



Y O L O C O U N T Y

FLOOD CONTROL &  
WATER CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, August 2, 2022, 7:00 PM**

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

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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, August 2, 2022 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Vink convened the meeting. The following people were in attendance:

District Board

Erik Vink, Chair  
Mary Kimball, Vice Chair  
Tom Barth  
Jim Mayer  
Shane Tucker

District Staff

Kristin Sicke, General Manager  
Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

Jim Barrett  
Scott Brown, LWA  
Tim Busch, City of Woodland  
Nick Edsall  
Adam Riley, LWA  
Bruce Rominger  
Lee Smith

**1. CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes**

22.27 M/S/C approved the minutes of the July 5, 2022 regular Board meeting.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Mayer, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**2. OPEN FORUM**

There were no comments.

**3. CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda**

There were no changes made to the agenda.

**4. PRESENTATION: Update on City of Woodland's Aquifer Storage and Recovery Program**

City of Woodland's Principal Utilities Civil Engineer, Tim Busch, provided a presentation on lessons learned in implementing the City's Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Program. Busch reported on the significant impact of the imposition of Term 91 curtailments and of the 18% water allocation from the Central Valley Project (CVP) this year.

The City of Woodland has three wells in its ASR Program allowing the City to inject treated Sacramento River water into the ground for temporary storage and recovery during peak demands. The City's ASR Program has decreased the City's dependence on groundwater and increased the City's resiliency to drought periods. The City has found the surface water to be of higher quality than the groundwater in the area, and they are able to track the ASR water in the aquifer by sampling water quality constituents in nearby monitoring wells. The City is currently in the process of planning for additional monitoring wells so that they have a better understanding of the lateral flow characteristics.

Director Mayer asked whether Conaway's contribution of the CVP water right to the Woodland Davis Clean Water Agency meant that Conaway was using less water or simply switching their supply to groundwater. Busch replied that he believed it was the latter.

Director Tucker inquired what distance the monitoring wells were from the ASR wells. Busch reported that they are currently about 300 feet away, and that the City may install a closer well (approximately 100 feet away) soon.

Director Kimball asked whether the City was interested in adding more ASR wells and Busch said yes, at least one more is currently being planned.

Director Barth asked whether they've qualified the energy cost of the ASR system. Busch stated that they are currently investigating that question. They know the useful life of the well is about 30 to 50 years due to contamination/clogging/biological fouling that can occur and that there is expected lost capacity over time; however, with appropriate maintenance and backflushing it can last longer.

**5. CONSIDERATION: Adopt Resolution 22.02 Requesting Collection of Charges on Tax Roll**

General Manager Sicke reported that the District places the following Regular Special Assessments on the Yolo County (County) property tax roll annually:

1. East Adams Area Assessment District (Tax Area Code 54620)
2. Hungry Hollow Area Assessment District (Tax Area Code 54621)
3. 2012 Annexation Special Assessment District (Tax Area Code 54623)

As part of the Special Assessments' process, the County is requesting the Board adopt a formal resolution that acknowledges the collection of these charges on the County's property tax roll for 2022/2023.

District staff recommend the Board adopt Resolution 22.02 Requesting Collection of Charges on Tax Roll.

22.28 **M/S/C** adopted Resolution 22.02 Requesting Collection of Charges on Tax Roll.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Mayer, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**6. PRESENTATION: Receive Update from Finance Committee and Authorize Chair to Appoint Ad Hoc Outreach Committee**

General Manager Sicke provided an update on the July 20, 2022 Finance Committee meeting with Larsen, Wurzel & Associates (LWA), which was held to review the draft Technical Memorandum (TM) for investigating an alternative funding mechanism to augment and diversify the District's current funding structure. She referenced the attachment included in the August 2, 2022 Board package. Sicke introduced LWA's Adam Riley and Scott Brown to provide a presentation on the draft TM and to review the possible opportunities for generating new revenues for the District.

Riley reviewed the current problem; the District's current rate structure is limiting in three main ways: 1) water sales volatility; 2) deficient capital investment reserves (deferred maintenance); and 3) lack of groundwater revenue stream for in-lieu and recharge benefits. The draft TM estimates

the agricultural water revenue gap and suggests the need for a drought contingency allotment (fund) to maintain fiscal stability during limited water supply years. The draft TM recommends the District proceed with a three-pronged process: 1) increase the current agricultural water rate to ensure sustainability in the future, 2) while simultaneously proceeding with a fixed charge (water availability charge) and lowering the agricultural water rate accordingly if the fixed charge is approved, and 3) initiating the process to consider a groundwater-related charge in the future. Riley reviewed the draft schedule for proceeding with the Phase 2 efforts of initiating the three-pronged process, which would require an updated proposal from LWA to come before the Board for approval.

