.
- These items were information only.**

Item 10

Other Business

Sarah Woolf, General Manager reported that she and Matt Beamann, Merced Irrigation District visited with Scott Bradford, UC Davis. Dr. Davis is interested in studying one of the Mustang Creek down-wells and its failings. Ms. Woolf will keep the board updated on further discussions. **This item is for information only.**

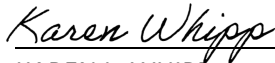
Item 12

Adjournment

Chairman Tim Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:59 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.

March 21, 2024



KAREN L. WHIPP

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT BOARD CLERK