



DURHAM IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors:

Matt Doyle, Chair; Kevin Phillips, Treasurer; Derek Sohnrey

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

5:30 PM

District Office

9418-C Midway

Durham CA 95938

1 CALL TO ORDER – 5:32 PM

Present: Directors Doyle, Phillips and Sohnrey. Director Phillips arrived at 5:35 pm.

Absent: NONE

Also present: District Engineer Robin Kampmann; Water Operator Mike Butler; District Counsel Amanda Uhrhammer; Public Outreach Nicole Johansson; and Administrative Assistant Jeannie Trizzino. Also present was guest Ms. Dillon Raney, Program Manager, Vina GSA.

2 ROLL CALL / OPENING BUSINESS

2.1 AGENDA APPROVAL, ADDITIONS AND/OR DELETIONS – NO CHANGES

2.2 PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Patrick Button commented that forty years ago Butte County was near bankruptcy, at which time the County budgeted for some costs, such as fire hydrant and alley inspection or maintenance, to be borne by the District. He noted that the Prop. 218 process was enacted solely for property-related fees/costs.

3 CORRESPONDENCE – NONE

4 PRESENTATIONS

4.1 VINA GSA Presentation – Budget, Projects, and the Future (Dillon Raney, Vina GSA Program Development Manager)

SUBJECT: Status report on Vina GSA.

Vina GSA Program Manager Dillon Raney summarized the work that the Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency was performing, clarified her role as Program Manager, and summarized the grant-funded projects that Vina GSA is undertaking to fill data gaps in groundwater monitoring, the Lindo Channel recharge project, and the long-term fee study. Vina GSA has approved seven projects in total with \$5 million in SWRCB grant funding.

Director Doyle noted that Durham Irrigation District is the smallest member agency of Vina GSA and not a surface water user. Program Manager Raney replied that DID is vulnerable to issues relating to low groundwater levels and that more data will better describe issues and suggest solutions that will help DID.

Director Phillips comments and asks if Vina GSA funding is sustainable once the current round of grants is expended. Program Manager Raney responded that her position and the list of approved projects is fully funded by the SWRCB grant. The purpose of the ongoing long-term fee study is to develop a fee structure that will cover Vina GSA's operational budget (staffing and overhead) as well as legal and litigation costs.

Director Phillips asked for clarification of the role of the Vina GSA Management Committee. Program Manager Raney responded that the Vina Board of Directors directs policy and will have the final vote on the fee study options. The Management Committee is her partner in planning for the coming year and preliminary plans and goals will be brought forward to the Vina GSA Board for approval. Raney clarified that the current members of the Management Committee are determined under the Joint Powers Agreement between Butte County, the City of Chico, Durham Irrigation District, Vina GSA, and tribal representatives. The Management Committee helps manage the Vina GSA budget, agenda, and operations, but not policy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pat Button asked whether Sierra Nevada Brewery, as a major water user in Chico, was equitably contributing to the Vina GSA. Program Director Raney asked that he submit that question to Vina GSA and not to Durham Irrigation District. Mr. Button further commented that the Proposition 218 process used to adopt the Vina GSA fees was questionable.

5 REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM DIRECTORS

- 5.1 VINA GSA REPORT (Vina GSA Calendar here: <https://www.vinagsa.org/calendar>)
SUBJECT: Status report on Vina GSA.
FISCAL IMPACT: NONE
ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

Chair Doyle had no additional comments following Vina GSA Program Manager report.

6 PUBLIC HEARINGS - NONE

7 INFORMATION/CONSENT CALENDAR

- 7.1 Warrant Sheet from September 13, 2024 to October 12, 2024, including payments, deposits, and transaction adjustments.
SUBJECT: Approve payments, deposits, and transaction adjustments.
FISCAL IMPACT: See attachments.
ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVE
- 7.2 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2024.
SUBJECT: Approve draft minutes.
FISCAL IMPACT: NONE.
ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVE

A motion was made by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Sohnrey to approve the entire Consent Agenda.

Aye: 3 – Doyle, Phillips, Sohnrey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

8 DISTRICT ENGINEER REPORT

8.1 Brown-Faber Pipeline Replacement

SUBJECT: Segments of the Brown-Faber Pipeline are in poor condition and need to be replaced as emergency repair work.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$60,000 estimated

District Engineer reports that four contractors were invited to submit estimates for the project and only two responded with estimates. The project was awarded to the lowest bidder, Walberg, Inc., which submitted a bid of \$47K for the project.

Walberg performed the District's meter replacement project in 2023. District Water Operator reported that he found the company excellent to work with and expects the same this time. The Water Operator mentioned that the board should consider authorizing a contingency amount in addition to the bid estimate (\$47K + \$5.6K = \$52.6K). District Counsel and Water Operator note that there is one connection that was covered by concrete by a District property owner. Counsel has not yet contacted the property owner.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Pat Button asked about other contractual responsibilities, such as bond and prevailing wage requirements. District Engineer confirmed that these were included in the bid package requirements and that District Engineer and District staff would coordinate to ensure that these requirements were met.

A motion was made by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Sohnrey to approve award the Brown Faber Pipeline Replacement Project to Walberg, Inc. and to authorize an expenditure in the amount not to exceed \$52,600.

