

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) met in person in regular session in the District Boardroom at 9:00 a.m., with public access provided via the online Zoom meeting platform. President Weststeyn called the meeting to order. Director Holbrook led the flag salute. Upon roll call the following members were noted present:

DIRECTORS: HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS WESTSTEYN
ABSENT: SPYKSMA

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

Public Comment – None

CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Checks in the amount of \$172,493.31; Accounts Payable Wires in the amount of \$405,966.67; and Payroll dated August 25, 2023 in the amount of \$892.14, August 25, 2023 in the amount of \$4,203.19, August 25, 2023 in the amount of \$305,062.38, August 25, 2023 in the amount of \$602.89, and September 8, 2023 in the amount of \$303,495.37.

Director Spyksma entered the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

B. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 22, 2023

Director Holbrook referenced page 5, Item #5, paragraph 2, and inquired on an update to the Changes to Cash and Investments, (Gains) Losses on property and equipment in the amount of -\$120,861.00. Ms. Sonya Williams, SSJID Finance and Administration Manager, responded that she will follow up and send clarification to the Board via email by the afternoon.

C. Consent to SSJID’s Entry of Property to Read and to Maintain Flow Meter, 206-040-06.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Roos to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES: HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

COMMUNICATIONS

Item #1 – Directors’ Reports

Director Roos stated that there were no updates to report.

Director Kamper stated that there were no updates to report.

Director Spyksma reported that he attended the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) Conference

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

on August 28-31, 2023 in Monterey, and opined that it was a very good event. He participated in a pre-conference workshop titled, “Special District Leadership Academy (SDLA) Module 1: Governance Foundations” which confirmed to him that SSJID is in a good position with its governance structure. Director Spyksma commented on the foundation of good governance being strategy, and encouraged the Directors to focus on such in their participation of the Strategic Plan Update.

Director Holbrook reported that he attended the CSDA Conference on August 28-31, 2023 in Monterey and commented on the social and networking opportunities available at such events. He stated that it’s nice to socialize with and/or meet “face to face” the individuals with whom we engage on a professional level.

Director Holbrook expressed his thanks to the Board and staff for the beautiful floral arrangement sent to him following the recent passing of his brother.

President Weststeyn reported that he participated in the SSJID Division 9 Tour, on August 24, hosted by the District for the Almond Board of California. He acknowledged Mr. Steve Brocchini, a local grower, who provided a detailed on-site explanation of the pressurized system and its benefits. President Weststeyn summarized that the participants seemed to be engaged and enjoy the tour, and he commended SSJID Public and Government Relations Manager Katie Patterson on her coordination of the event.

Item #2 – Various Reports

Mr. Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Manager, addressed the Board and deferred to Ms. Patterson to provide an update on upcoming events.

Ms. Patterson provided information and/or updates on the following upcoming events:

- United Way of San Joaquin County’s 13th Annual Wine Chocolate & Art event on September 14, from 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Great Wolf Lodge. The District’s sponsorship provides four (4) entry tickets. Directors interested in attending should contact Ms. Patterson.
- Second Harvest of the Greater Valley “Empty Bowls United” event on September 16. Directors interested in attending should contact Ms. Patterson.
- Escalon Chamber Wine Stroll on September 30. The District is a sponsor of the event. Directors interested in attending should contact Ms. Patterson.
- Manteca Pumpkin Fair on October 7 and 8. The District is sponsoring a booth at the event and volunteers are needed.
- Agape Villages Fairways Fore Foster Kids Golf Tournament on October 13. The District is sponsoring two (2) foursomes.
- Ripon’s 38th Annual Main Street Day on October 21. The District is sponsoring a booth at the event and volunteers are needed.
- Hope Ministries “Night of Hope” Annual Donor Appreciation Dinner on October 27. The District is a table sponsor. Directors interested in attending should contact Ms. Patterson.
- Various holiday parades. Details to be provided as the event dates draw near.
- SSJID Community Leaders Tour on September 14 for local, county and state officials and representatives. The agenda includes tours of Tulloch Reservoir, Goodwin Dam, the Canyon Tunnel, Woodward Reservoir, the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant (WTP), and Division 9.

