

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE  
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA  
ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2022 AT 12:30 P.M.

**A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL**

President Atkins called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., and Administrative Assistant McKinney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District were Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Hopkins, District Engineer Evensen, Finance Director Ram, Administrative Assistant McKinney, Legal Counsel Zolezzi and Consultant Barkett.

**B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)**

**D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Minutes 12/20/22 Regular Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the December 20, 2022 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

2. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the December 27, 2022 Warrants, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

3. Tri-Dam Project – 2023 Budget Review Meeting, 12/22/22

Director Panizza reported the Tri-Dam/Goodwin Dam 2023 Budget Review is an annual meeting held with South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) and Oakdale Irrigation District (OID). The Zoom meeting was attended by Directors Panizza, Atkins, Cortopassi, Sanguinetti and Manager Hopkins. Also, in attendance was the Interim General Manager for Tri-Dam, Jeff Shields, staff from SSJID and OID. Director Panizza stated this is a static budget; it changes very little from year-to-year. The budget amount for 2023 is \$301,920 plus the Total Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$30,000.

Director Watkins asked if the total budget amount is \$301,920, which includes the \$30,000 of Total Capital Expenditures. Director Watkins wants to verify this figure since there is not a line item for the \$30,000. Director Panizza verified the Operational Budget is \$301,920 and the separate Capital Expenditures Budget is \$30,000.

Manager Hopkins stated the \$30,000 is in addition to the \$301,920 amount, for a total of \$331,920.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the 2023 Tri-Dam Project Budget, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Atkins, Cortopassi, McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**E. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Bellota Project Committee Meeting, 12/21/22

Director Cortopassi reported the meeting was attended by Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, Sanguinetti and Watkins, Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, District Engineer Evensen, and Mel Lytle from the City of Stockton. Director Cortopassi reported Elaine Conti with Raftelis joined the meeting remotely to discuss all factors of the Fish Screen Project cost allocation. A Power Point handout was provided, and showed the proportional costs for the project features. Director Cortopassi described the project features and advised Flood Control with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is requesting the channel be widened.

Director McGurk inquired about the requirement to widen the channel. Manager Hopkins stated the roughened channel will require placing more fill into the river to create the slope required for the fish passage, and there is higher head loss through the section of the river because of the material in the roughened channel which requires more upstream head. So, to prevent a change in water surface elevation upstream, the cross-sectional area of the weir had to be widened to maintain the same water surface elevation at the flood flow. Discussion followed.

Director Watkins suggested scheduling a workshop/tour and inviting staff from Cal Water, the City of Stockton, San Joaquin County, State and Federal Officials and permitting agencies for a presentation by the consultant to update all regarding the fish passage details and goals. The workshop could lead to obtaining grant monies.

2. Agriculture Operations Committee Meeting, 12/21/22

Director Cortopassi reported the meeting was attended by Directors Atkins, Cortopassi, Sanguinetti and Watkins, Manager Hopkins, Assistant Manager Vega, and District Engineer Evensen. Manager Hopkins provided drawings for Potter Creek. Director Cortopassi discussed replacement of a crossing in Potter Creek located after Stagnaro's farm and Lagorio's crossing. The low water crossing is dilapidated, and a field inspection needs to be scheduled to determine additional repair work. Director Cortopassi stated discussions will continue regarding the proposed modifications to Establishing Program and Incentives for Encouraging the Use of Surface Water Policy. The Draft On-Farm Recharge Program and Incentives Policy position is to be continued. The District Boundary Adjustments item detailed the fact that there are some landowners (nine parcels) who have land inside two district boundaries. North San Joaquin Water Conservation District wants to coordinate with SEWD so the parcels are wholly within one district. There seems to be concern that some landowners may be double billed if they're in both districts. Manager Hopkins and Legal Counsel Zolezzi stated no one is paying double. It needs to be determined if there are any errors with billing from North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, and clean up the boundary line issues.

