



Y O L O C O U N T Y
FLOOD CONTROL &
WATER CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 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 p.m. on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at its regular place of business, 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland, California. Chair Tucker convened the meeting and welcomed the newly appointed Region 1 Director, Lee Smith, to the Board. The following people were in attendance:

District Board

Shane Tucker, Chair
Jim Mayer
Mary Kimball
Tom Barth
Lee Smith

District Staff

Kristin Sicke, General Manager
Erik Cadaret, Assistant General Manager
Anthony Lopez, Facilities Manager
Ryan Bezerra, Legal Counsel

Members of the Public

Duane Chamberlain

1. CONSIDERATION: Approval of Minutes

M/S/C approved the minutes of the February 4, 2025 Regular Board meeting and February 10, 2025 Special meeting.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

2. OPEN FORUM

None.

3. CONSIDERATION: Adding Items to the Posted Agenda

There were no changes made to the agenda.

4. REPORT: Appointment of District Representatives to Committees and Various Groups

Chair Tucker reported that each year the Board's representation to various groups and committees is appointed by the District's Chair. The proposed 2025 appointments were reviewed, and Tucker approved the proposed appointments for 2025.

5. CONSIDERATION: Adoption of Resolution No. 25.03 Concurring in Nomination of Brent Hastey and Melody McDonald to the Executive Committee of ACWA JPIA

Director Barth shared details on the proposed resolution to support the nomination of Brenty Hastey and Melody McDonald to the Executive Committee of ACWA JPIA.

M/S/C approved Adoption of Resolution No 25.03 Concurring in Nomination of Brent Hastey and Melody McDonald to the Executive Committee of ACWA JPIA

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

6. CONSIDERATION: Adoption of Resolution No. 25.04 Accepting DWR's CalSIP Award and Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into an Agreement with DWR

General Manager Sicke shared details on the genesis of the CalSIP funding that allows for improving stream gage monitoring within California. The District received an award for \$118,000 to install two stream gauges on Cache Creek, and Sicke shared a map of the proposed locations relative to current stream gauges. Eligible reimbursements include expenses incurred through March 2027, and the grant requires one year of successful operation. District staff are currently working with USGS to evaluate whether they can assist with installing and operating the gages for the next two years; however, given the uncertainty with federal funding, USGS may not be available to complete the work. District staff will also reach out to qualified consultants that could complete the work at the same standard of USGS. Sicke noted that the County has offered to fund operations of the gages for three years after grant funding is no longer available.

Chamberlain asked if there is a way for monitoring flow at the end of the canals. Kristin stated yes, we do monitor most canal spills with our SCADA system, which ditchtenders can access in STORM while recalibrating canal diversions and deliveries.

Director Lee asked for clarification on the logistics of accepting this grant award considering the uncertainty of USGS being able to do the work with federal changes. Sicke stated that we can decline the funding if USGS, or equivalent consultant, is not available to install the stream gauges.

M/S/C approved Adoption of Resolution No. 25.04 Accepting DWR's CalSIP Award and Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into an Agreement with DWR

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

7. CONSIDERATION: Emergency Repairs at Indian Valley Reservoir Spillway

General Manager Sicke and Facilities Supervisor Lopez presented on the emergency repairs at the Indian Valley Spillway. Sicke shared details on the discussions, inspections, and spillway releases after the repair. Lopez shared pictures from the spillway repair and how it performed with releases. After releases were completed, Lopez found evidence of more delamination from an old repair and new delamination spots from recent releases at other spillway construction joints. Lopez shared the next steps to make repairs to these areas on the spillway, of which 18 were identified as being delaminated.

Lopez reported the desire to complete all spillway repairs in July/August of this year pending FERC approval. Sicke reported on the need to change District's protocol during the 2025 irrigation season to use Indian Valley Reservoir as primary irrigation supply for May and June to lower the reservoir elevation and eliminate spills through the spillway gates to accommodate safe access to the spillway for repairs in July. Sicke reiterated the urgency of completing these repairs before Water Year 2026, and the need for the Board to consider declaration of an emergency to allow for preparing for repairs in July.