Director Tucker would like to see the District incorporate or factor in an incentive to use surface water within the revenue structure.

Director Barth commented that the YSGA's charges should be distinct from the District's groundwater charges since the YSGA JPA is project-based and the YSGA can impose regulatory fees under Proposition 26.

Director Mayer requested the District's public report be separate from LWA's TM since it would be used as an outreach tool.

Chair Vink appointed Directors Tom Barth and Shane Tucker to the ad hoc outreach committee to facilitate LWA's Phase 2 efforts with customer and stakeholder input.

Lee Smith commented that the District should be cautiously aware of this not being a good time to impose an increased fee on farmers as Irrigated Lands fees are planned to increase and the YSGA is planning to impose SGMA-related fees in the near future.

## **7. DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Director Mayer reported on participating in NCWA's Board of Directors meeting, and Groundwater Management Task Force meeting where DWR reviewed upcoming funding for groundwater sustainability initiatives (potentially \$254M).

Directors Kimball and Mayer reported on participating in the District's Capay Dam Tour with Congressman Thompson.

Directors Barth and Vink reported on participating in the Finance Committee meeting.

Director Tucker had nothing to report.

## **8. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Legal Counsel Bezerra briefly reported on the status of [AB 2201 – Groundwater Extraction Permit](#) and [SB 1205 – Water Rights: Appropriations](#).

## **9. 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 July 31, 2022 Financial Statements Report were reviewed, and the actual FY 2022/2023 Budget was compared to the projected FY 2022/2023 Budget.
- c) Capital Improvement Program – An update on the planning activities related to capital projects was provided.
- d) YSGA Update – An update on Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency's *2022 Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan* implementation activities was provided.
- e) General Activities – A list of outreach activities and projects (in-house and coordinated with other agencies) was reviewed.
- f) The following upcoming events were announced:
  1. YSGA: Working Group Meetings (August 3 and 31)
  2. YSGA: Coordination Meeting with North American Subbasin (August 4)
  3. Lower Cache Creek Reserve Unit Management Plan (August 5)
  4. NCWA: North State Drinking Water Solutions Network Meeting (August 5)
  5. YSGA: Ad Hoc Committee Meeting to Reconsider Voting and Dues (and WRA Merger to YSGA) (August 8)
  6. NCWA Coordination Meeting (August 9)
  7. Woodland Chamber Water Committee Meeting (August 10)
  8. YSGA: Ad Hoc Drought Contingency Planning Committee (August 10)
  9. Yolo County Financial Oversight Committee Meeting (August 11)
  10. Meeting with Paradise Valley Ranch Property Owner (August 11)
  11. NCWA: VA Updates, Coordination (August 15)
  12. Coordination Meeting with CAO Pinedo (August 18)
  13. Nitrate Management Zone Planning for Yolo County (August 18)
  14. WRA TC Ad Hoc Drought Task Force (August 18)
  15. CSDA Annual Leadership Conference (August 22-25)
  16. Yolo Land Trust's A Day in the Country: River Garden Farms (September 25)

## **10. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Shane Tucker asked whether there was an annual report on the District's conveyance losses to provide a scientific analysis or justification for the average canal system loss estimate of 25%. General Manager Sicke reported that there is not a formal report that further breaks down the water-

budget-closure estimated as 25% average losses. There is uncertainty in how much of these losses are attributable to evaporation, groundwater-dependent ecosystems, water theft, or other potential losses.

**CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills**

22.29 M/S/C approved the following claims for payment – Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Checks # 61428-61437.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Mayer, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

**11. 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, subsections (d)(1) and (d)(2) – State Water Resources Control Board Bay-Delta Plan update proceeding.

*Closed Session Report:* Chair Vink reported that the Directors, General Manager Sicke, and Legal Counsel Bezerra participated in the closed session item and that there was nothing to report.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

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Erik Vink, Chair

ATTEST:

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Kristin Sicke, Secretary