

NORTH SAN JOAQUIN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lodi Grape Festival Grounds – Barrel Room  
413 E. Lockeford Street, Lodi CA  
Zoom - Teleconference Meeting

**Monday, February 27, 2023**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**CONDUCTED BY TELECONFERENCE IN COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S  
EXECUTIVE ORDER RELAXING BROWN ACT REQUIREMENTS DUE TO COVID-19**

SECRETARY'S NOTE: In the attempt to reduce confusion resulting from late arrivals, and early departures of staff during the meeting, the minutes presented below follow the original order of the agenda.

- 1. Call to Order - Roll Call - Acceptance of Agenda** - The meeting was called to order by President Valente at 2:04 pm. A motion for the acceptance of the Agenda and for the meeting on February 27, 2022, made by Secretary Simpson, second by Treasurer Starr. Motion passed unanimously 5/0/0.

President Joe Valente - Area 3  
Vice President Jason Colombini - Area 2  
Secretary David Simpson – Area 1  
Treasurer Charles Starr – Area 4  
Director Marden Wilber – Area 5

General Counsel Jennifer Spaletta  
Special Counsel Roger Masuda - Absent  
Daniel de Graaf – District Engineer  
Deputy Secretary Shasta Burns

- 2. Correspondence/Announcements-** No correspondence or announcements at this time. President Valente announced that he would be taking action items out of order, due to the timing of staff and board members schedules
- 3. Action Items** Note: Votes recorded as: For/Against/Abstention (name)

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Board meeting on January 30, 2023- A motion to take minutes off of consent calendar, and to correct error in item 7. Adjournment, from Vice President Flinn to Vice President Columbini and then approve made by Secretary Simpson, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0

**B. Financial Matters**

1. Receive and File February 2023 NSJWCD Monthly Treasurer's Report and Summary of Accounts and Transfers and presented to the board- A motion to approve February 2023 NSJWCD Monthly Treasurer's Report as presented (which includes approval of transfers in B4 on the agenda), in the board meeting packet by Vice President Colombini, second by Secretary Simpson. 5/0/0
2. Approve Payment of Bills- A motion to approve payment of bills listed on

page 14 in the board meeting packet- Summary of Bills made by Vice President Colombini, second by Secretary Simpson. Motion passed 5/0/0

3. Bank Signature Cards – A motion to have new bank signature cards generated and to remove Tom Flinn from bank accounts made by Treasurer Starr, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0
4. Approval of Transfers from Groundwater Charge Account and Repayment of cash flow loans between District Accounts – A motion for the Approval of Transfers from Groundwater Charge of Account and Repayment of cash loans between District Accounts made by Secretary Simpson, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0

### C. System and Projects

1. Engineer's Report – Engineer deGraaf gave an overview of where the District stands in lieu of the recent storms. A proposed operation plan is included in the board meeting packet for discussion

Engineer deGraaf then reviewed recent activity on the individual NSJWCD facilities and proposed projects.

North System – WGA is currently developing draft project alternatives for evaluation. Two landowner meetings were held to gather input from landowners to help inform design. Meetings were poorly attended and working on a more direct approach to engage landowners. Project to install temporary facilities on the North System to deliver water for recharge is being evaluated. Due to changing river levels, the scope of the project has been modified.

South System – Construction is complete and the system is operational pending on final calibration of the flow meter at the pump station on Tretheway and Brandt Road. Final testing will be done when there is sufficient water available to run and perform final calibration of the flow meter. Contract to Arnaudo Construction for the South System Improvements- Phase II has been awarded and Notice to Proceed has been issued.

Eastside Ditch –Evaluation of the ditch was performed and identified several issues including debris blocking the discharge to Bear Creek, the culverts under highway 12 and 88 and clogged with debris and sediment and an abundance of vegetation making parts of the ditch inaccessible and other trash during the operation. Ditch cleanup was discussed with the county, but unfortunately, they do not have jurisdiction or crews available to perform cleanup. Caltrans is determining what can be done on their end. The district will coordinate with own contractor to perform much of the clean-up. No known easements for access to the facility, and working through this process.

Handel Lateral – Grant application for the Handel Lateral Project is in its final stages. The first landowner meeting was held in January and the second will be in February. Working on proposed pipeline alignment along with a survey of the Mettler property to determine the alignment of the pipeline. Project will hopefully go out to bid in 2023.

Dream Project- EBMUD completed the initial phase of extraction, diverting approximately 40 AF from the extraction well to their aqueduct in January. Arnaudo will complete installation of the electrical equipment at the pump station once PG&E has completed their required permitting work. The permanent Bear Creek crossing permit has not been approved at this time. Working with Sierra Controls to finalize the package for SCADA equipment for

this project, installation is pending PG&E completing installation of the new electrical service.

Cal-Fed/Woodbridge – Early storm flows in the river allowed for operation of the Cal-Fed/Woodbridge pump and Costa Recharge project. To date the project has applied 209 AF, however the project has not been able to run due to high river levels making the pump station inaccessible and the Costa's need to start normal farming operations again. Plans to expand the project to areas that do not have ongoing farming activity will allow the district to fully utilize the available 1,000 AF this year. Hydrofocus needs to prepare further research on the subject properties prior to any final plans for expansion can be made.

