

Manteca, California
March 25, 2014

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in regular session in their chambers at the hour of 9:01 a.m. President Roos called the meeting to order and led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
ABSENT: NONE

Also present were General Manager Jeff Shields, General Counsel Steve Emrick, Engineering Department Manager Sam Bologna, and Executive Secretary Betty Garcia.

Public Comment - None

The Board was asked to consider the following Consent Calendar Items.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Warrants in the amount of \$397,876.60; A/P Wires in the amount of \$465,617.30; payroll dated March 21 in the amount of \$172,439.09.
- B. Approval of the regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2014.
- C. Consider approval of Resolution #14-03-H recognizing the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation's 100 year anniversary.

**RESOLUTION
In Recognition of the
San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation
100th Year Anniversary**

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Farm Bureau was established in 1914 and was the second County Farm Bureau in the state to be formed;

WHEREAS, at each San Joaquin Farm Bureau meeting, a report was given by the Farm Advisor, a practice that still continues today;

WHEREAS, their core principal that agriculture works best when we work together on issues is still the driving force within their organization;

WHEREAS, the SJFBF established the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Foundation for Agricultural Education as a non-profit, charitable organization in 1989 in an effort to preserve the success of agriculture in San Joaquin County through education;

WHEREAS, the specific purposes of the Foundation are to collect donations dedicated to educational purposes in order to provide financial support for the development and understanding of teaching agriculture in the classroom at the elementary, secondary, and post-secondary levels, as well as fund activities aimed at improving the overall understanding of agriculture, and has awarded more than \$250,000 in scholarships;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, on behalf of all our staff, do hereby congratulate the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation, for their impressive accomplishments and dedication to the citizens of San Joaquin County;

FURTHERMORE, we express our gratitude for their leadership, progress, and growth for the past 100 years, and we wish the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Federation many successful years in the future.

- D. Consider approval of Encroachment Agreement for San Bernabe Vineyards LLC, APN 204-050-51; Delicato Vineyards, APN 204-050-39; and Gaspare Vineyards PTP, APN 204-050-40.

Director Holbrook noted that item #D, page 1 of the Encroachment Agreement, the word “across” needs to be replaced with “underneath”.

A motion was made by Director Kamper and seconded by Director Holbrook to adopt the Consent Calendar items with the changes noted above by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #1 – Manteca Chamber of Commerce presents award to SSJID

JoAnn Beattie, CEO for the Manteca Chamber presented a plaque to SSJID in recognition of its dedicated service to the Chamber and the community. The Board thanked the Chamber.

Item #2 – Consider 2014 Water Supply Forecast, Irrigation Schedule and Woodward Elevation and Item #4 – Consider authorization to repair upper intake screens at Woodward Reservoir (These two items were discussed concurrently)

Mr. Shields distributed the Tri Dam Operations Report, Water Supply & Demand projection summary for 2014 which reflects the plan to keep Woodward Reservoir at minimum level, and the Reservoir conditions report. He noted that water levels in most of the reservoirs are in bad shape. Mr. Forrest Killingsworth distributed an analysis of the Woodward operation options and savings projections to the Board. He said in order to allow bodily contact at the reservoir, the District will need to keep the water level at 202 feet above mean sea level. Under previous direction of the Board, the plan has been to maintain the reservoir level between 192 – 195 feet of elevation for the entire 2014 irrigation season. Mr. Killingsworth indicated if the water level is raised from 192 – 195 to 202 – 204 feet for the period of May 1 – July 7, this will cost the District approximately 2637 AF of water through evaporation and seepage. He said if the

District continues to operate the reservoir at the 204 foot level throughout the season, it will cost about 5044 AF of water.

Mr. Erisman stated that a recent inspection of the upper intake screens at Woodward reservoir found that all of the screens had damage to the internal structures. He said the damage was caused by the “blow off” procedure that pushes water and air through the screens in a reverse direction at great velocities. The internal structures can become worse and cause even more damage if not repaired. He said the best time to repair these screens would be when the water level is low. The screens could be purchased new at \$75,000 or repaired at a cost of approximately \$35,000. However, the turnaround time for both options would be 6 to 8 weeks. Therefore, if the Board were to raise the reservoir level to accommodate recreation in the lake, the water level would need to be returned to about 192 feet immediately after the 4th of July in order to allow time for the repair before filling the reservoir to provide the winter supply for the water treatment plant.

Ms. Mary Guardiola of the Oakdale Chamber of Commerce supported the proposal to raise the water level at Woodward Reservoir for part of the summer. She said that many Oakdale businesses attribute about 20% of their summer business to recreation at Woodward reservoir.

Mr. Bryan Whitemyer, City Manager with Oakdale stated the recreation impacts at Woodward are very strong and he appreciates the District keeping the water level up to allow bodily contact.

Mr. Keith Boggs, Assistant Executive Officer with Stanislaus County thanked SSJID for their continuing business relationship over the past 40 years. He said they appreciate the District keeping the water level up allowing for bodily contact at Woodward. He stated that Stanislaus County would like to present an offer of \$50,000 to help pay for the purchase of new upper intake screens at Woodward, if approved by the County Board of Supervisors. He said if recreation is not allowed at Woodward that Stanislaus County cannot afford to continue to pay for the security at the reservoir.

Mr. Shields noted that raising the water level at Woodward would allow recreational use for two of the biggest holidays of the summer season, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July.

