

FLOOD CONTROL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, March 5, 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, March 5, 2024 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Vice Chair Tucker convened the meeting. The following people were in attendance:

District Board

Shane Tucker Tom Barth Mary Kimball Erik Vink

District Staff

Kristin Sicke, General Manager Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

James Barrett
Duane Chamberlain
Wendy Rash
Lee Smith
Kim Villa

1. **CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes**

24.09 M/S/C approved the minutes of the February 6, 2024 Regular Board meeting.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

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. 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.

24.10 M/S/C continued the Emergency Declaration from damages incurred during the January 2023 Storm Events.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

Abstain: None

5. PRESENTATION: USDA NRCS Groundwater Recharge Pilot Program

General Manager Sicke introduced Wendy Rash, a State Water Quality Specialist at Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) who provided a presentation on the Groundwater Recharge Pilot Program and the current work of recommending adoption of groundwater recharge practices for the USDA-NRCS National Headquarters.

Rash provided an overview of the USDA-NRCS Groundwater Recharge Pilot Program that is currently piloting the success of groundwater recharge basins and on-farm recharge with the Madera, Fresno, Merced, Tulare, and Kern County water districts and landowners. NRCS has new authority under the 2018 Farm Bill to work with water management entities. Applicants work with NRCS conservationists to develop a conservation plan including recharge practices and any needed supporting practices (physical infrastructure and land shaping). NRCS utilizes UCD's SAGBI to evaluate site suitability interpreting soil survey data based on recharge suitability along with LandIQ's groundwater recharge suitability index. NRCS reviews the nutrient management plans

for fields participating and a risk assessment is completed with the pesticide use reports. NRCS funds the construction of the recharge basins and any appurtenant infrastructure and relies on water agencies to facilitate the water right process or use an existing water right. Contracts with NRCS take approximately one year to execute and Rash reported that there may be a streamlined process available via the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding.

Vice Chair Tucker thanked Rash for her time in presenting to the Board.

6. PRESENTATION: Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) Update

General Manager Sicke provided an update on the YSGA's draft well permitting review procedures for a 2-tiered process in evaluating whether a hydrogeology report is necessary in the Focus Areas as part of complying with the Governor's Executive Orders (N-7-22 and N-3-23) for well permitting.

7. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Directors Barth and Tucker reported on participating in the District's Farmers' Council meeting. Barth also reported on participating in the District's Infrastructure Committee meeting and the YSGA Board of Directors meeting. Director Tucker suggested the District should investigate opportunities to obtain some of the NRCS funding for installing surface water delivery infrastructure to provide an in-lieu benefit to the aquifer. Director Vink reported on participating in the Voluntary Agreement Committee meeting with Chair Mayer on February 29, which would be discussed in more detail during the closed session item of the agenda.

8. 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 February 29, 2024 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. NCWA Annual Meeting (March 8)
 - 2. Rolling Acres Meeting (March 13)
 - 3. YSGA Board of Directors Meeting (March 18)
 - 4. Yolo County Board of Supervisors: Well Permit Discussion (April 9)
 - 5. ACWA Spring 2024 Conference (May 7-9)
 - 6. GRA/ACWA SGMA Implementation Workshop (June 5-6)

9. GENERAL DISCUSSION

There was no general discussion.

10. **CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills**

24.11 M/S/C approved the following claims for payment – Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Checks # 63288-63299.

Ayes: Directors Barth, Kimball, Tucker, and Vink

Noes: None

Absent: Director Mayer

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: Vice Chair Tucker 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.

Shane Tucker, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Kristin Sicke, Secretary

March 5, 2024 Board Meeting Minute