



**RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1000
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2020
MEETING MINUTES**

In light of COVID-19 and in Compliance with CA Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20, members of the Board of Trustees and members of the public participated in this meeting by teleconference. This meeting was recorded without objection. Present were: Board President Jeff Smith; Vice President Chris Burns; Trustee David Christophel; Trustee Elena Lee Reeder; Trustee Jag Bains (joined the meeting at 8:05 am); Trustee Thom Gilbert; Trustee Nick Avdis; General Manager Kevin King; Co-General Counsel Rebecca Smith; Co-General Counsel Scott Shapiro; Administrative Services Manager Joleen Gutierrez; Superintendent Don Caldwell; and Administrative Assistant Christina Forehand. District Engineering Consultant Scott Brown from Larsen Wurzel also attended the meeting.

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1. Call Meeting to Order

President Smith called the meeting to order.

1.2. Roll Call

Administrative Services Manager Gutierrez called the roll and established a quorum.

1.3. Approval of Agenda

MOVED/SECONDED: Trustee Christophel/Trustee Gilbert

AYES: Trustee Christophel, Trustee Bains, Trustee Lee Reeder, Trustee Smith, Trustee Avdis, Trustee Burns, Trustee Gilbert

NOES: None

ACTION: The September

1.4. Pledge of Allegiance

General Manager King led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.5. Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were identified.

2. PRESENTATIONS

2.1. No presentations were scheduled.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)

There were no public comments.

4. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4.1. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT: Update on activities since the August 2020 Board Meeting.

General Manager King provided the Board with a written General Manager's report and also orally reported on the items below:

Staff Schedules

General Manager King updated the Board ongoing modified staff schedules due to Covid-19 related requirements and recent advice from legal counsel. He made known the District will have a Board of Trustees Election with five nomination petitions received.

Committee Meetings

With increased attendance at Committee meetings by non-committee members, turning them into Special Board Meetings, GM King inquired whether the Board prefers to have all items brought before the Board instead of committee meetings. GM King also asked whether non-committee member 'observers' should be paid regular meeting compensation. After discussion and Trustee comments, it was the desire of the Board to keep holding committee meetings as is the current practice. GM King will review the existing Trustee Compensation Policy and, if necessary, return to the Board for consideration of an updated policy.

District Equipment

GM King stated iPads for Trustees would be ordered and distributed once received. Legal counsel will prepare a form for acceptance of District equipment.

4.2. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Update on activities since the August 2020 Board Meeting.

There were no questions or comments on the Superintendent's Report.

4.3. DISTRICT COUNSEL'S REPORT: Update on activities since the August 2020 Board Meeting.

Co-General Counsel Rebecca Smith provided a brief verbal update of her activities during August 2020.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

The Board considers all Consent Calendar items to be routine and will adopt them in one motion. There will be no discussion on these items before the Board votes on the motion, unless Trustees, staff or the public request specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar.

MOVED/SECONDED: Trustee Avdis/Trustee Lee Reeder

AYES: Trustee Christophel, Trustee Bains, Trustee Lee Reeder, Trustee Smith, Trustee Avdis, Trustee Burns, Trustee Gilbert

NOES: None

ACTION: A motion to approve Consent Calendar Items 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, and 5.5 is approved.

5.1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of Minutes from August 14, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

5.2. TREASURER'S REPORT: Approve Treasurer's Report for August 2020.

5.3. EXPENDITURE REPORT: Review and Accept Report for August 2020.

5.4. BUDGET TO ACTUAL REPORT: Review and Accept Report for August 2020.

5.5. INSURANCE RENEWAL: Review and Consider Authorizing General Manager to Execute Annual Insurance Renewal.

6. SCHEDULED ITEMS

6.1. FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021 BUDGET AMENDMENT: Review and Consider Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 – Operations Manager Position.

GM King stated there is a need to add a District Operations Manager Position. He explained several discussions over the past seven months took place to understand the position need, costs, and long-term implications associated with adding this position.

The Operations Manager will aid in succession planning, managing several projects from the Capital Improvement Program as the Board approves projects. Highlighted position responsibilities include: developing a field IIPP/Safety Manual, work on the Natomas Levee Improvement Projects, annual reporting to DWR and other agencies, O/M Budget development, project tracking and reporting, permitting, grant submittals, and System-Wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) Implementations and enforcement. The position will allow the District to offset costs currently paid to project management consultants.

Trustee Christophel believes this is an important step with consequences. He contemplates whether it makes more sense to contract out this work. He acknowledged the District has a full plate and resolves if the District is heading toward a proactive District instead of reactive, this is the right step.

Trustee Avdis stated that he does not take spending more money lightly. He acknowledges the level of service is higher, but he does not believe we have a succession plan in place that will serve the District. He states, over the long term, the District will save money, and that is in the best interest of our assessment payers.

Trustee Bains asked about the cost comparison spending and what the offsets are.

Trustee Burns commented he does not feel this position has been well thought out. He raised concern over the budget amendment for the Operations Manager position, as the District is already spending more money than it is taking in. He believes the Operations Manager position is only set up to succeed the general manager's position. He affirmed consultants could continue to cover the work. Trustee Burns made known there are many qualified people out of work right now. He would like to see someone hired based on experience and education, not a friend or family member per the District's Anti-Nepotism Policy. Trustee Burns would like to see the District hire a junior engineer. He wants to be sure the District advertises far and wide for the Operations Manager Position.

Trustee Smith asked GM King about the selection process for the Operations Manager Position. GM King sees the position advertised in BC Water Jobs and Cal Jobs; he would run the recruitment for 45-60 days, set up a selection panel, perform interviews, and then make a hiring decision.

MOVED/SECONDED: Trustee Christophel/Trustee Avdis

AYES: Trustee Christophel, Trustee Bains, Trustee Lee Reeder, Trustee Smith, Trustee Avdis, Trustee Gilbert

NOES: Trustee Burns

ACTION: A motion to approve the budget amendment and Operations Manager Position is approved.

Additional Comments

Trustee Avdis stated he would like to improve our relationship with the Natomas Mutual Water Company (NMWC) and increase meetings to a couple of times a year. Trustee Christophel made a similar request. He would like to see a preseason growers meeting. GM King will find some time to schedule a Fall meeting and begin working through any concerns.

Trustee Burns shared information that does not come up in the SAFCA's report. He stated there is \$131 million available for funding appropriations bill for the American River and Natomas Basin. Additionally, there is \$191 million available in competitive funding for flood control projects. Trustee Burns would like to see KSN prepare to request financing for Plant 8 and other District issues. He would like to see the District compete for federal funding instead of focusing on a tax increase during these economic times. He stated the District should get on the SACOG Infrastructure list and include its CIP projects. When federal stimulus funding is available, it will be helpful to be on the Sacramento region list.

Trustee Reeder expressed her appreciation for Trustee Burns sharing this information.

6.2. REVIEW AND CONSIDER ADOPTION OF OFFICIAL PAY RATE SCHEDULE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020/2021: Review and Consider Adoption of Resolution No. 2020-09-01 Approving Official Pay Rate Schedule for Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

GM King made known that with the approval of the Operations Manager Position, CalPERS will require an Official Pay Rate Schedule that includes the new position. The schedule is available for review in the September 2020 Board Packet.

There were no public comments.

MOTION: Bains/Gilbert

AYES: Christophel, Bains, Lee Reeder, Smith, Avdis, Gilbert

NOES: Burns

ACTION: A motion to approve the Official Pay Rate Schedule for Fiscal Year 2020/2021 is approved.

7. BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S COMMENTS/REPORTS

7.1. BOARD ACTIVITY UPDATES:

7.1.1. RD 1000 Committee Meetings Since Last Bd Meeting

- Personnel Committee (Christophel, Avdis, & Burns) August 31, 2020
- Executive Committee Meeting (Smith & Burns) September 2, 2020

8. CLOSED SESSION

There were no closed session items

9. ADJOURN

The meeting is adjourned.