

CALAVERAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

January 21, 2025
5:00 pm

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jack Tressler
Richard Blood
J.W. Dell'Orto (arrived 5:26pm)
Brady McCartney
Kevin Sparks

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Mathew Roberts, Interim General Manager/Water System Superintendent
Adam Brown, District Legal Counsel
Carissa Bear, Clerk of the Board

OTHERS PRESENT: Dana Nichols (San Andreas Fire)
James Stewart (San Andreas Fire)

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting was called to order by President Tressler at 5:07 P.M.
2. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS: Directors Tressler, Blood, McCartney, and Sparks were present at roll call.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limit 3 minutes per person/15 minutes per subject): Dana Nichols and James Stewart with San Andreas Fire spoke to the Board regarding the possibility of creating a joint program between the District and San Andreas Fire for maintaining and caring for the fire hydrants within the District. It would be a joint effort with training provided by the District to prevent damage to and ensure proper use of the hydrants and water system. The Board was extremely interested in the idea and asked San Andreas Fire to bring back a potential agreement to be considered at a future meeting. Mr. Roberts informed the Board and San Andreas Fire that the District does have a valve turning and flushing program as required by the State. They typically perform the program around January/February in order to be able to direct the large amounts of water.
5. CONSENT ITEMS
 - a. December 17, 2024, Regular Board Minutes
 - b. January 8, 2025, Special Board Minutes
 - c. Claim Summary

Ms. Bear passed out updated January 8, 2025, Special Board Minutes. President Tressler asked Mr. Roberts to put together a report for how much the District has spent on renting a mini excavator to see if it would be more cost effective to purchase one. Director Blood asked to see the Certificates of Elections he requested at the December 17, 2024, Regular Board Minutes since he did not see them in the packet. Ms. Bear apologized for not attaching them. She

provided copies for Director Blood's review. Director Blood agreed to move forward with the roll call vote. A motion was made by Director McCartney, seconded by Director Sparks, to approve Consent Items a-c, and adding the Certificate of Elections as an appendix to the December 17, 2024, meeting minutes and the amendment to the January 8, 2025, meeting minutes. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, McCartney, Sparks, Blood, and Tressler voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

6. REVIEW OF DISTRICT TEMPORARY ADVISORY (AD HOC) COMMITTEES AND ASSIGNMENTS

Mr. Brown advised the President to dissolve all committees and reassign them as needed. President Tressler dissolved all committees and opened up the discussion. President Tressler requested that Mr. Roberts take over for any committees that Mr. Small was previously on; Mr. Roberts agreed. President Tressler requested to create the Fire Protection Cooperation Committee, and President Tressler assigned Director Sparks and himself to the committee. Mr. Roberts recommended that the Board resume the review of District policies by a temporary advisory committee. The last time policies were reviewed was back in 2020. At that time, all personnel policies were placed on hold during the process of the employee union negotiations and the pandemic. President Tressler agreed to resume the policy reviews with the Negotiations Committee. All previous committees were recreated, and the same Board Members were reassigned.

7. QUARTERLY BUDGET UPDATE 2024/2025

Mr. Roberts inquired if the Board would like to keep monthly updates on the budget or to switch them to quarterly updates. Mr. Brown recommended quarterly presentations and monthly appendices during the General Manager reports with discussions as needed. The Board decided while Mr. Roberts is in the Interim position and becoming familiar with the General Manager duties, they would like to keep the monthly updates. Mr. Roberts provided a budget update. Mr. Roberts informed the Board that Tyla Daires at WGA has been keeping track of funding that the District has applied for. The District applied for storm damage funding about six years ago. Ms. Daires has been reaching out to the State on a regular basis. Today, the District has finalized the funding process and should be expecting roughly \$100,000. The Board was pleased to hear that. President Tressler noted that the General Ledger (GL) account 5532 Repairs & Maintenance – Automotive is starting to rise. He inquired if there was any specific vehicle having issues. Mr. Roberts informed him that the District's fleet is aging. He gave some examples of some of the vehicles that are starting to show wear. Director Sparks noticed GL 5870 Materials for Capital Projects was significantly over budget. Mr. Roberts explained that the new meters are going to that GL. Director Sparks inquired about the overage on the GL 5550 Chemicals. Mr. Roberts explained that a 4–5-month supply was just ordered to try and account for delivery difficulties during bad weather conditions, which explained the spike.

8. REPORTS

a. Legal Counsel's Report

Mr. Brown's report was covered in closed session.

b. Water System Superintendent's Report

Mr. Roberts went over the monthly maintenance report for December. Jeff Davis Reservoir was 16 feet below spill. At the time of the meeting, the District was now pumping again at South Fork Pump Station (S.F.P.S.). Mr. Roberts added the rain totals to the Maintenance Report at the request of Director Blood. In the month of December, the District had 7.5” of rain compared to December 2023’s 8.6”. He informed the Board that the catwalk at the S.F.P.S was repaired and replaced by Herd’s Machine & Welding.

c. District Engineer Report

Mr. Roberts provided the Engineer’s Report. Mr. Roberts is working with Rich Sanchez, GEI Consultants, Inc., on the Middle Fork Dam Probable Maximum Flood Study (PMF). They are hoping to have the study completed by June. The study is required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Mr. Roberts is also working with Mr. Sanchez on the Part 12D Inspection. The last one was done in 2022, but it was late and should have been done in 2020. This study will outline the independent consultants. This needs to be done 120 days before inspection. A Request for Proposal will need to go out for a consultant. This should be done within the next month or so. The last time this was done in 2022, it cost roughly \$65,000. Mr. Roberts gave an update on the Reclaim Backwash Project. WGA is working on the CEQA portion of the project. The California State Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) has submitted their comments and questions. WGA is preparing a response. Director Blood inquired about the need for a 300 gallon per minute pump. Mr. Roberts explained that the engineers have done a great job researching the type of pump that will be needed. They look at 100-year storm data. With the data they receive they use that information to determine the correct pump size and capacity. Director Blood thanked Mr. Roberts for the explanation. Director Blood inquired about the funding for the Reclaim Backwash Project. He is aware that grant money is coming in for that project. Mr. Roberts informed the Board that there is an excess of funds sitting in Wells Fargo Bank right now which has been earmarked for this. He is still waiting to hear the cost. He just received an email regarding the funding. He will have more information at the next meeting.

d. General Manager’s Report

No report.

e. Directors’ Comments:

Director Blood reported that he missed the Calaveras Public Power Authority meeting. It appears that rates will be going up. The Distribution rates will be close to doubling.

** Went into closed session at 6:58pm**

9. CLOSED SESSION

a. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Government Code Section 54957)

Title: Interim General Manager

Interim General Manager evaluation.

The Board met in closed session to discuss the Interim General Manager’s performance. No action was taken.

b. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT (Gov. Code § 54957)

Title: General Manager

Meeting to Discuss Recruitment of New General Manager.

The Board did not discuss or consider this matter in the closed session.

** Came out of closed session at 7:41 pm**

10. ADJOURMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Tressler adjourned the meeting at 7:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carissa Bear, Secretary/Clerk of the Board