Mr. Rietkerk referenced the Division 9 Tour hosted for the Almond Board of California on August 24, and acknowledged Ms. Patterson, Irrigation and Operations Manager Frank Avila, Engineering Department Manager Forrest Killingsworth, Water Resources Coordinator Brandon Nakagawa, and Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board Danielle Barney for their coordinated efforts of the successful event. He

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

expressed his gratitude and pride for the positive feedback received from the tour group regarding the SSJID team members. Pre-tour activities also included a presentation by Ms. DeeDee D’Adamo, Vice Chair of the California State Water Boards.

ACTION CALENDAR

Item #3 – Consider Approval of Machado Ranch – Unit #1 Development Project in Manteca, CA

Mr. Killingsworth addressed the Board regarding conditional approval of the Machado Ranch Unit #1 Development Project and provided descriptions of the project location; size; Phases 1 through 4; scope; and SSJID conveyances, infrastructure, and property interests to be affected by Machado Ranch and subsequent modifications to District facilities. He stated that for Unit #1 (Phase 1), existing District appurtenances and property interests would remain.

Mr. Killingsworth noted occurrences of seasonal flooding along Woodward Avenue due to the City of Manteca’s inadequate pumps/pump station, described the potential modifications, and explained that this improvement would not occur during Unit No 1 construction and its timing is unknown.

The Board inquired if the pump/pump station issue would be corrected by the upcoming winter season to which Mr. Tony De Melo, Project Engineer at Northstar Engineering, stated his intent to present improvement plans to the Board at the next board meeting. Mr. Steven Miller, Developer Representative of Signature Homes, added that the construction schedule would not commence until late spring/early summer of 2024. Mr. Killingsworth summarized that Machado Ranch intends to install a new detention basin and corresponding stormwater lift station which should trap stormwater runoff and help alleviate flooding occurrences.

Staff recommended the Board’s conditional approval of the Machado Ranch Unit #1 Development Project pending fulfillment of the items listed below, subject to compliance with the District’s standard requirements and satisfaction of District staff, including:

1. Staff signature of Improvement Plans
2. Encroachment Agreement/Temporary Construction Agreement
3. Developer’s Agreement
4. Irrigation Service Abandonment Agreement
5. New SSJID Lateral “We” Easement(s)
6. Review/Approval of Joint Trench Plans
7. Review/Approval of Unit No. 1 Final Map

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Roos and seconded by Director Spyksma to authorize conditional approval of the Machado Ranch Unit #1 Development Project in Manteca, CA pending fulfillment of the items listed above, and subject to compliance with the District’s standard requirements and satisfaction of District staff.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Item #4 – Consider Approval of Master Services Agreement for Routine and On-Call Emergency Pipeline Repair Services

Mr. Justin Ashworth, WTP Operations Supervisor, addressed the Board regarding approval of the proposal submitted by Preston Pipeline for a 3-year routine and pipeline repair contract. He provided detailed explanations of the WTP transmission line that conveys water from the plant to various turnout facilities and booster stations, the size variances, and the air relief valves (ARVs) along the transmission line.

Mr. Ashworth provided a brief history of past system failures, leaks, and/or infrastructure issues. He noted that any transmission line repairs were conducted in-house or contracted with an outside contractor, with one “emergency” type leak resolved by Preston Pipeline (PP). Mr. Ashworth stated that as a proactive measure to potential catastrophic pipeline repairs and ensure that the WTP has a contractor ready to respond to emergencies, staff sent a Request for Proposal (RFP) to multiple contractors, with three (3) proposals received.

Upon staff evaluation of the submitted proposals, PP offered the most competitive equipment rate structure, lowest markup percentage, and a labor rate structure in between the other two bidding companies. Mr. Ashworth added that PP had performed past transmission pipeline repairs; produced quality work; was responsive to staff communication; had a positive work history with the WTP; offered reasonable pricing; and was familiar with the District’s standards, staff and utilities.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the proposal from PP to establish a 3-year Master Services Agreement with an option to annually extend the contract for single additional years up to a maximum contract period of five (5) years. It was noted that PP would maintain a supply of District components to expedite emergency and/or needed repairs.

Board inquiries included the current condition of the WTP ARVs and the ability to perform internal transmission line inspections, to which SSJID Associate Civil Engineer Chad Parsons responded that the lines are protected but stations are routinely checked for degradation along the pipes.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Kamper to approve the proposal from Preston Pipelines to establish a 3-year Master Services Agreement with an option to annually extend the contract for single additional years up to a maximum contract period of five (5) years.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

Item #5 – Consider Approval of the Proposal from Advanced Industrial Service for the Water Treatment Plant Lime Silo Tank Recoating Project

Mr. Charles Galea, WTP Chief Plant Operator, distributed a quote from Bay Area Coating Consultants, Inc. (BACC) to oversee and provide inspection services for the Lime Silo Exterior Project.

Mr. Galea addressed the Board and provided detailed explanations of the lime silo structure, its size, its usage in the pretreatment process, and its current degraded condition. He stated that during a routine staff inspection, and a follow-up inspection by a National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE) certified coating inspector, it was determined that the silo had several failures in its coating and was in need of repair to maintain

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

its integrity.

Staff contacted four (4) industrial coating companies to perform the work of preparation and paint, with Advanced Industrial Services (AIS) being the sole company to submit a quote for the amount of \$123,900.00. It was noted that AIS was a reputable company producing quality work, and that the WTP had positive experiences working with AIS in the past.

Staff recommended that the Board approve the quotes from AIS to repair the exterior coating of the Lime Silo Tank, and BACC to oversee and inspect the project.

Board discussion included the previous recoating of the silo in 2005; the anticipated start of the project in a few weeks; the standard five (5) year warranty of the work to be performed; the optimal time of day to commence work on the project; and a spark test which will be conducted by AIS and overseen by BACC.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Spyksma and seconded by Director Roos to approve the quotes from Advanced Industrial Services to repair the exterior coating of the Lime Silo Tank, and Bay Area Coating Consultants, Inc. to provide inspection services for and oversee the project.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

Item #6 – Consider Approval of Budget Increase of \$25,000.00 for Professional Services by CV Strategies

Ms. Patterson addressed the Board and clarified that staff was not requesting Board approval of a budget increase of \$25,000.00 as stated in the agenda Item #6 title, but rather an adjustment for professional services by CV Strategies for a not-to-exceed amount of \$125,000.00.

Ms. Patterson stated that on December 7, 2022, the Board approved a revised rate and fee schedule with CV Strategies to provide ongoing public relations and communications services for the period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000.00. She requested to increase the not-to-exceed amount by \$25,000.00 to account for services related to proposed Proposition 218 rate support, and to accommodate for budgeted professional services that were not reflected in the original revised rate and fee schedule approved. Approval of the increase will ensure ongoing social media and advertising support, and the completion of the current video and photography project which includes six (6) public relations videos that will aid the District’s public relations strategy going into 2024.

Board discussion included the strategies of the current advertising campaigns, the effectiveness of public reach, the status of SSJID’s Retail Electric Project, and direct outreach to growers who are not on social media and/or view podcasts.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Spyksma and seconded by Director Holbrook to approve an increase of \$25,000.00 for professional services by CV Strategies for a not-to-exceed amount of \$125,000.00 for a period of January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

AYES: HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Item #7 – Consider Approval of Letter Agreement for Temporary Staff Services Provided by SSJID to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority

Mr. Nakagawa distributed a draft redline document titled, “Terms of Temporary Staff Service Provide by South San Joaquin Irrigation District to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority.”

Mr. Nakagawa addressed the Board regarding Board approval of a Letter Agreement for SSJID to provide temporary staff support services to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA). He explained the recent retiring of San Joaquin County (SJC) Water Resources Director Matt Zidar on August 25, and noted the voiced concerns of several Member Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) regarding upcoming deadlines and commitments the ESJGWA is required to fulfill.

Mr. Nakagawa stated that he offered to provide executive, administrative, and technical assistance to the ESJGWA on a temporary basis pending recruitment of Mr. Zidar’s successor. His immediate focus will be to direct SJC staff on tasks, and get on track to meet upcoming deadlines including the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Update by January 2025 per the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Mr. Nakagawa referenced the redline “Terms of Temporary Staff Service Provide by South San Joaquin Irrigation District to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority” and noted that the final review and revisions were by Neumiller & Beardslee, Special Counsel of the ESJGWA.

Ms. Mia Brown, SSJID General Counsel, stated that the redline document was acceptable with no changes suggested.

Staff recommended Board approval of a Letter Agreement with the ESJGWA for SSJID to provide temporary staff support services.

Board discussion included the anticipated time frame to which Ms. Brown referenced the draft redline document, Item #1, Support Services, and cited the language reading, “...period not to exceed six (6) months.” Mr. Nakagawa added that should an SJC Water Resources Director not be hired within the 6-month time frame, discussions will be revisited. He noted Item #5, Termination, regarding SSJID’s option to terminate “at any time and for any reason” the Letter Agreement or renegotiate the terms of service.

Director Roos commended Mr. Nakagawa on his willingness to “step up.”

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Spyksma to approve a Letter Agreement with the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority for SSJID to provide temporary staff support services.

The motion passed 5 to 0 by the following vote:

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

AYES: HOLBROOK KAMPER ROOS SYPKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES: NONE
ABSTAIN: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

Item #8 – Presentation of the 2022-2023 Winter Maintenance Season

Mr. Rietkerk addressed the Board and requested that the Presentation of the 2022-2023 Winter Maintenance Season be postponed due to the absence of Mr. Avila. The item will be presented at the next regular board meeting on September 26.

Item #9 – Consider Adoption of Resolution 23-22-W Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into the First Amendment to the Water Transfer Agreement By and Between Oakdale Irrigation District, SSJID, and the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California

Mr. Rietkerk addressed the Board and provided background of the long-term Water Transfer Agreement (Agreement) between SSJID, Oakdale Irrigation District (OID), and the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California (Chicken Ranch), approved by Board action on August 23, 2022.

The Agreement contains several conditions to be met prior to the diversion of transfer water including regulatory approvals to be obtained from both State and Federal agencies. The Chicken Ranch sought to garner such approvals by December 31, 2024.

Ms. Jeanne Zolezzi, Attorney for the Chicken Ranch Rancheria, recently sent a letter, dated August 15, 2023, requesting a two (2) year extension of time to garner the required approvals due to unforeseen issues facing the tribe and inability to meet their anticipated California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) schedule.

Staff recommended adoption of Resolution 23-22-W Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into the First Amendment to the Water Transfer Agreement By and Between OID, SSJID, and the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California. The amendment only changes the time frame by which the regulatory approvals must be obtained, and that all other provisions of the original agreement remain the same.

MOTION: A motion was made by Director Spyksma and seconded by Director Roos to adopt Resolution 23-22-W Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into the First Amendment to the Water Transfer Agreement By and Between Oakdale Irrigation District, SSJID, and the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California.

**SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 23-22-W**

**AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO ENTER INTO THE
FIRST AMENDMENT TO WATER TRANSFER AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN
OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT, SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND
THE CHICKEN RANCH RANCHERIA OF ME-WUK INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA**

WHEREAS, the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) and the South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID), collectively referred to as “Districts”, are California irrigation districts operating under and by virtue of Division 11 of the California Water Code; and

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WHEREAS, the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California, herein referred to as “Purchaser”, are a federally recognized Tribe, located within Tuolumne County; and

WHEREAS, Districts are the owners of certain senior water rights to the waters of the Stanislaus River, including pre-1914 appropriative water rights; and

WHEREAS, the Districts and Purchaser entered into a 25-year water transfer agreement with an option to extend for an additional 15-years (Agreement), with SSJID providing board approval of Resolution No. 22-25-W on August 17, 2022; and

WHEREAS, prior to the delivery of water, Districts and Purchaser must obtain all necessary regulatory approvals and/or permits including petitioning the State Water Resources Control Board and the preparation of documents supporting the required findings and approvals required by the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) and the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”); and

WHEREAS, the Agreement requires that regulatory approvals and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance be satisfied by December 31, 2024, or the agreement may be terminated by the Districts or Purchaser; and

WHEREAS, due to unforeseeable circumstances, the Purchaser has requested additional time to seek all regulatory approvals, including CEQA compliance, and is requesting a two year extension for this purpose.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this Board of Directors that:

1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct.
2. The General Manager is hereby authorized to enter into the First Amendment to the Agreement with Oakdale Irrigation District and the Purchaser.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of September 2023 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA WESTSTEYN
NOES:	KAMPER
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

Director Holbrook addressed Ms. Williams and inquired about her opinion of her first-time attendance at the CSDA Conference. Ms. Williams responded that it was a good conference and business contacts were made. She thanked Director Holbrook for the many professional introductions.

It was announced that all remaining items on the Closed Session agenda would be discussed. The Board took a brief recess at 10:15 a.m. and convened to Closed Session at 10:30 a.m.

Director Roos exited the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Item #10 – CLOSED SESSION

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Board returned to Open Session at 11:40 a.m.

**MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
REGULAR MEETING OF THE SSJID BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Item #11 – ANNOUNCEMENT OF REPORTABLE ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

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 #12 – ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

ATTEST:

Danielle Barney, Clerk of the Board