

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in regular session in the District Boardroom at 9:00 a.m. President Kamper called the meeting to order and led the flag salute. Upon roll-call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK HOLMES KAMPER KUIL

ABSENT: ROOS

Also present were General Manager, Peter M. Rietkerk; General Counsel, Mia Brown; Engineering Department Manager, Forrest Killingsworth; and Clerk of the Board, Betty Garcia.

Public Comment - None

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Approval of Warrants in the amount of \$639,137.40; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of \$566,002.70; and payroll dated March 1, 2019 in the amount of \$2,442.88; payroll dated March 15, 2019 in the amount of \$238,409.34; payroll dated March 29, 2019 in the amount of \$219,026.39.
- B. Approval of the regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2019.
- C. Consider encroachment request for joint trench facilities at Sundance Unit #4.
- D. Consider encroachment request from Modesto Irrigation District (MID) for overhead electric facilities on Lateral Vb.
- E. Consider encroachment request from Comcast at Lateral Z.

A motion was made by Director Kuil and seconded by Director Holbrook to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following roll-call vote:

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Director Holbrook attended the 2019 Flood Forum on Wednesday, March 20, in Sacramento. There was discussion regarding how to raise revenue and to explore a regional property assessment tax to be used for flood control, as well as for operations and maintenance.

Director Kamper sat on an interview panel for the Executive Assistant position on Thursday, April 4, 2019 and said the candidates were all good.

Ed Erisman, Water Treatment Plant Manager:

- Tank divers inspected the tanks at the L1 and M3 sites. There were a few minor spots of surface rust on some welds but overall the coating looked good with little sediment.

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Another tracking issue on the northwest solar array was repaired by Water Treatment staff.
- Water quality at Woodward Reservoir is looking better with the diversions slowly raising the level to 204 feet of elevation. Staff is evaluating the possibility of switching to the upper intake structure within the next few weeks.

Frank Avila, Irrigation Operations Manager:

Water Department

- 2019 water season has started very slow but this is good because it is allowing the division managers time to get familiar with the new division realignment areas; they are becoming familiar with their new laterals and customers. The water flows into the MDC, have been fluctuating from 165 to 245 cfs.
- We are waiting for the flows to increase and stabilize, so we can schedule an aquatic pesticide run.
- We have 3 new team members working for the water Department, Andrew Betschart (Division #1 nights), Michael Travoia (Division #5/6 nights) and Jason Andre (Division #5 nights).

Maintenance Department

- Staff is on the locker room path preparing it for the new building.
- We are working on the MDC stabilization of the banks on all drops.
- We are back filling washouts on the South side of the T lateral upstream of Jack Tone Road and staff will move to other laterals when finished.
- Repaired several large washouts on drain 3A and removed debris from the ditch.
- Finished installing the canal bank ramp, including the access gate at drop ten and the RQ-takeout bank next to Cook's property.
- We will be removing vines on the South bank of the MSC with the long reach excavator as time permits.

Shop Department

- The boom truck had its required yearly certification performed by All-Cal on April 1 and passed the test without issue.
- Division 2's Chevy truck is at the dealer for a rear differential overhaul at 50k miles and is covered under warranty.
- James reported that the new 2019 Ford trucks should be arriving in the next couple weeks.
- The welding department has finished the fabrication and installation of the remaining slides for the "cut down pour over wall" project, and doing repairs to other control gates that need attention.

MDC/Telemetry Department

- The Telemetry Department, has commissioned the Rubicon gates and the verifications of flows on the K, W, WC, R, and Q divide gates. They are also performing calibration on the MDC gates using the river surveyor.
- Rubicon Water is assisting with the tuning of the slip meters from Australia working with technicians using a cell modem from the unit.

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- They are also continuing the pre-work needed for the installation of the new MDC control room building.

Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager:

Canyon Tunnel

- Both landowners have signed and returned the access agreement.
- Surveying activities to establish the proposed alignment and location of drilling sites are taking place this week.
- April 29 - May 1: Geological mapping by Condor
- May 6-7: Drill locations will be verified
- May 28-29: Geophysics fieldwork
- June 3 - July 26: Drilling/televviewer Fieldwork

Pleasant Valley Road Bridge

- Staff met with Stanislaus County and confirmed that the bridge has been shut down due to safety concerns related to deterioration of the timber support structure. We are working with the County to establish a common use agreement that will allow for the bridge to be replaced within our property. It is likely that the project will not commence until after the 2020 irrigation season (approximately 2 years).

Daniels Street Extension

- Staff is working through the last phase of plan checks with the City of Manteca and expect to sign their plans this week.
- We still need to work out the details related to timing of construction on SSJID facilities, access roads, new easements, and quitclaims of old easements.

CalGIS Conference

- He attended a workshop titled “**Water, Irrigation, Regulations, and Agriculture**”
- It appears that there is a lot of opportunity to bolster our GIS system at SSJID that would significantly enhance communication and collaboration, both internally and externally.
- In order to implement and maintain a good GIS system, a GIS specialist would be needed at SSJID.

