

January 28, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Saucelito Irrigation District met this day in a special session. The location was 1900 W. Olive, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

President Kisling called the meeting to order at 11:08 pm and stated that a quorum was present. Kisling started the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for taking the time out of their day to attend the special meeting and growers outreach.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Kisling, Demettriff & M. Merritt
DIRECTORS ABSENT: E. Merritt & Noble
OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, Manager
Diane M. Ennis, Secretary/Treasurer
Terren Brown, Marisol Zuniga and Jose Banda - Staff
GUEST: List of 43 attendees

AGENDA – President Kisling asked if the agenda was in order; the Manager stated that the agenda was in order and had been posted as required.

PUBLIC COMMENT – President Kisling asked if anyone from the public wished to comment at this time.

DISCUSSION OF THE DISTRICT'S NEW WATER POLICY - The Manager Informed attendees that the District had added a Groundwater Extraction section to the Water Policy after which he opened the floor to questions. He described the district's delivery system as being the best along the canal. Discussion ensued. He then shared that the District would be implementing a well monitoring program and asked if three to six months is sufficient for growers to install meters on their wells. He then explained that once the well meters were installed, the District would collect data from the wells on a quarterly basis. A question arose about whether domestic landowners would need to install meters; he clarified that those pumping less than two acre-feet per year need not install them. The Manager suggested for those types of well, filing an exception with the State Water Board.

EXPLORATION OF THE POTENTIAL FOR ESTABLISHING A GROUNDWATER

SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY – The Manager explained that the District had been placed on probation and that the district was working to eliminate the well restriction reporting imposed by the State Water Board. To achieve this, the district is considering becoming its own Groundwater Sustainability Agency, similar to other districts in the Tule Basin that are not under well-reporting restrictions. The district has engaged a company to create a Water Budget to demonstrate its sustainability. This is the initial step required for the district. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kisling adjourned the meeting at 12:15 pm.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary

