

September 12, 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 9:30 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
Nick Keller – Engineer
Aubrey Mauritson - Attorney

GUEST: Jared Plume – Booth Ranches
Douglas Jackson – Water & Land Solutions
Adam Mendoza – Full Circle Farming
Andrew Hart – Booth Ranches
Nick Gatti - Homer
Lisa McEwen – SJV Water

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

MINUTES

M/S/U, Noble, Demetriff– to approve the minutes from the regular Board of Directors' meeting held on August 8, 2024, with one correction.

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

BILLS AND VOUCHERS

M/S/U, M. Merritt, Demetriff - 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. Adam Mendoza spoke for Full Circle Farming. Adam asked about their temporary siphon project request. The Manager stated the application fee and down payment for the project had been made to USBR. 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 February Income and Balance Sheets. Discussion ensued.

M/S/U, Noble, 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— Nothing to report.

OPERATIONS & WATER—Nick Keller reviewed the water schedule report with the Board. The water usage in August was 4414 acre-feet. Nick Keller explained the new pilot water billing program that the USBR has implemented and why the district hasn't received water bills until now. Keller discovered the district has significant credit with the USBR, and they have been working off the reserves. This prompted him to contact the head of the Finance Department for more information. Keller informed the Board that we needed to freeze the credit so we would start receiving invoices for the water delivered. Otherwise, it would cause an audit nightmare. Discussion ensued. The board packet includes the Employee Safety Meeting and 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. Keller updated the Board on the pump stations. Keller continues to have bi-weekly meetings regarding the pumping plants' design. Discussion ensued.

EASTERN TULE GSA—The Manager reported the State Water Board hearing in Sacramento, will be held on September 17, 2024 for the Tule Sub-basin. Discussion ensued.

2023 EMPLOYEE PENSION FUND AUDIT- The Board reviewed the audit completed by Cuttone & Mastro Certified Public Accountants.

M/S/U, Demetriff, M. Merritt – To accept the 2023 Employees' Money Purchase Pension Plan Financial Statement and directed them to be placed on file.

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

2024-2025 WATER YEAR – WATER POLICY – There is nothing to report today.

EIR STUDY FOR GROUNDWATER BANKING POLICY PROGRAM—The Manager reported he is meeting with P&P every two weeks throughout the process. Staff reported they have reached out to Kern-Tulare WD to get more information about their well monitoring program; the field staff have been locating the wells within the district. Discussion ensued.

President Kisling moved to adjourn the regular meeting that will resume immediately following the Board of Equalization meeting.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION –

President Kisling called the meeting to order at 10:20 am.

Upon motion by Director Demetriff, seconded by Director Noble, the following Resolution was passed and adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-9-02

APPROVING THE ASSESSMENT FOR 2024-25

WHEREAS, Diane M. Ennis, Assessor for the District, has filed the Assessment Book for the assessment year 2024-25, showing an assessed valuation of \$19,306,330.00 and

WHEREAS, no person has requested, in person or in writing, equalization of the assessed valuation of property,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the assessments for the assessment year 2024-25 heretofore prepared and filed with the Secretary by the Assessor are approved.

Original assessment of \$5.00 and an additional rate of \$84.56 passed by the Owner in 2015.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

CERTIFICATE OF SECRETARY

I do hereby certify that I am the Secretary of the Saucelito Irrigation District, an irrigation 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 of said District at a meeting thereof duly and regularly held at the office of the said District at Porterville, California on September 12, 2024, at which meeting a quorum of 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 hereto set my hand and the Seal of the Saucelito Irrigation District this 12th day of September 2024.

Diane M. Ennis

Secretary to the Board of Directors

ADJOURNMENT OF THE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

President Kisling adjourned the meeting of the Board of Equalization at 10:21 am and resumed with the regular Board meeting.

CLOSED SESSION – The Board adjourned to a closed session at 10:21 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 11:31 am. President Kisling stated there was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

President Kisling adjourned the meeting at 11:31 am.

Diane M. Ennis, Secretary