

December 13, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Saucelito Irrigation District met this day in a regular session. The office is located at 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

President Kisling called the meeting to order at 9:31 am.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kisling, E. Merritt, Demetriff, M. Merritt & Noble
DIRECTORS ABSENT: None
OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, Manager
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer
Dennis Keller – Engineer
Aubrey Mauritson - Attorney

GUEST: Douglas Jackson – Water & Land Solutions
Andrew Hart – Booth Ranches
Nick Gatti – Homer
Julian Torres – Capinero Creek

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

MINUTES

M/S/U, Demetriff, Noble– to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Directors' meeting held on November 10, 2024, with the correction to Cross Valley Water for a permanent contract.

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

BILLS AND VOUCHERS

M/S/U, Noble, M. Merritt - to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the district as presented.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT – President Kisling asked if anyone from the public wished to comment. Andrew Hart stated that things are happening at FWA and that SID should work with FWA, like TPDWD. The Manager replied, there's no need. Discussion ensued.

MONTHLY REPORTS

FINANCIAL—The Board reviewed the District's financial status. Included in the review were the Citizens Business Bank accounts check register from the prior month, Local Agencies Investment Fund reports, Money Market Account Statement, Treasurer, Collector's, and Secretary's reports, and Income and Balance Sheets. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Demetriff, M. Merritt - to accept the financial statements and direct that they be placed on file.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS— The District's 2020 Chevy Colorado has been in the shop for three months waiting for a water pump and just received notice that it could take up to another three months to get it fixed.

OPERATIONS & WATER - The Manager reported the water usage for November of 189 acre-feet and reviewed the water schedule report with the Board. Dennis Keller provided an update on storage levels in Millerton and doesn't anticipate a boost in the water supply for this year. USBR has announced they will be allowing up to 10% carryover. Discussion ensued. The board packet includes the Employee Safety Meeting report and the Monthly Field Staff Report for the Board's review.

STATUS OF AUTHORITIES – The Manager continued forwarding CEO updates from Jason Phillips, CEO of FWA when available, and the AECA newsletter to the Board members. The Manager reported that Nick Keller continues to work on the pumping stations and has bi-weekly meetings to discuss the pumping plants' design. Discussion ensued.

EASTERN TULE GSA—The Manager reported that the ETGSA moving forward. Discussion ensued.

2024-2025 WATER YEAR – WATER POLICY – There were no reports for this period. The Board packet included draft rules and regulations for the Board to review before next month. It was requested that these draft rules and regulations be posted on the District's website. The Manager reported ongoing work on well registration and monitoring. A discussion followed.

EIR Study for Groundwater Banking Policy Program -The Manager reported the EIR Study has been put on hold for now. Discussion ensued.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY – The Manager reported that the formation of a GSA needs to commence. Attorney Aubrey Mauritsen mentioned that the process of establishing a GSA and GSP is fairly straightforward. Dennis Keller emphasized that the priority

should be on creating a water budget and GSP to remove the District from its fee status with the State Water Board. A discussion followed.

CLOSED SESSION – The Board adjourned to a closed session at 10:57 am

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

[Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2), (4)] (one Case)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) Friant Water Authority v. Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency Tulare County Superior Court Case No. VCU306343.

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.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS- The Board returned from a Closed Session at 12:00 pm. President Kisling reported the board unanimously approved the initiation of litigation. The details will be disclosed once filed.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kisling adjourned the meeting at 12:00 pm.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary