



**Reclamation District 1000
Board of Trustees Meeting**

1633 Garden Highway
Sacramento, CA 95833

**MAY 10, 2019
MEETING MINUTES**

The Reclamation District 1000 Board of Trustees met in regular session on this date at the District Office. Present were: Board Vice President Tom Barandas; Trustee Nick Avdis; Trustee David Christophel; Trustee Chris Burns; Trustee Fred Harris; General Manager Kevin King; District Counsel Jim Day; Administrative Services Manager Joleen Gutierrez; District Superintendent Don Caldwell; and Administrative Assistant Christina Forehand.

Absent: Board President Jeff Smith; Trustee Thom Gilbert

1. Preliminary

The meeting was called to order by Board Vice President, Tom Barandas. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Board was given the opportunity to disclose any potential conflicts of interest for items listed on the agenda. Trustee Avdis made known that he represents Greenbriar and would not participate in Greenbriar development discussion.

2. Presentations

Steelhead Creek – Urban Creek Restoration Grant Project – Presented by Dr. Roland Brady and Crystal Tobias. A proposal to do planning for Steelhead Creek (Natomas East Main Drain) in order to restore the creek as a nature preserve. Dr. Roland and Crystal Tobias would like RD1000 to co-sponsor or participate in a 2-year grant project “Urban Stream Restoration Program” to restore the watershed in urban areas. The expectation for the project is to stabilize the bottom of streams damaged by homeless campers where trash lines banks and the river. Dr. Brady reported the volume of debris collecting on the bottom of the channel is detrimental and creates a barrier for burrowing aquatic insects. The substrate water doesn’t have oxygen, therefore, plants, and animals can’t survive on the bottom of this channel. The proposal being submitted to DWR is planning only grant (no implementation) – it will include collaboration with other agencies and stakeholders to come up with a way to approach the stream from the Confluence to Sacramento River up to Silver Eagle Bridge. The plan will be shovel ready for habitat improvements in

Steelhead Creek. The goals of the Urban Stream Restoration Program is to protect/enhance/restore natural ecological values of the stream; to increase restore habitat and fish passage/survivability; remove solid waste from floodplain within channel; and to develop a long-term plan to reduce solid waste in the floodplain and channel; control bank erosion; control soil erosion along banks; remove invasive vegetation and replace with natural plants, and promote community involvement to maintain restoration. RD1000 will take some time to thoroughly consider Dr. Brady's proposal as District participation comes with a financial commitment of District resources.

3. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

4. Informational Items

4.1 – General Manager's Report: GM King provided a written summary in the May board packet, which discussed District activities since the April 2019 Board Meeting.

4.2 – Superintendent's Report: A written informational summary was provided to the Board in the April board packet.

4.3 – District Counsel's Report: District Counsel Jim Day provided a verbal report of his activities during April 2019.

5. Consent Calendar

Without discussion, all items on the Consent Calendar: 5.1 Approval of Minutes; 5.1 Treasurer's Report; 5.3 Expenditure Report; 5.4 Budget to Actual Report; 5.5 Authorization to Invest in Sacramento City Pool A; 5.6 Authorization to Execute Cost Share Agreement (with SAFCA for relocation of District's Pumping Plant No. 3; and 5.7 Authorization to Execute Cost Share Agreement, were moved for approval by Trustee Harris, seconded by Trustee Avdis, all in favor, motions carry.

6. Scheduled Items

GM King provided written summaries of items for discussion and public comment.

6.1 – Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget: Review and Discuss Draft Budget for fiscal year 2019/2020.

GM King introduced the new 2019-2020 budget format. Trustee Avdis asked if the budget included isolated funds for homeless encampment clean up and whether a procedure is in place to track staff time spent on these activities. GM King stated that

a weighted employee rate that captures all indirect costs should be developed. This will also be beneficial toward recouping costs the District incurs from time spent on developers. As for the budget, legal expenses, trustee compensation, and O/M will receive additional line item funds to cover increased costs related to homeless encampments and illegal dumping throughout the District. Further, GM King noted the expense for trash and debris removal has tripled in the past few years.

Trustee Burns asked if we are billing out developers. GM King stated that currently, only hourly rates are reimbursed and not a weighted rate. GM King has budgeted to hire a consulting firm to conduct a full financial plan as well as an indirect cost study and determine what billing rates should be for full cost recovery.

Trustee Barandas expressed concern over tasks that are not being completed due to staff time spent on homeless encampment activities and inquired about budgeting for temporary help. GM King explained that funds were not budgeted temporary help for the field activities. Thas aside, he will check back in with the Board as a mid-year review to see if adjustments need to be made.

GM King made known the 2019-2020 budget is unbalanced by \$500,000, and this will come out of Capital. After reviewing District operations, GM King finds it necessary to conduct some future planning and suggests taking an in-depth look at our CIP. This will be helpful in understanding the true lifecycle replacement so the District may proactive in timely budgeting and replacement of capital assets.

