



YOLO COUNTY

FLOOD CONTROL &
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 7:00 PM

YCFC&WCD Offices
34274 State Highway 16
Woodland, CA 95695

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (District) was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Barth convened the meeting. The following people were in attendance:

District Board

Tom Barth
Jim Mayer
Shane Tucker
Erik Vink

District Staff

Kristin Sicke, General Manager
Andrew Ramos, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

James Barrett
Duane Chamberlain
Fritz Durst

Chamberlain requested Sicke project photographs that he provided during the meeting. He voiced significant concerns related to the end of the Sturm Canal containing such a large amount of algae during the irrigation season. Chamberlain had UC Cooperative Extension Specialist Dan Putman visit his field and was told that the overgrowth of algae consumes the oxygen in the water and results in a decrease in dissolved oxygen levels in the water, which can lead to poor crop health.

Ramos provided a confidential opinion recommending denial of the claim.

Director Barth made a motion to not act on the claim, and Director Tucker seconded the motion.

Director Vink inquired whether not acting was like denying the claim and whether the Directors simply needed to refrain from voting to not act on the claim. Ramos said that not acting was essentially the same thing as denying the claim, but that a formal response is typically not provided to the claimant. Given the desire to be responsive to Chamberlain, the District would still communicate the status of the claim, and the Board of Directors did not need to take formal action at this time.

Chair Mayer suggested that District staff provide a report for the Board of the plans to resolve the algae issue and ensure that aquatic pesticide applications are monitored and appropriately comply with the District's NPDES permit, and do not result in consequences to the growers.

Barth suggested this could be an excellent item to discuss with the Farmers Council in February.

6. CONSIDERATION: January 2023 Storm Events Emergency Canal Repairs

General Manager Sicke reviewed the events at the March 7, 2023 Board meeting, where the Board adopted Resolution No. 23.05 Declaring Emergency Conditions from the December 2022 and January 2023 Storm Events. Sicke reported that during the month of December, District staff continued to work with FEMA to provide documentation for reimbursement of funding expenses related to storm damages. All canal system improvements were completed by the end of November 2023, and the outstanding project is the erosion along Cache Creek near the West Adams Canal heading.

Sicke recommended that the Board continue to declare emergency conditions related to the January 2023 Storm Events and Emergency Canal Repairs projects.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Legal Counsel Ramos had nothing to report.

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Sicke provided reports on the following:

- a) Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions
- b) Financial Report Summary – Highlights from the December 31, 2023 Financial Statements Report were reviewed along with the preliminary projection of the end of FY 2023/2024 Budget.
- c) Capital Improvement Program – An update on the planning activities related to capital projects was provided.
- d) General Activities – A list of outreach activities and projects (in-house and coordinated with other agencies) was reviewed.
- e) The following upcoming events were announced:
 1. Yolo County Board of Supervisors: Well Permit Discussion (January 9)
 2. Westside Sacramento IRWM Coordination Committee Meeting (January 10)
 3. YSGA: Meeting with Supervisor Provenza (January 11)
 4. YSGA EC Meeting (January 12)
 5. YCFB Annual Meeting: 2024 Agriculturalist Tony Turkovich (January 18)
 6. YSGA Board of Directors Meeting (January 22)
 7. Yolo County Farm Bureau's Irrigated Lands Program (January 22-24)
 8. California Irrigation Institute 2024 Conference (February 26-27)
 9. ACWA Spring 2024 Conference (May 7-9)
 10. GRA/ACWA SGMA Implementation Workshop (June 5-6)

12. GENERAL DISCUSSION

There was no general discussion.

13. CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills

24.04 M/S/C approved the following claims for payment – Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Checks # 63033-63043.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Mayer, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: Director Kimball

Abstain: None

14. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session conference with legal counsel for existing administrative proceeding and anticipated litigation/significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9,