## **F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER**

### **1. Water Supply Report as of 12/19/22**

Manager Hopkins provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight last night.

There is 62,914 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 20 cfs. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 203 cfs and release to all water users are set at 0 cfs. There are 0 irrigators on New Hogan, 0 irrigators on New Melones, and 0 irrigators out of District. The water treatment plant is currently processing 18 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 9 mgd. Manager Hopkins reported the District wells total water extraction is 7,004 gpm (~10.1 mgd).

### **2. Information Items:**

Manager Hopkins noted item: F2a-1, F2a-2, F2a-3 and F2a-4

### **3. Report on General Manager Activities**

#### **a. San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services – Agricultural Drought Task Force Meeting, 12/21/22**

Manager Hopkins reported he was unable to attend, but introduced Finance Director Ram to report out. Finance Director Ram reported that San Joaquin County is off to a good start with the water year with 110-250% precipitation to date. Snow pack is good for year-to-date amounts, but still below the desired amounts for the year. Drought conditions have eased for a good part of the state; San Joaquin County drought rank decreased from exceptional to extreme drought which is an improvement. La Niña is expected to continue into the winter, but there is a 71% chance of a neutral cycle from February to April 2023. As of the date of presentation, wet weather was expected for the end of December into the early part of January.

Director McGurk inquired the meaning of the acronym ENSO on page 27. Finance Director Ram replied it means El Niño Southern Oscillation which is a recurring climate pattern involving changes in the temperatures of waters in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean.

#### **b. Stockton East Water District Activities Update**

Manager Hopkins reported staff has received a copy of the draft salary survey which was completed this year for implementation next year. There was a board committee who participated in reviewing the previous salary survey, but did not notice the committee on the District's Committee List. President Atkins stated Director Watkins, Sanguinetti and himself were the committee for the previous year. Manager Hopkins will solicit the Board for dates to bring the committee together to meet and review the draft salary survey. Manager Hopkins also advised the need to convene the Staffing Committee to discuss re-organization changes for the District.

## **G. DIRECTOR REPORTS**

### **1. Holiday Open House & Toy Drive – Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua, 12/20/22**

Manager Hopkins reported no one attended the open house.

## **H. COMMUNICATIONS**

### **1. United States Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation, 2023 Water Year Request for Deliveries, Stockton East Water District (District) Central Valley Project, California, 12/20/22**

Manager Hopkins stated earlier this year the District sent a request to the Bureau of Reclamation requesting 75,000 AF of Central Valley Project Water from New Melones, and the Bureau declined. It is a critical year per the District's new eastside division storage policy. The District does not get

water in a critical year, but the Bureau will reevaluate in May of 2023 to confirm that the water year type at the 90% exceedance level is still critical.

2. United States Department of the Interior – Bureau of Reclamation, Notice of Funding Opportunity No. R23AS00005 – WaterSMART Drought Response Program, 12/20/22  
Manager Hopkins stated the good news from the Bureau of Reclamation is that the District has been awarded a \$600,000 grant to support the design and construction of a new aquifer storage and recovery well. Manager Hopkins thanked the engineering team for completing the grant application. The District is working with the Bureau to complete the agreement process, and funding should be available sometime next year.

Director Watkins asked what the total amount is for the aquifer storage and recovery well. Manager Hopkins replied \$750,000 has been budgeted in the District’s budget, so approximately \$1.35million. Discussion followed.

**I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation – Water Committee Meeting, 12/27/22  
*\* This meeting was cancelled \**
2. District Holiday – New Year’s Day, 01/02/23

**J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL**

1. Closed Session - Existing Litigation  
Stockton East Water District vs. City of Stockton, et al.  
Government Code 54956.9 (a)
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION Section 54956.9 (2 Cases)

President Atkins adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:26 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. The regular meeting reconvened at 1:52 p.m., with the no reportable action.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

President Atkins adjourned the meeting at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Justin M. Hopkins  
Secretary of the Board

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