Peter Rietkerk, General Manager:

He reported on the following items:

Water Supply Update:

- Precipitation
 - San Joaquin River 5 Station Index is measuring approximately 43.1 **inches** or **126 percent** of average precipitation to date for the 2018 - 2019 water season.
 - Northern Sierra 8-Station Index indicates approximately **59.7 inches** or **135 percent** of average precipitation to date for the 2018-2019 water season.

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Snowpack
 - Northern California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately **160-percent** of April 1 average and **166-percent** of normal to-date.
 - Central California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately **163-percent** of April 1 average and **165-percent** of normal to-date.
 - Southern California Sierra snow sensors are measuring approximately **150-percent** of April 1 average and **152-percent** of normal to-date.

- Reservoir Storage
 - New Melones storage is currently at **1,974,442 AF**, or **82-percent** of capacity. Top of conservation storage limit is 1,970,000 acre-feet. The top of conservation limit starts increasing on April 1, ramping to 2,420,000 acre-feet by June 1 – September 15, then ramping down to winter levels by November 1.
 - Stanislaus River flows are increasing to 4,500 cfs.

NEWS

Federal Government Brings Lawsuit against State’s Water Quality Control Plan

Federal government sued the State of California’s Water Resources Control Board in federal and state court on March 28, 2019, alleging that the state failed to follow its own environmental requirements laid out in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The complaint notes a failure to provide a finite project description, a “masking” of environmental impacts by failing to show a project absent mitigation measures, and inadequate analysis. The complaint also includes a placeholder where additional causes of action may be brought, presumably based on if and how the State Board chooses to move forward with implementing the plan in light of ongoing litigation involving federal and local agencies.

The federal complaint also references concerns made in the Bureau of Reclamation’s July 27, 2018 letter to the State Board, including reductions in the amount of water available in New Melones for meeting congressionally authorized purposes for the construction of the New Melones Project.

Sustainable Groundwater Management

The South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency held a meeting of its board on March 20, 2019. At this meeting, the Board gave policy direction on a number of policies that the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority will be considering at its board meeting tomorrow April 10, 2019.

District staff and legal consultants reviewed an interim draft of the first chapters of the groundwater sustainability plan over the past few weeks and provided them to the groundwater sustainability consultants.

Consultants for the SSJGSA attended a workshop held on April 3, 2019 regarding sustainability indicators, minimum thresholds, and projects to be included within the groundwater sustainability plan. There was significant discussion on the appropriateness of minimum thresholds, and continuing questions about how best to address the six sustainability indicators required by the 2014 groundwater law.

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA)

He attended the CMUA Conference in San Diego on March 31 – April 2 in order to stay apprised of what is going on in the retail electric business. He indicated there is a lot going on with wildfire legislation and the PG&E bankruptcy. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is a government agency tasked with ensuring that investor-owned utilities operate a safe and reliable grid and are reviewing the safety culture at PG&E. The difference in how the publicly owned utilities and investor owned utilities are structured leaves the publicly owned enterprises less exposed to liabilities from wildfires.

Talent Acquisition

SSJID held two rounds of interviews for the Executive Assistant/Clerk of the board, the second on April 4, 2019. Currently, the District has made an offer to a prospective candidate and we are awaiting background checks.

For the Water Resources Coordinator, SSJID intends to interview five (5) candidates on Thursday, April 11, 2019.

MEETINGS

- 3/13/2019 – ESJGSA Meeting
- 3/20/2019 – SSJGSA Board Meeting
- 3/31/2019 – 4/2/2019 – CMUA Conference
- 4/3/2019 – SJTA Meeting

President Kamper said he would start with Item #6 of the action calendar because there were people in the audience who may want to address this item.

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #6 – Consider staff direction and/or action related to Assembly Bill 1732 and the sale of Qualex property

Mr. Rietkerk, General Manager, stated that SSJID is one of several entities that would be entitled to proceeds from the sale of the Qualex property. However, the City of Manteca is considering the sale of this property substantially below market value to a non-profit organization who would renovate the structure and convert it into a homeless service center.

Jason Laughlin, Field Representative, with Assemblyman Heath Flora’s office addressed the Board stating that Assemblyman Flora introduced Assembly Bill 1732 to accommodate a below market price for the Qualex property in order to help combat homelessness in Manteca. He said legislative staff working on Assembly Bill 1732 are requesting unanimous support of all ten (10) taxing agencies to forfeit the potential revenue from a market sale of the property. The facility would provide services to address the needs to the homeless population in Manteca and help them move into stable and permanent housing.

Don Smail, Economic Development Manager, City of Manteca, addressed the Board assuring them that there would be restrictions put on the property that would prohibit the nonprofit to later sell the property for profit.

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

A motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Kamper to direct staff to write a Resolution in support of Assembly Bill 1732. The motion failed with a 2 to 2 vote as follows:

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

Item #2 – Consider approval of changing banks from Union Bank to US Bank and adopt Resolution #19-04-F that documents these changes

Ms. Robin Giuntoli, Accounting and Customer Services Manager, stated that staff performed online research of banking institutions and references from other businesses and the following banks were chosen for analysis: US Bank, Chase Bank, and Farmers & Merchants Bank. Staff also evaluated a demo of each bank’s online banking features.

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Holmes to go with staff’s recommendation to change banks from Union Bank to US Bank and adopt Resolution #19-04-F which documents those changes. Motion passed 3 to 0, and 1 abstention, by the following roll-call vote:

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

Item #3 – Consider request for new pressurized irrigation turnout from Tamey Hilburn & BS Family Partnership & BS F

Mr. Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager, said that Fred Rich, a grower representing a 20 acre property owned by Hilburn & BS Family Partnership, has requested to install a new turnout on the pressurized irrigation system so the District could provide pressurized service to the parcel in the amount of 800 gpm (gallons per minute). He stated that Engineering staff along with Water Operations staff has reviewed the request and verified connection to the pressurized system is feasible and will not negatively impact operations or service to existing customers.

Staff is recommending that the process for future pressurized turnout installations be modified to improve administration and construction efficiency related to timing, cost, and administrative staff time. Engineering and Operations agree that the contemplated work is well within the skill set of in-house District crews and that coordinating a competitive bidding process and hiring a contractor is not necessary.

A motion was made by Director Kuil and seconded by Director Holbrook to accept staff’s recommendation to approve installation of a new Pressurized Irrigation Turnout for parcel APN 247-240-01, including approval of the following:

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- a) Authorize staff to enter into an “Agreement to Extend Service” with the owner (Hilburn & BS Family Partnership & BS F) based on the draft agreement
- b) Authorize District staff to coordinate, design, and construct new pressurized turnout at Owner’s expense, based on the terms of the proposed Agreement to Extend Service

The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #4 – Consider approval of revised District Standard 6.01 for sprinkler sump connections

Mr. Forrest Killingsworth, Engineering Department Manager, stated the SSJID Standard Detail 6.01, “Typical Sprinkler Sump Installation from SSJID Pipe Lateral” is one of the most referenced District Standards utilized by the District and permit applicants. He said the detail specifies how new sprinkler sumps should be constructed and connected to District pipelines. The primary purpose of this standard is to:

- Ensure consistency and reliability of the grower’s system
- Minimize the pressure required in District pipelines
- Minimize operational spill water
- Minimize required labor from operations staff

The Engineering Department reevaluated the sprinkler sump standard with the intention of making practical revisions that would allow more flexibility to the grower/owner/applicant. Staff is aware that the District’s existing standard is expensive, especially when the acreage served is small. He said there are no direct cost implications to the District from the revision. However, based on discussions with local irrigation contractors, it is estimated that the material costs for a typical sump connection is around \$9,000 to \$10,000 (if constructed to the existing standard).

A motion was made by Director Holmes and seconded by Director Kuil to authorize and approve revised SSJID Standard 6.01 “Typical Sprinkler Sump Installation from SSJID Pipe Lateral” as outlined in this staff report. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #5 – Consider approval of quote from ABB Inc, to work on GE Switchgears

Mr. Justin Ashworth, Water Treatment Plant Operations Supervisor, explained that the WTP is equipped with a backup generator power supply and required equipment which enables the plant

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

to automatically switch from utility power to generator power and back again once power is restored. The electrical industry standard is to have this type of equipment serviced and maintained every 5 years. The one at the WTP has not been serviced since 2014.

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Holmes to approve staff's recommendation and accept the quote from ABB Inc. to work on the GE Switchgears. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

Item #7 – Financial Statements for February 2019

Mr. Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager, did not have an oral report but was available for any questions from the Board.

Item #8 – Investment Reports for February 2019

Mr. Bere Lindley, Assistant General Manager, did not have an oral report but was available for any questions from the Board.

General Counsel announced that all items in closed session would be discussed. The Board took a short break at 11:02 a.m. and convened to closed session.

Item #9 – Closed Session

9. a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
- 3 cases

- b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9
- 3 cases

- d. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
- 4 cases
SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY, et al., vs. CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
County of Tuolumne Superior Court
Case No. CV62094

SSJID vs. PG&E
Appeal from Judgment of Dismissal Pending:
In the Court of Appeal for the State of California, Third Appellate District

**MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 9, 2019
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Case No. C086319
Superior Court for San Joaquin County
Case No. STK-CV-UED-2016-0006638

PG&E vs. San Joaquin LAFCo; SSJID, Real Party in Interest
In the Court of Appeal for the State of California, Third Appellate District
Case No. C086008
Superior Court for San Joaquin County
Case No. STK-CV-UJR-2015-0001266

SSJID vs. Lakeview Ranch Partners
Superior Court for Stanislaus County
Case No. 2028441

The Board reconvened to open session at 12:15 p.m.

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1: There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

Item #10 – ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Kuil to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 p.m. The motion passed 4 to 0 by the following vote:

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

ATTEST:

Betty L. Garcia, Clerk of the Board