TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
November 7, 2024

The Board of Directors of Tri-County Water Authority met in the second-floor conference room, 944 Whitley Avenue, Corcoran, California, on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the hour of 1:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted both in person and via Zoom.

Chair VanderHam presided and Secretary Wilkins kept the minutes.

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	Cory VanderHam, Chair Craig Andrew Erik Hansen (alternate for Wade Magden) Myron Schotanus Dick VanderHam (arrived at 1:05 p.m.)
DIRECTORS ABSENT:	
OTHERS PRESENT:	Deanna Jackson, Executive Director Staci Wilkins, Board Secretary Jason Howard, McCormick Barstow David Cameron, AALRR Amer Hussain, Geosyntec Brandon Spain, Manulife Investment Steve Jackson, Next Gen Water Susan Long, Tule Trust Doug Jackson, Water & Land Solutions Dane Mathis, DWR Alanna Goodell, DWR Consultant Amanda Peisch-Derby, DWR John Gaugel, Wonderful Company Gabe Gaeta, Six-33 Solutions Monserrat Solis, SJV Water Bruce Howarth, Alpaugh Irrigation District

Chair VanderHam called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held September 11, 2024.
2. Warrants and Finances (08/27/2024 – 11/05/2024)

* Director D. Dick VanderHam arrived

On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Schotanus, the Directors voted to approve the Minutes, Warrants and Finances as presented. The Directors voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

ACTION AGENDA

3. Review and consider adoption of Resolution 2024-11 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RELEASE LANDOWNER-PROVIDED DATA UPON LANDOWNER REQUEST.

   On motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Hansen, the Board voted to adopt Resolution 2024-11. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

4. Review and consider adoption of Resolution 2024-12 A RESOLUTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION'S WATERSMART GRANT PROGRAM AND AGREEING TO CERTAIN RELATED REQUIREMENTS.

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Schotanus, the Board voted to adopt Resolution 2024-12. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

5. Consider action to approve change to Geosyntec Task Order Number 1 for the SGMA Engineering support for TCWA.

   The costs related to SGMA were significantly higher than expected. The Change Order will allow Geosyntec to continue working on the GSP and supporting policy development through the end of 2024. On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Schotanus, the Board voted to approve the Geosyntec Change Order Number 1 for SGMA Engineering Support. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

6. Consider action to approve change to Geosyntec Task Order Number 1 for the Engineering Support for the Tulare Lake Subbasin preparing the Annual Report.

   There were additional expenses incurred on the Annual Report submitted to the State on behalf of the Tulare Lake Subbasin. TCWA will only pay its designated percentage of the $25k. On the motion of Director Schotanus and seconded by Director Hansen, the Board voted to approve the Geosyntec Change Order Number 1 for the Tulare Lake Subbasin Annual Report. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

7. Consider action to contract with Geosyntec for the Tulare Lake Subbasin's Annual Report preparation on behalf of the Subbasin and issue invoices to other GSAs for reimbursement.

   On the motion of Director Schotanus and seconded by Director Andrew, the Board voted to approve the contract with Geosyntec for the Tulare Lake Subbasin's Annual Report for water year 2024. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

8. Review and consider action setting a special meeting date in December 2024

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Hansen, the Board voted to approve a special meeting date on December 11, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

9. Review and consider setting a Public Hearing in December 2024, on the Assessment of Civil Penalties for the 2024 third quarter to specific landowners.

   On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Hansen, the Board voted to set a Public Hearing on December 11, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. for the Assessment of Civil Penalties for the 2024 third quarter. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

10. Review and consider the cancellation of the regular meeting scheduled on January 2, 2025, and schedule a special meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

    On the motion of Director Andrew and seconded by Director Hansen, the Board voted to cancel the January 2 meeting and schedule a special meeting on Thursday, January 9, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. The Board voted as follows:

Andrew	Hansen	Schotanus	D. VanderHam	C. VanderHam
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

COMMUNICATIONS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. Director's Reports/Comments/Suggestion - none
12. Communications - none
13. Reports of General Interest
    a. Tule Trust - Ms. Long reported on numerous items:

- The Trust is in the process of scheduling a workshop for MLRP to review options and to get feedback. No date has been set yet.
- The land fallowing program received a number of applications for the next year and seven were chosen within the subbasin, one from TCWA. There were two additional applications from TCWA but there were not enough funds for funding.
- No word yet on the NRCS grant, even though it should have been announced in October.
- The Watershed Coalition will be meeting on November 12 to discuss priorities for the group.
- There is a tour scheduled which will include Allensworth, Audubon, and the Tachi Tribe to build relationships.

b) Advisory Committee Update – Amer Hussain

- Allensworth Project Update: Reviewed the overall site plan. An Incidental Take Permit (ITP) was issued to relocate any species found during construction phase.
- Revised allocation and management policy: The Advisory Committee has been reviewing a draft document to be presented to the Board. The native yield agreed upon by the subbasin is .22 AF/acre with transitional pumping only allocated to those acres in production in 2018. There will be separate allocations for the Tule and Tulare Lake Subbasins.
- WaterSMART grant application being finalized and will be filed by November 13 deadline.

c) Tulare Lake Update

The GSAs continue to work on their individual plans. The State is not communicating with the subbasin due to the injunction which has delayed a lot of the work on the GSPs. In order to be complete, there will need to be coordination on subsidence, project and management actions (PMAs), groundwater allocation, and SMC management plans.

d) Tule Update

The Subsidence Study is in the early stages with the scope of work being developed. TCWA and Pixley want to ensure that actual data is used for accuracy. The SMC Management Plans are being prepared.

e) Other updates - none

CLOSED SESSION

14. **CLOSED SESSION** – The Board entered into Closed Session at 2:29 p.m.

    a. Conference with legal counsel regarding potential litigation
    Anticipated Litigation [Govt. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)] (3 potential cases)

15. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:51 p.m. Chair VanderHam reported there was no reportable action taken

ADJOURNMENT

16. There being no further business to come before the Board on the occasion of the November 7, 2024, meeting, Chair VanderHam adjourned the meeting at 2:52 p.m. until the special meeting to be held on December 11, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., in the Tri-County Boardroom or as otherwise directed by the Board.

Attest:

Cory VanderHam, Chair

Deanna Jackson

Deanna Jackson, Executive Director