

January 13, 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 848 3261 5278 and password 684738. The office is located at 20712 Avenue 120, Porterville, California.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

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

## **ATTENDANCE**

DIRECTORS PRESENT:	E. Merritt, Kisling, Demettriff, M. Merritt & Noble
DIRECTORS ABSENT:	None
OTHERS PRESENT:	Nick Keller, Engineer & Aubrey Mauritson Attorney Sean P. Geivet, Manager Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer
GUEST:	Andrew Hart – Booth Ranches

**TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS-** The Board considers approval of Resolution 2022-1-02 remote teleconference meetings under AB 361.

M/S/U, Kisling, Demettriff - to adopt Resolution 2022-1-02 remote teleconference meetings under AB 361.

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

## **RESOLUTION 2022-1-02 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 13 day of January, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff, M. Merritt & Noble

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

/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 13 day of January, 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 13 day of January, 2022, in Porterville, California.

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

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

**MINUTES**

M/S/U, Demetriff, M/ Merritt – to approve the minutes from the Regular Board of Directors' meeting held on December 9, 2021.

AYE: E. Merritt, Kisling, Demetriff M. Merritt & Noble

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

## 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 M. Merritt & Noble  
NAY: None  
ABSENT: None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – President E. Merritt 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 Bank of the Sierra 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, Noble – to accept the Financial Statements and directed that they be placed on file.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS** – No report given.

**OPERATIONS & WATER** – Nick Keller gave a detailed water report to the Board that included SID's usage of 370-acre feet in December. The USBR has increased the 2021/22 water allocation from 25% of Class 1 to 40% Class1. The District started recharging in the DCTRA and TBID ponds on December 27 and is offering recharge credit to growers. Pixley and LTRID is expected to end their run today, causing a drop in the canal; this will cause a reduction in the amount of water being delivered into the DCTRA ponds. Additionally, Teapot Dome WD is planning on delivering five csf into the DCTRA. There is be a possibility that TBID may need to recharge about 200 af into their ponds. SID is currently using TBID's ponds to recharge. If TBID recharges, it will decrease the amount of water SID can recharge. There may be a possibility of running 10 to 15 csf in Deer Creek since Pixley ID is no longer running water in Deer Creek. Included in the January Board Packet is the Water Schedule. Discussion ensued.

**STATUS OF AUTHORITIES** – Nick Keller reported that the DCTRA is winding down their entity. ETGSA has agreed to buy the Cimis Station. We should have something for the Board to review at next month's meeting regarding the buy-out of Porterville ID and Stone Corel WD interest in the DCTRA. Tea Pot Dome WD and Vandalia have expressed an interest in being part owners in the DCTRA ponds. Peltzer & Mauritsen continue to work on the agreement. FWA will start the clear and grub operation next week south of Avenue 136 to Woollomes. The plan calls for a siphon plug north and south of Deer Creek on the current canal. Keller is reviewing the plans. One of the new design changes is having the moss screens located in the

canal. The Manager continues to forward the CEO updates from Jason Phillips, CEO, FWA. The FWA retreat for Directors and Staff will be held next week. ACWA has nothing to report. Discussion ensued.

**EASTERN TULE GSA** – Nick Keller reported his office is working on the 218 election scheduled for some time this spring. Discussion ensued.

**2022 WATER RATE AND WATER POLICY** – The Board reviewed the budget from October, which outlines the need to increase the water cost to cover the variables in the budget not covered in the 218 election. The Water Policy was included in the board packet for review. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Kisling Demetriff – to set the 2022/23 water cost at \$120.00 per acre-foot.

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

M/S/U, Demetriff, Noble – to accept the Water Policy with the change to Item 1 of subsection Water Allocation Policy, growers will no longer have to submit a request for the amount of water. Growers will be allocated based on the numbers of assessed acres. The Manager will need to review prior to mailing.

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

**BANKING POLICY** – The Board discussed revising the Banking Policy. Discussion ensued.

**LAND USE AGREEMENT** – The Board considered an amendment to the Land Use Agreement with TBID and LTRID. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, M. Merritt, Noble – to accept the first amendment to the MOU Tule River Basin IRWMP Group, pending the final review of both attorneys Mauritsen and Peltzer.

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

**WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL** – The Board reviewed the proposal from Marcom to design the District's website. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Demetriff, M. Merritt – to approve the proposal from Marcom to design the District's website.

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

**CLOSED SESSION** – The Board adjourned to a closed session at 11:09 am.

**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

**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** - The Board returned from Closed Session at 11:17 am. There was no reportable action.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

President E. Merritt adjourned the meeting at 11:18 am.

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Diane M. Ennis, Secretary