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Kuil to bring the water level at Woodward Reservoir up to 204 by May 1. When the District decides to repair the upper intake screens at Woodward, after Independence Day, staff can take the water back down. The District accepts the offer from Stanislaus County to assist with \$50,000 in the procurement of the intake screens if authorized by the County Board of Supervisors. Motion passed 4 to 1 as follows:

AYES:	HOLBROOK HOLMES KUIL ROOS
NOES:	KAMPER
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

Director Kamper stated that he opposed this action because the value of water lost through increased seepage and evaporation by raising the lake level is approximately \$3 million and not

worth saving recreation. District staff was asked to bring a time table to the Board regarding the terms of lowering the water level at Woodward Reservoir. A motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Holbrook to purchase new screens and repair the intake screens to hold as backup.

Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Item #3 – Consider approval of Dollar Tree encroachment agreement

Mr. Bologna said the Dollar Tree store is located in Escalon on Ullrey Avenue, east of McHenry Avenue. The District’s Lateral “K” – 103dd runs along a portion of the eastern and southern boundary of the property. The conditions of approval call for the developer to remove and replace the existing pipeline with a reinforced concrete pipeline. However, due to the location of a portion of the pipeline outside the boundaries of the subject property, limited use of the pipeline, and nature of the encroachments, it has been requested that the District consider a variance to this requirement. Both Director Holbrook and Roos agreed that the maintenance fees established in 1987 are now too low after nearly 30 years of inflation and should be increased.

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Kamper to approve the project, authorize staff to sign improvement plans, and accept the special encroachment agreement, but update the maintenance fees and require those fees to be paid up front. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Item #5 – Consider approval of Water Treatment Budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015

Mr. Lindley stated that Mr. Erisman has been responsible for preparing the water treatment plant budget over the past few years and has a record of preparing high quality budgets. He said the budget is for the year that begins July 1, 2014 and represents a 3% increase over the previous year’s budget after adjusting the previous year’s budget for the effect of the new labor agreements. Mr. Erisman explained the budget has been circulated to the cities for their comments and thus far they have no questions and have not requested any changes.

A motion was made by Director Kamper and seconded by Director Holbrook to approve the proposed water treatment plant budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS
NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Item #6 – February 2014 Financial Statements

Mr. Lindley informed the Board that he had no oral report but is available for questions.

Item #7 – February 2014 Investment Reports

Mr. Lindley informed the Board that he had no oral report but is available for questions.

Item #8 – Communications

Director Holbrook attended a workshop at SDRMA and one of the classes spoke to protecting online information and the instructor demonstrated how easily hackers can access that information.

Director Kuil attended the Groundwater Basin Authority (GBA) meeting two weeks ago. A speaker talked about grant funds and Mr. Kuil inquired of General Manager Shields whether the District might want to consider getting grant money to build the west basin that was part of the original design of the Division 9 pressurized system. He said new maps show the water table in much of the District is fairly stable. He said there is a GBA meeting tomorrow at the Cabral Center from 1 to 5 p.m.

Director Kamper said the new system of ditchtender divisions is working pretty well for the ditch tenders except for the area of Escalon. He asked about the possibility of establishing a 12 – 24 day rotation schedule. Mr. Shields stated the District has additional staff that can assist the ditch tenders.

Without a formal vote, the Board of Directors expressed a consensus to instruct staff to start a 12 day irrigation rotation schedule effective Monday, March 31.

Director Holmes requested the District consider suspending the realignment of divisions and go back to the way the divisions were for the remainder of the water season. He spoke directly to the new Divisions 1 and 2 in the Escalon area. He said this is too large of an area to include in with only two divisions and it is spreading our workforce too thin and raising the likelihood of accidents. He also indicated the farmers expressed concerns about not receiving the District newsletter informing them of the changes prior to the start of the irrigation season. He asked that a new plan be considered and brought back to the board by November 15. Mr. Zack of Escalon stated that his ditch tender is stretched thin and could use assistance too.

Director Holbrook asked that the issues in Division 1 and 2 be considered by the Water Supervisor, General Manager, and division managers and that they work together to find a solution that works well for everyone concerned.

Director Roos attended the bus trip provided by the Farm Bureau but the portion of the meeting he attended was not spent discussing nitrates in the water, but regulations that would force the Coalition to police its members. He said the interviews for Tri Dam General Manager are scheduled for Friday, April 4. Director Holmes and Kamper are unavailable that day and Mr.

Shields will ask to schedule those interviews at a later date when all of the Directors are available to participate in the interviews.

Ed Erisman, Water Treatment Plant

- The interconnection agreement with the City of Lathrop has been signed and all parties have received a copy of the agreement.

Don Battles, Utility Systems Director

- He distributed information regarding a new reporting website for the solar farm.

Sam Bologna, Engineering Department Manager

- Division 9 is working smoothly and approximately 13,000 gpm is being pumped.

Jeff Shields, General Manager

- He met with Tuolumne county regarding the water transfer.
- Announced that there were three finalists to be interviewed for the Tri-Dam General Manager position.
- He had a meeting with Calaveras County Water District.
- San Joaquin Farm Bureau Advisory meeting is tonight at 5:30 p.m.

Structure permit approved:

- Joe Rishwain, APN 204-020-07 & 177-470-15, Lateral “Qo”

Item #9 – Closed Session. It was announced that there would be no closed session items to be discussed.

ITEM #10 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Director Kamper and seconded by Director Holmes to adjourn the meeting at 12:21 p.m. Motion passed as follows:

AYES: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL ROOS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ATTEST: _____
Betty Garcia, Executive Secretary