GM King has budgeted to increase contributions to CalPERS OPEB unfunded liability by \$3,000 this year and thereafter by 2k - 5k annually - on a 15-year amortization schedule. By paying down the District's unfunded liability, the District could potentially save \$350,000, if the market continues to perform well. He explained that the District is able to make additional payments because of employees retiring from the District at a higher OPEB cost. The extra cost would not have a financial impact because we have already adjusted to paying a higher amount for some time.

Trustee Burns asked about election budgeting as he did not feel the budgeted number adequately supports costs of an election ballot mailing. GM King will adjust as necessary.

A budget vote will take place during the June Board meeting.

6.2 – Approve Letter of Support And Participation as a Project Sponsor: Authorizing General Manager to Submit Letter of Support for Steelhead Creek Restoration Planning Grant and Participate as a Project Sponsor.

This item was covered during a project proposal presentation by Dr. Roland Brady and Crystal Tobias. It was determined more time is necessary to understand the District's ongoing commitment to this project fully. A new deadline to make a decision should be set four months out from the May board meeting date. No action was taken.

6.3 – Review and Authorize District Correspondence: Consider Authorizing the General Manager to Submit a Letter to the Appropriate Agencies Requesting Assistance with the Immediate Removal of Unauthorized Encampments on the District Levee System, which Impede the District's Ability to Perform its Public Safety Responsibilities to Monitor, Maintain, Rebuild, Construct, and Operate the Levee System.

Various agencies are asking the Board to submit a letter of request to enforcement agencies for assistance with the immediate removal of unauthorized homeless encampments from the levee system. There has been an increase in damage to the levee system from excavation by homeless campers and concealed holes covered up by tents and tarps. Staff is asking the Board to send a letter of request for immediate assistance because RD 1000 is unable to fulfill its mission of flood protection and levee maintenance until encampments are removed. Trustee Avdis was vocal of his support of sending a letter notifying law enforcement agencies (City/County/DWR/ Central Valley Flood Protection Board with a copy to SAFCA) for assistance so that RD 1000 can adequately maintain its levees. The Board discussed sending to local City Council, County Board of Supervisors Congresswoman Doris Matsui, and Homeless advocates. A comprehensive list of organizations and advocates in support will be developed by GM King. There was no public comment. A motion was made by Trustee Avdis to authorize sending a letter to enforcement agencies requesting assistance with immediate removal of unauthorized encampments along the levee system. Trustee Burns seconded, by unanimous vote, motion carries.

Draft letter (Item 6.3, Attachment No. 1) directed to various agencies requesting assistance with the removal of levee encroachments was included in the board packet.

6.4 – Discuss Development of District Policy: Development of District Policy to Address Unauthorized Encampments on District Levee System.

GM King asked the Board for direction concerning 10k for legal counsel and possibly an ad-hoc committee to develop District policies to address unauthorized

encampments and other levee encroachments on the District's levee system. He stated illegal camping is impacting the District's ability to complete daily activities. There is a safety issue, as the District's field crew is having to work around campers. Trustee Avdis requested that the District track all related expenses initiated from the problems we are having on the levee and drainage system related to homeless encampments. GM King reported that one fix has already cost the District \$3500 to repair. The Legal Committee, Operations Committee, and Urbanization Committees will work on developing a policy to address unauthorized encampments. The Board provided direction; no action is necessary. Counsel Jim Day requested that the letter include quoted provisions in the Martin vs. City of Boise regarding "cruel and unusual punishment," which does not apply to all properties in all situations.

7. Board of Trustees' Comments

7.1 – Board Activity Updates

7.1.1 RD 1000 Committee Meetings

Summaries of Finance and Executive Committee meetings were included in the board packet.

Trustee Barandas gave a verbal report of the April SAFCA meeting. He reported that SAFCA staff is formulating an Urban Tree Policy. This is in addition to mitigation issues. The policy would designate tree planting funds, and send funds to the City and County of Sacramento to plant trees through their established tree planting programs.

SAFCA staff continues to work through issues surrounding the Sacramento Weir Project. SAFCA expects to have a large item resolved by their June board meeting.

SAFCA is working on property acquisition for the new location of the Bryte Landfill, which has to do with the widening of the Sacramento Weir; Yolo County gained possession of the property and is transferring title to SAFCA. An agreement was made with the property owner to relinquish ownership. With property acquisition completed, they were able to put out the construction contract. There were five bidders and four Bids received were below engineer estimates. There will be a two week waiting period for possible protests, and then the contract will be awarded to the lowest bidder.

SAFCA continues to work with Indian United Auburn Indian community on reinterment sites in the Pocket are to be used if or when Native American burial sites need to be disturbed during the levee work.

The City has identified 80 encroachments that will need correction in the Pocket area in the 2020 construction year.

Trustee Barandas provided updates on the Natomas Levee project.

7.1.2 RD 1000 Committee Meetings No Meetings Since Last Board Meeting

8. Closed Session

8.1 – There were no Closed Session items.

9. Reconvene to Open Session

9.1 – There were no Closed Session items.

10. Meeting Adjourned