

TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

July 2, 2020

The Board of Directors of the Tri-County Water Authority met in the second-floor conference room, 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, California, on Thursday, July 2, 2020 at the hour of 1:00 p.m. Per Executive Order N-29-20, the meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Chairman VanderHam presided and Executive Director Jackson kept the minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Cory VanderHam
Mark Grewal
Steve Jackson

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Wade Magden

OTHERS PRESENT: Deanna Jackson, Executive Director
Pamela Silkwood, General Counsel
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec
Bob Anderson, Geosyntec
Alex Pytlak, Geosyntec
Stacie Ann Silva, New Current
Rebecca Quist, KRCD
Alan Becker, Renewable Resources Group
Rusty Areias, California Strategies

Chairman VanderHam called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None offered

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Upon the motion of Director Grewal, seconded by Director Jackson, the June 15, 2020 Minutes were unanimously approved. (3-0-1)
- B. Upon the motion of Director Grewal, seconded by Director Jackson, the warrants and finances for 06/01/20 through 06/26/20 were unanimously approved. (3-0-1)
- C. Upon the motion of Director Grewal, seconded by Director Jackson, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved. (3-0-1).

PUBLIC HEARING PROP 218

A public hearing to receive input on the Establishment of the 2021 Special Assessment Rate and on Resolution 20-03 approving the Levying of the 2021 Assessments, was opened by Chairman VanderHam at 1:05 p.m. No public comments were received and Chairman VanderHam closed the hearing at 1:07.

ACTION CALENDAR

1. Consider for discussion and approval Mid Kings River GSA's call for funds for payment of Tulare Lake Subbasin's outstanding invoices due to cash flow disruption of the Round 2 SGMA Grant Money disbursements.

Mr. Mills sent a letter requesting additional funds to cover subbasin expenditures that are to be reimbursed by awarded grant funding that has been delayed. The reimbursement to TCWA should be received in the 4th quarter of 2020.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the Second of Director Grewal, the Board approved the call for funds. (3-0-1)

2. Consider for discussion and approval / ratification Tule Subbasin GSA Technical Advisory Committee's call for funds for payment of Tule Subbasin's outstanding invoices due to cash flow disruption of the Prop 1 Grant Money disbursements.

The Tule Subbasin managers approved a call for funds to cover subbasin expenses pending their respective Board of Director's approval. A portion of the funds may be reimbursed in the 4th quarter of 2020 or used as carry-over for next year's budget.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the Second of Director Grewal, the Board approved the call for funds. (3-0-1)

3. Consider for adoption of Resolution No. 20-03 **A RESOLUTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY APPROVING THE LEVYING OF THE 2021 ASSESSMENTS.**

On the motion of Director Grewal and the Second of Director Jackson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 20-03. (3-0-1)

4. Request for adoption of Resolution No. 20-04 **A RESOLUTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY CERTIFYING THE COUNTY OF TULARE THE VALIDITY OF THE LEGAL PROCESS USED TO PLACE DIRECT CHARGES (SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS) ON THE SECURED TAX ROLL.**

On the motion of Director Grewal and the Second of Director Jackson, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 20-04. (3-0-1)

5. Request for Board consideration and/or adoption of Resolution No. 20-05 **A RESOLUTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF KINGS TO PLACE THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON THE 2020-2021 TAX ROLL AND CERTIFYING TO THE**

COUNTY OF KINGS THE VALIDITY OF THE LEGAL PROCESS USED TO PLACE DIRECT CHARGES (SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS) ON THE SECURED TAX ROLL.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the Second of Director Grewal, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 20-05. (3-0-1)

6. **Consider for approval KINGS RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ELEVATION MONITORING COST-SHARING AGREEMENT.**

After review by legal counsel the Board agreed to table the agreement pending further review and revisions.

7. **Consider for discussion and possible approval repayment of Deer Creek Water District of funds advanced to the Authority.**

Deer Creek Storm Water District requested reimbursement in full of advanced funds that were paid to TCWA for initial expenses. The Board of Directors had previously voted to repay DCSWD and Angiola Water District by four equal payments over years 2020-2023. After discussion and on the motion of Director Jackson and Second of Director Grewal, the Board approved the full repayment of funds advanced by Deer Creek Storm Water District effective immediately. (3-0-1).

8. **Consider for discussion and possible approval the Engagement Agreement with California Strategies & Advocacy Contract.**

David Armanasco and Rusty Areias presented their proposal and qualifications to the directors. It was proposed that SWKGSA and TCWA both hire California Strategies and share the expenses. The collaboration will help build a bridge with State and Local Officials and provide support during the implementation phase of the groundwater sustainability plans. On the motion of Director Grewal and Second of Director Jackson, the Board voted to approve the Contract with a 70/30 split between TCWA and SWKGSA. (3-0-1)

9. **Consider for discussion and possible action to set a Public Hearing to hear comments on the Draft Tri-County Water Authority Enforcement Policy and Resolution.**

The matter was tabled until further notice.

COMMUNICATIONS/OLD BUSINESS

10. **Director's Reports/Comments/Suggestion**

None.

11. **Reports of General Interest**

1) **Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson**

Monthly meetings have been scheduled to discuss multiple topics including, data management, grant payments and opportunities, development of a coordination agreement and preparation for the next annual update.

- 2) Tule Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson
TH is updating and calibrating the model. The annual report has been completed and the subbasin continues to work on its monitoring network.

- 3) Advisory Committee Update – Amer Hussain / Bob Anderson
 - a. Allocation – Bob Anderson gave a presentation of the decreased pumping schedule included TCWA’s GSP and the Basin Model. The decreased pumping schedule currently prescribed includes a steep ramp-down. Mr. Anderson proposed that they begin to work on a document that would address the allocation policies and procedures. The development of an allocation policy will be a process that will engage the Stakeholders through the Advisory Committee. The Directors will be updated and asked to make policy decisions as needed.

 - b. Meter Policy – The stakeholders, directors and legal counsel have commented and policy revisions have been made to the document. The policy paper will be recirculated and considered for adoption at the next board meeting.

 - c. Grants – Mr. Hussain update the Directors on 2 possible grant opportunities. The Water-Energy Efficiency grant and the Drought Resiliency grant. Projects that may benefit from these grants could be developed.

- 4) Legal Counsel Report – Pam Silkwood
California Strategies has grant writers that are available to help with the creation and submission of grant applications. This could help TCWA with future applications.

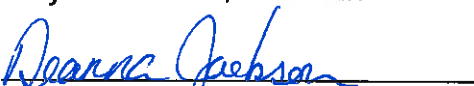
- 5) Other updates, as appropriate
TCWA received, and will circulate, a letter from Angiola Water District that concerning their proclaimed prescriptive rights.

ADJOURNMENT

12. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the July 2, 2020 meeting, Director VanderHam adjourned the meeting until the next Regular Meeting to be held on September 3, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., in the Tri-County Boardroom or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:


Cory VanderHam, Chairman


Deanna Jackson, Executive Director