Tracy Lake ID – Began operating on Monday, December 5, 2022 and as of Wednesday, December 14, 2022 approximately 112.5 acre-feet has been diverted into Tracy Lake. Pump is currently turned off as large amount of storm runoff filled the lake to capacity. It may run again as water is used for irrigation. Sierra Controls has prepared a proposal to replace the existing Tesco automation and controls which does not function with Sierra Controls automation and SCADA equipment. Replacement will allow Tracy Lake to be integrated with the South System SCADA system and offer remote monitoring and control of pump station as well as remote lake level monitoring. The proposal will be discussed with the Tracy Lake landowners. Tecklenburg Recharge Basin – A conceptual site plan and Engineer's estimate has been prepared for the project. Discussions with adjacent landowners are ongoing for planning and acquisition of permanent easements for the project. It is anticipated that testing of the project site will occur this year with the availability of water.

2. 2023 Operations Plan – Engineer deGraaf reviewed staff report for Operations Plan 2023. Engineer deGraaf reviewed background of the North System, South System, Cal Fed, and Tracy Lake. Overall, with planned projects and currently available infrastructure for diversions for recharge and irrigation it is anticipated that the district will be able to divert 5,000 to 6,000 AF this year. Engineer deGraaf reviewed the table included in the staff report in the board meeting packet.
3. **Resolution 2023-04** Regarding Near Term Procurement Authorizations- A motion to approve Resolution 2023-04 Regarding Near Term Procurements Authorizations with edits as presented made by Vice President Colombini, second by Secretary Simpson. Roll call; Wilber; Aye, Starr; Aye, Simpson; Aye, Colombini; Aye, Valente; Aye. Motion passed 5/0/0
4. North System -
  - i. Contract for Brush Clearing – Contract for Jessie the Tree Guy will be executed this week and will be covered with grant money
  - ii. Reynolds Recharge project lease – General Counsel Spaletta reviewed lease agreement. A motion to approve Reynolds Recharge Project lease agreement made by Secretary Simpson, second by Vice President Colombini. Motion passed 5/0/0
  - iii. Facility Modifications for 2023 – Discussion above
  - iv. Landowner Meetings (2/22) – A review of attendance and meeting. Discussion only.
5. South System

- i. South System Improvements Phase II RFP
    - 1. Handel Lateral Update – Landowner meeting held and reevaluate how to approach all landowners.
  - ii. East Side Ditch
    - 1. Survey an Easements – General Counsel reviewed memo in the board meeting packet. Estimated \$50,000 for staff time and survey work. A motion to authorization staff to put together an RFP for Survey work with an amount not to exceed \$50,000 in the current fiscal year made by Treasurer Starr, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0
  - iii. Dream Project Update – Update given above in Engineers Report.
- 6. Cal-Fed/Woodbridge
    - i. Costa Recharge Project – No report at this time.
    - ii. 2023 Expanded Recharge Options – Engineer deGraaf reviewed options on how to potentially expand the project onto adjacent lands where landowners have previously expressed interest.
  - 7. Tracy Lake ID – Discussion on water levels only.
  - 8. Tecklenburg Recharge Basin
    - i. Purchase Agreement – Next month agenda item
- D.** Consero Grant Activity report – Petrea Marchand presented Grant Activity report in the Board Meeting packet.
  - E.** Services from Stockton East Water District – General Counsel reviewed services in the board meeting packet. A motion to approve Services from Stockton East Water District in the amount not to exceed \$25,000 made by Secretary Simpson, second by Treasurer Starr. Motion passed 5/0/0
  - F.** Strategic Plan Activity
    - 1. Draft Board Policy and Procedures Manual – Petrea Marchand with Consero Solutions presented Draft Board Policy and Procedures Manual. Review only at this time.
    - 2. General Manager Recruitment Update – The Board Subcommittee will meet on March 8, 2023 at 2PM at Jennifer Spaletta’s office.
    - 3. Outreach
      - i. February 15, 2023 at 4:30 PM Town Hall Meeting – Consero is working on agenda at this time.
  - G.** Board and Staff Committee Roster- A motion to have Jason Colombini take Tom Flinn’s place on the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Primary, Joe Valente as the secondary member, and also Jason Colombini as the primary and Joe Valente as the secondary member for the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee made by Treasurer Starr, second by Secretary Simpson. Motion passed 5/0/0
  - H.** Sustainable Groundwater Management Act/GWA Activity – Update only
  - I.** SJC Mokelumne River Application Update – Update only
  - J.** Bay Delta Flow Program Update/Voluntary Agreements – Update only.
  - K.** 2022/2023 Groundwater Charge – Secretary Burns and District Engineer deGraaf are working to update the 2022/2023 Groundwater Change with the County.

L. Landowner Communications – No update at this time

M. Board Planning Calendar- Form 700's is due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**4. Director and Staff Reports**

A. President's Report – No report at this time.

B. General Counsel Spaletta – No report at this time.

C. District Manager/Engineer – No report at this time.

D. Consero Solutions – No report at this time.

E. Committee Reports – No report at this time.

F. Other – State of Emergency update from Bob Granberg for FEMA funding.  
Jason Colombini updated board on logo.

**5. Public Comment** – Gerald Schwartz announced he will be retiring from EBMUD in March.

**6. Closed Session** – The Board entered closed session at 4:07 PM, came out of closed session at **4:25 PM** and returned to Open Session. President Valente reported there was no reportable action in Closed Session.

**7. Adjournment** - Motion to adjourn the NSJWCD Regular Meeting on February 27, 2023 made by Vice President Colombini, second by Director Wilber. Motion passed 5/0/0. Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

**The next regular scheduled Board Meeting March 27, 2022, from 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Location and method TBA due to COVID-19 Executive Order.**

The above minutes of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Board of Directors Meeting of February 27, 2022.

Respectfully submitted:

Shasta Burns, Deputy Secretary