

TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

September 3, 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
Wade Magden

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Deanna Jackson, Executive Director
Melissa Brandon, Administrative Assistant
Pamela Silkwood, General Counsel
Amer Hussain, Geosyntec
Alex Pytlak, Geosyntec
David DeGroot, 4Creeks
Eric Riley, 4Creeks
Bruce Howarth, AID
Araceli Leal, ACSD
Stacie Ann Silva, New Current
Don Wright, Water Wrights
Sonja Thiede, KRCD
Moe Dean, Gebhardt Management
Alan Becker, Renewable Resources Group
David Armanasco, California Strategies
Carole Combs, TLBWP

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

PUBLIC COMMENT - None offered

Executive Director Jackson and the Board of Directors welcomed Deer Creek Storm Water District's representative, Wade Magden, to the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Upon the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Jackson, the Consent Calendar was unanimously approved. (4-0-0)

1. Minutes of the July 2, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.
2. Warrants and Finances (06/01/20 – 08/31/20)
3. Treasure's Report

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Public Hearing to Consider the Adoption of the Tri-County Water Authority Meter Policy and Procedures.

Chairman VanderHam opened the hearing at 1:02. Mr. Hussain presented the final draft of the Meter Policy including meter requirements, reporting requirements, and key dates. Two corrections were made to the document. (1) Section E. 2 will be removed, and (2) Government Code 6254.16 will be added to Section 6 of the Policy and Attachment "A". There were no public comments outside of Mr. Hussain and Ms. Silkwood's corrections to the document. Chairman VanderHam closed the hearing at 1:08.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the seconded by Director Grewal, Resolution 20-06 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY WATER METER POLICY AND PROCEDURES** was unanimously adopted. (4-0-0)

ACTION CALENDAR

5. Tule Subbasin update for consideration and discussion.

Mr. DeGroot, Tule Subbasin Plan Manager, gave an update on the activities of the subbasin. The subbasin has several activities that are acknowledged in the CA and review of the CA should be undertaken before GSA's adoption of policy. The Tule Subbasin has been working on its basin wide monitoring network, and the spring water level sampling has been completed and water quality sampled this summer. The physical benchmarks for the subsidence network have been established and locations have been sent to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory for coordination and the FKC datum. This data coordination is very important particularly when evaluation land subsidence. 4 Creeks is working on the subbasin wide data management system for collection of data and reporting. The grants that were received by the subbasin are being executed. Monies that were left over used to drill additional monitoring wells, with two of those wells located in southwest TCWA. Grant money is being utilized to update the groundwater flow model. Technical Support Services grant money is being used to drill up to four additional monitoring wells in the subbasin. The Prop 68 grant is on the horizon and the subbasin is perusing applying for. The State's quarterly reimbursements have been delayed due to covid. The subbasin should receive the money last quarter and will be in a better financial position. The purpose for updating the GWFm is to bring it up to date from the last data cut off of 2017. The update will include 2018 2019 data. This will

bring the flow model tool update and be a better calculator for predicting outcomes. The Allensworth area data was updated. Technical comments were incorporated in the update, including additional comments from Ken Schmidt.

6. Consider for approval 4Creeks' Web-Application Proposal to provide TCWA with a data management system and support.

Mr. Riley presented the Basinsafe Groundwater Management Web-Based Software Platform. The core system setup workplan includes onboarding, core application configuration, data import, staff training, and launch. The software is web-based and can be easily accessed by users. The core features include tracking, consumption, billing, reporting, and management.

The Directors asked to split the development fee and pay half at signing and half in calendar year 2021. The ET data received from Land IQ will be incorporated with the Basinsafe platform. The system will allow the administrator and landowners to view the Land IQ data. The Directors questioned Mr. Riley on the payment schedule, including the development fee and ongoing maintenance costs.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the Second of Director Grewal, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposal with the contract change incorporating the requested payment schedule. (4-0-0)

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

Sonja Thiede presented the KRCD monitoring program. Director Grewal inquired on the addition of monuments to the TCWA area and Ms. Thiede provided that adding monuments for ongoing monitoring would be welcome. On the motion of Director Grewal and the Second of Director Jackson, the Board voted to approve the agreement. (4-0-0)

8. Consider action to set a Public Hearing date for November 5, 2020 to hear comments from the public regarding the Authority exercising its privilege under Water Code §10730.6(a) to assess late fees and penalties on delinquent assessments.

On the motion of Director Jackson and the Second of Director Magden, the Board voted to set a public hearing for November 5, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. (4-0-0)

COMMUNICATIONS/OLD BUSINESS

9. Director's Reports/Comments/Suggestion

None

10. Reports of General Interest

1) Advisory Committee Update – Amer Hussain

- a. Groundwater Allocation Evaluation – Mr. Hussain presented the "Strawman" Allocation Proposal. A Board Workshop to discuss allocations was scheduled for mid-October.

b. Grants – Prop 68 funding will provide 2-5 Million per subbasin for implementation of SGMA.

2) Tulare Lake Subbasin Update – Deanna Jackson

The managers are attending monthly meetings to discuss multiple topics including, data management, grant payments and opportunities, development of a coordination agreement and preparation for the next annual update.

3) California Strategies – David Armanasco

David Armanasco and Rusty Arias toured TCWA and SWKGSA with Ms. Jackson, Mr. Grewal, and Mr. Jackson. The group is working on strategies for state engagement and funding opportunities.

4) Legal Counsel Report – Pam Silkwood

Ms. Silkwood has been corresponding with Westlands regarding potential inter-basin coordination. She suggested the Board should consider enforcement policy to bolster the meter policy that was approved.

5) Other updates, as appropriate

None

11. Addition to the agenda – Consider Geosyntec Task Orders 4-8

Mr. Hussain presented the task orders for completion during the 2020 calendar year. On the motion of Director Grewal and the second of Director Jackson, the Board voted to approve the Task Orders. (4-0-0)

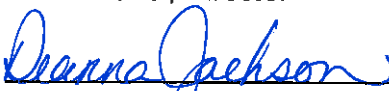
ADJOURNMENT

12. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the September 3, 2020 meeting, Director VanderHam adjourned the meeting until the next Regular Meeting to be held on November 5, 2020 at 1:00 p.m., in the Tri-County Boardroom or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:



Mark Grewal, Director



Deanna Jackson, Executive Director