Aye: 3 – Doyle, Phillips, Sohnrey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

8.2 CIP Update

SUBJECT: District Engineer to report on changes to the CIP adopted at the June 2024 board meeting.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Adopt revised Final Capital Improvement Program for Durham Irrigation District – Final September Update (09.2024).

The District Engineer confirmed that the Tank Storage project was moved to a Phase 3 project per direction from previous board meetings. No further discussion.

A motion was made by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Sohnrey to approve and adopt the revised Final Capital Improvement Program for Durham Irrigation District – Final September Update (09.2024).

Aye: 3 – Doyle, Phillips, Sohnrey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

8.3 Capacity Fees / Cost of Service Analysis

SUBJECT: District Engineer to report on financing schedule and plan for the Capacity Fee/Prop 218 Process.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

The District Engineer awaits information from Director Phillips and further discussion with District Counsel and Director Phillips on impacts arising from court rulings on *Coziahr v. Otay Water District*.

8.4 USBR Grant-Funded Meter Replacement and Lead Service Laterals Assessment Project

SUBJECT: USBR Grant reimbursement update.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

District Engineer still coordinating with USBR. District Engineer advised that USBR extended grant internally with no hard revised deadline for award.

8.5 Water Quality Testing Results – PFAS

SUBJECT: Review of the water quality testing results for PFAS constituents as well as routine monthly water quality testing results.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$0

ACTION REQUESTED: Discussion of testing results and next steps.

The District Water Operator suggests that because the positive PFAS results are limited to the well at the Library site that they could be related to an incident over a decade ago when the well pump dropped down the well during some routine work. The pump was left in the well and not removed as it was riskier at the time to extract the pump than to leave it in place.

The Water Operator has adjusted the programming of the three District pumps to minimize the use of the Library well. It would be a large and expensive project to pull the fallen pump out of the casing because the well casing is in an unknown condition. At this time, the Water Operator feels that the only affordable option would be to shut off the Library Well as PFAS treatment and remediation is extremely expensive. He will give the board an update on mitigation options at a future board meeting and will continue to reduce operation of the Library well pump. The District Engineer will coordinate with Water Operator on required state reporting for PFAS.

9 DISTRICT OUTREACH REPORT (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

SUBJECT: Report by Nicole Johansson on the following areas: (a) community outreach, (b) funding opportunities, (c) legislative outreach, and (d) management responsibilities, including mass notification system.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

The contract for Regroup, a mass notification service provider, is still in progress.

Outreach Coordinator continues to reserve her hours for the upcoming Prop. 218 rate increase process.

10 WATER OPERATOR REPORT (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

SUBJECT: Report by water operator on previous month's activities.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

Water Operator reports that the seal on the Alley Well site needs to be replaced. He will obtain estimates and plan for the work to be conducted during the winter wet months when demand is reduced. The Lead Service Line inventory is nearly complete and is with District Engineer for review. This report is due to the SWRCB on 10/16/2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Sandra Atteberry commented that she is noticing the sound of running water near or on her property. Water Operator will coordinate with her to better understand the issue.

11 DISTRICT COUNSEL REPORT (NON-ACTION ITEMS)

SUBJECT: Verbal report by counsel on district-related activities. *See also the regular agenda.*

District Counsel reports that three agreements are under review:

PINS Certificate of Insurance Tracking Service

LSCE CIP Development and Funding Assistance

Regroup Mass Notification Service

12 REGULAR AGENDA**12.1 Consideration of District Bylaws**

SUBJECT: Consideration of District Bylaws.

FISCAL IMPACT: NONE

ACTION REQUESTED: Adopt District Bylaws.

The District Counsel added a mission statement to the bylaws and adjusted language to note that positions described in the by laws are all optional (e.g., financial director and general manager positions).

Director Phillips had no comments and is looking forward to the board of directors expanding from three to five directors.

A motion was made by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Sohnrey to approve and adopt District Bylaws.

Aye: 3 – Doyle, Phillips, Sohnrey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Patrick Button commented that the board meetings would need to be held in a larger space. Director Doyle commented that he expected the board would meet at the Durham Veterans Hall as it had in the past.

12.2 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) – Durham Irrigation District Annex J

SUBJECT: Agencies with an Annex in the LHMP and FEMA funding requests are required to bring a resolution for adoption prior to the 2019 LHMP expiration on November 5, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$0

ACTION REQUESTED: Adopt Resolution 2024-02 BUTTE COUNTY LHMP UPDATE - DURHAM IRRIGATION DISTRICT ANNEX J.

A motion was made by Director Phillips and seconded by Director Sohnrey to adopt Resolution 2024-02 – Butte County LHMP Update - Durham Irrigation District Annex J.

Aye: 3 – Doyle, Phillips, Sohnrey

Nay: 0

Absent: 0

12.3 SDRMA Risk Control Evaluation Report (08.28.204)

SUBJECT: At the District's request, the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) conducted an on-site risk control evaluation. The attached report is a summary of issues found during that evaluation.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$unknown

ACTION REQUESTED: Receive information, discuss and provide direction.

Water Operator will make noted site corrections. The Administrative Assistant will replace the outdated fire extinguisher in the District office.

13 DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

NONE

14 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2024 – note date change to the second Tuesday.