

April 14, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Saucelito Irrigation District met this day in regular session. In accordance with the declared State of Emergency, including social distancing directives as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 virus, SID staff will be participating in this meeting remotely. There will not be a physical location for this meeting. Members of the public may participate in the meeting in the following ways: By joining the Zoom Meeting ID 815 0336 0308 and password 640913. The office is located at 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, California.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

President E. Merritt called the meeting to order at 9:28 am.

## **ATTENDANCE**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
DIRECTORS ABSENT: M. Merritt  
OTHERS PRESENT: Nick Keller, Engineer  
Sean P. Geivet, Manager  
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer  
GUEST: Aaron Lewis – EKI for AEWS  
Andrew Hart – Booth Ranches  
Douglas Jackson Water & Land Solutions

**TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS-** The Board considers approval of Resolution 2022-4-02 remote teleconference meetings under AB 361.

M/S/U, Kisling, Demetriff - to adopt Resolution 2022-4-02 remote teleconference meetings under AB 361.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

## **RESOLUTION 2022-4-02 of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SAUCELITO IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

### **RESOLUTION RE CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF PUBLIC TELECONFERENCING LOCATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, as modified by Assembly Bill 361, *Government Code* § 54953(e)(1) permits local agencies to dispense with the requirements for teleconference locations contained in *Government Code* § 54953(b)(3) under the conditions specified herein;

**WHEREAS**, the Board has reconsidered the state of emergency issued by the State of California in connection with COVID-19, and has found that the declared state of emergency remains in effect;

**WHEREAS**, local and state officials continue to recommend and, in some cases, require, social distancing measures;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Board shall, consistent with *Government Code 54953(e)(1)*, continue to operate without physical, public meeting or teleconference locations.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION** was passed and adopted by the Saucelito Irrigation District Board of Directors on this 14 day of April, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: M. Merritt

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Eric R. Merritt\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric R. Merritt, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_/s/ Diane M. Ennis\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary

### **Certificate of Secretary**

I do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of Saucelito Irrigation District, a special district organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, and that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Board of Directors thereof at a meeting thereof duly and regularly held on the 14 day of April, 2022, at which meeting a quorum of the said Board of Directors was at all times present and acting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in whole or any part thereof, and remains in force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this Certificate on this 14th day of April, 2022, in Porterville, California.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/Diane M. Ennis\_\_\_\_\_  
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary

**AGENDA** – The Manager reported the agenda is in order and has been posted as required.

### **MINUTES**

M/S/U, Demetriff, Kisling– to approve the minutes from the Regular Board of Directors' meeting held on March 10, 2021.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble

NAY: None

ABSENT: M. Merritt

### **BILLS AND VOUCHERS**

M/S/U, Kisling, Demetriff - to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the District as presented and to authorize the transfer of funds, as necessary.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble

NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – The Manager asked if anyone from the public wished to comment at this time. Having no one at this time, we will move on to the reports.

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**FINANCIAL** – The Board reviewed the financial status of the District. Included in the review were the Suncrest accounts, Treasurer's, Collector's, Secretary's, and Local Agencies Investment Fund reports, Money Market Account Statement, Income Statement, and Balance Sheets.

M/S/U, Kisling, Demetriff – to accept the Financial Statements and directed that they be placed on file.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS** – The Manager asked the Board if we could move the May meeting to 1:30 pm on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, the Board agreed.

**OPERATIONS & WATER** – Nick Keller gave a detailed water report to the Board that included SID's usage of 54-acre feet in March. Poplar Ditch Shareholders will receive 23 acre-feet this year of their 55 acre-feed allotment leaving 32 acre-feet to be added ~~on~~ to the amount they owe to the shareholders bringing the total to 219.5 acre-feet per share. Mr. Keller is not very optimistic that Class 1 will stay at 15%, and the District has requested to be included in any available URF water. It will cost about \$188.00 per acre-foot. Included in the Board Packet is the Water Schedule. Discussion ensued.

**STATUS OF AUTHORITIES** – The Manager reported FWA is working on the water supply and the Canal. The Manager continues to forward the CEO updates from Jason Phillips, CEO, FWA. ACWA has nothing to report. DCTRA will be covered in Items 7 and 8 on the agenda. Discussion ensued.

**EASTERN TULE GSA** – The Manager reported the GSA now has the responsibility to approve any well permit applications prior to Tulare County giving their approval. This is in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order. The Proposition 218 Election will be put to the vote in the future. Discussion ensued.

**DCTRA** – The Manager reviewed with the Board an Addendum to the Resources Exchange Agreement Between Terra Bella, Lower Tule River, and Saucelito Irrigation District. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Demetriff, Noble – to accept the Manager's recommendation and adopt the Addendum to Resources Exchange Agreement between Terra Bella, Lower Tule River and Saucelito Irrigation Districts with a final review of the agreement by the Manager and the Attorney.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

**DCTRA** – The Manager reviewed with the Board the Agreement Amongst Members of the Deer Creek Tule River Authority For the Distribution of Certain Authority Property to the Members. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Demetriff, Noble – to accept and execute the Agreement Amongst the Deer Creek Tule River Authority for the Distribution of Certain Authority Property to the Members.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

**2022 WATER RATES** – The Manager and Nick Keller reviewed with the Board a letter received April 1, 2022, from USBR for the 2022 Final Water Rate, which had significantly changed from the initial cost calculation. The recommendation is to collect the additional cost of water in a year in which it is used vs. adding it to a future year and paying interest on the deficit, which only kicks the can down the road. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Kisling, Demetriff – to accept the recommendation and set the 2022 cost of water at \$300.00 per acre-foot.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: M. Merritt

**BANKING POLICY** – The Manager stated that the Attorney is working on updating the Banking Policy given the restriction and with subsidence near the Canal. The Manager will email the Banking Policy to the Board for their review. Discussion ensued.

**CLOSED SESSION** – The Manager reported there was no need for Closed Session.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION** [Government Code Section 54956.9] (1 Case)

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] the City of Fresno, et al. v. United States of America, Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 16-1276L.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION** [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] *Friant Water Authority v. FLS Enterprises, LLC* et al., Tulare County Superior Court, Case No. VCU287713.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION** [Government Code

Section 54956.9(d)(1)] *Friant Water Authority v. Kyte & County Line Farms, LLC et al.* Tulare County Superior Court Case Number VCU288546

## **ADJOURNMENT**

President E. Merritt adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

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Diane M. Ennis, Secretary