

CALAVERAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

August 10, 2021

Regular Meeting

3:00 pm

DIRECTORS PRESENT: J.W. Dell'Orto
Richard Blood
Scott Speer
Brady McCartney

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: John Kingsbury, Interim General Manager
Adam Brown, District Legal Counsel
Carissa Bear, Clerk of the Board
Mathew Roberts, Water System Superintendent
Matt Ospital, District Engineer
Tyla Daries, District Engineering Technician

OTHERS PRESENT: Tammy Hebrard
Jeff Farr, Farr Construction

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting was called to order by President Dell'Orto at 3:03 P.M.
2. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS: Directors Blood, Speer and McCartney were present.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limit 3 minutes per person/15 minutes per subject): None
5. CONSENT ITEMS
 - a) Minutes of Regular Board meeting of July 13, 2021
 - b) Minutes of Regular Board meeting of June 29, 2021
 - c) Claim Summary

Director Blood asked for clarification on a payment from the claim summary. Mathew Roberts, Water System Superintendent clarified. A motion was made by Director Speer, seconded by Director McCartney, to approve consent items a-c. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Blood, Speer, and McCartney voted yes; none opposed. Motion carried 4-0.

6. APPLICATION FOR CITIZEN APPOINTMENT TO CALAVERAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Dell'Orto gave Director McCartney a recap of the last meeting, explaining that the Board held off making a recommendation until he could be present. Adam Brown, District Legal Counsel, explained to Director McCartney that due to the vacant position not being filled at election time that the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors will have to make the appointment. Mr. Brown explained the process to the Board. Director McCartney reviewed the applicants. He made note that

the Calaveras Public Utility District already has a majority of Mokelumne Hill residents as Board members. Director McCartney stated that he would like to see another Board member from the San Andreas area. Director Speers agreed. Discussion was had between the Directors with Director Blood requesting that in the future he'd like the candidates' applications to be placed in the Board packet so the public can review and make comments. A motion was made by Director Blood, seconded by Director McCartney, to recommend that the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors appoint either Jack Tressler or Tammy Hebrard to the District Board of Directors. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Blood, Speer and McCartney voted yes; none opposed. Motion carried 4-0.

7. REQUEST TO PURCHASE WATER, RED HAWK (MCCARTY) RESERVOIR

- a) Consider Walter Valente's request to purchase water from Redhawk Reservoir.

John Kingsbury, Interim General Manager, explained that Mr. Valente contacted staff with a request to purchase water from Redhawk Reservoir. The District has sold water to Mr. Valente in the past. Looking to approve this one-time sale and to create a policy for future requests, Mr. Roberts explained with the upcoming drought that he would like clarity for this year and the years ahead. Discussion was had regarding the process of the water releases. President Dell'Orto recommended setting the price at the same amount as the District's recent raw water sale to Calaveras County Water District (CCWD). A motion was made by Director Speer, seconded by Director Blood, to approve Walter Valente's onetime request to purchase water from Redhawk Reservoir at \$55 per acre foot. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Blood, Speer and McCartney voted yes; none opposed. Motion carried 4-0

- b) Clarify procedure of future requests to purchase water from Redhawk Reservoir.

The Board asked the staff to come up with a procedure and to bring it back to the Board.

8. STATUS REPORT/CLEARWELL PROJECT

- a) Clearwell Tank Project Overview

Matt Ospital of Weber Ghio Associates (WGA), District Engineer, gave a presentation showing the plans and informing the Board of what has been happening with the project. Due to the storms and COVID, contractors are having difficulty obtaining parts. There were four bidders for Phase II, and Farr Construction was the lowest bidder. Mr. Ospital introduced Jeff Farr. Mr. Farr introduced himself to the Board and stated that his company is very interested in working on this project. Mr. Ospital explained to due to the pricing changes, prices are coming higher than originally anticipated. The new cost of the project is now estimated to be \$3.4 million. WGA has reached out to USDA and SRF to seek financial assistance, but has received no response yet. President Dell'Orto stated that was disheartening news to hear. Director Blood expressed displeasure with the price being so far off the original estimate. He asked for clarification about the existing tank operation in the future. Tyla Daries of WGA clarified. Director Blood inquired about the tracer study. Ms. Daries explained that they have reached out to the state. Tammy Hebrard, member of the public, expressed her frustration with the overall project and what she believes to be a lack of transparency regarding the estimated costs from the beginning.

- b) Authorize the Interim General Manager to execute a construction agreement for the Clearwell Tank Project, Phase II

Director Blood asked for clarification if a motion was needed for executing the agreement or was this just a review. President Dell'Orto explained that a motion was needed, and the staff reviews and executes contracts. President Dell'Orto expressed his concern with not moving forward, fearing that weather will become an issue. Director McCartney indicated that he would like the District to look into other options for funding in the future. Ms. Daries explained that the District did look into

SRF in the beginning, but unfortunately the District's need was not classified as high importance for SRF. The District would not have been guaranteed reimbursement. Mr. Ospital clarified that the base bid for alternate 2 is recommended for approval by the Board. Director Blood expressed his dissatisfaction with the price. He inquired about the possibility of delaying the project to see if the prices of materials would come down. Mr. Roberts explained to Director Blood that a delay could cause the District to be out of compliance with state regulations to run the Water Treatment Plant.. Director McCartney volunteered to assist staff with reaching out to the state to express the situation the District is in with the hopes of getting a higher urgency rating. President Dell'Orto asked staff and Director McCartney to work together. Additional back and forth discussion commenced. A motion was made by Director Speer, seconded by Director McCartney, to authorize the Interim General Manager to execute a construction agreement with Farr Construction for the Clearwell Tank Project, Phase II. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Speer and McCartney voted yes; Director Blood voted no. Motion carried 3-1.

9. REPORTS

a) Legal Counsel's Report:

Adam Brown informed the Board that the Brown Act modifications authorized by the Governor's Executive Order in response to the Covid pandemic are due to expire at the end of September. ACWA/JPIA asked for the Governor to provide notice once the Brown Act waivers are lifted. Once modifications are lifted, Board meetings will need to be in person again absent legislation permitting continued virtual meetings.

b) Water System Superintendent's Report:

Mathew Roberts gave an overview of the July maintenance report. He reported that the San Andreas Tank SCADA has been completed by TSI. This allows the crew to view the San Andreas tank remotely. The crew repaired another leak on Pool Station Rd. This is the third time the crew has been to that area for repairs. Director McCartney asked Mr. Roberts what the most common reason for leaks that he sees. Mr. Roberts responded that the majority of the leaks are pin holes, and some are old welds that are failing. Mr. Roberts received a letter from the State Water Board informing the District that its Pre-1914 water is at risk for curtailment. He reported that CPUD has partnered with CCWD again for the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Sanitary Survey, which is done every 5 years..

c) Interim General Manager's Report:

John Kingsbury informed the Directors that staff has been working on Director Blood's request for information regarding the water rights. It has been passed along to Legal Counsel. Once reviewed it will be passed around accordingly. Mr. Kingsbury informed the Board the General Manager interviews that will take place on August 17th. Carissa Bear, Clerk of the Board, will send an agenda out later this week. August 31st will be the second round of interviews. The staff will be included in the August 31 round.

d) Director's Comments:

Director Blood reported that he attended the UMRAW meeting. They discussed the second round of Prop 1 funding which would be used for infrastructure. Director Blood asked for direction on looking into adding existing tank, President Dell'Orto provided direction. Director Speer attended the LAFCO meeting nothing to report at this time.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Dell'Orto adjourned the meeting at 5:17 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carissa Bear, Clerk of the Board