Chair Tucker shared thanks to Sicke, Lopez, and staff for all their hard work addressing the February emergency repair quickly. Chair Tucker shared his perspective on the actions that transpired that led to confusion about who decides the amount and timing of flood releases between the parties (District, USACE, DSOD, FERC) and the risk involved in making these decisions. Chair Tucker noted that the Board may need to consider developing a process or protocol to help staff assess risk when making flood release at Indian Valley Reservoir.

Assistant General Manager Cadaret asked Bezerra to clarify the regulatory authority that FERC has to regulate the District with and without generating hydropower. Bezerra suggested the District consult with a subject matter attorney to explore the District's options if there is a desire to no longer generate hydropower at the facility. Chair Tucker asked Bezerra what the risks are if we

take this action, and Bezerra stated there is some risk, but it's low risk.

Director Mayer suggested that District staff reach out to NCWA and consider obtaining water bond funding to help pay for dam-safety related repairs.

Since the District needs to repair areas on Indian Valley Dam's spillway that present a significant risk of delamination as soon as possible, there is a need to contract for, and implement, the necessary repairs to the spillway's concrete more quickly than can be done through standard public contract bidding. Contracting for the repairs without that bidding therefore is authorized by Public Contract Code sections 21203 and 22050. Sicke reported that the District will solicit three bids so that repairs are done in the most cost-effective way possible.

M/S/C declared an emergency for completing repairs to delaminated concrete or concrete at risk of delaminating on the Indian Valley Reservoir spillway.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

8. PRESENTATION: Indian Valley Reservoir: FERC Part12D Comprehensive Assessment

Facilities Supervisor Lopez shared more details on the FERC Part12D Comprehensive Assessment that covered the main dam, saddle dam, spillway/settling basin, low-level outlet, and powerhouse. Lopez explained the results of the FERC Part12D Comprehensive Assessment and the planned actions to lower our risk. Lopez explained the process for selecting the Potential Failure Modes (PFM) at Indian Valley Dam, and he reviewed the risk reduction opportunities for one PFM as an example: Backward Erosion Piping.

Director Mayer asked about the seepage component of the dam. Lopez shared the seepage measuring locations and where the planned action would take place.

Director Lee asked about the cost of the planned actions and the instrumentation. Lopez described the planned action cost related to regulatory oversight and nuances of instrumentation and limitations.

Director Kimball asked Lopez to clarify whether recommendations listed in the Comprehensive Assessment are actually requirements for ensuring safe dam operation. Lopez stated that the "recommendations" in the report are really a requirement.

Director Mayer pointed out that the assessment was completed by highly competent engineers who reviewed PFMs that the District will need to prioritize addressing in the near future.

Director Kimball asked about the FERC meeting in April. Lopez shared what's anticipated to occur from that meeting.

Director Lee requested to review the Indian Valley hydropower generation revenues at the next Infrastructure Committee meeting.

9. PRESENTATION: YSGA Update

General Manager Sicke and Assistant General Manager Cadaret shared updates on YSGA administration and GSP implementation progress through the SGMA Implementation Grant. The following was presented:

- Upcoming meetings: YSGA Executive Committee Meeting (March 11), YSGA Board meeting (March 17), and Yolo County Board of Supervisors Hearing regarding appeal to an agricultural well permit (April 8)
- To-date approximately \$1.5M of SGMA Implementation Grant funds used
- MBK Engineers is refining the water availability analysis for the District's long-term permit application for winter recharge. District staff anticipate submitting a long-term application in May 2025. Winter water diversions under the temporary permit occurred in January and February in the amount of approximately 4,400 acre-feet. Diversions will not be able to continue because of necessary repairs in the District's canal system. The District is working with landowners to prepare 2026 on-farm recharge opportunities.
- YSGA staff collaborated with the USDA to conduct a geophysical study using tTEM along the Hungry Hollow Canal. Data collected suggests there are multiple recharge opportunities to optimize recharge along the Hungry Hollow Canal and expand recharge potential in specific areas adjacent to the canal.
- YSGA staff worked with a landowner adjacent to China Slough to pilot on-farm recharge during February rainfall and runoff events, and staff coordinated monitoring activities to effectively monitor and report results of recharge activities. YSGA staff are diligently working on the next steps to make further progress on the project.

10. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chair Tucker attended the Lake County Long-Term Water Supply Committee meeting with Director Barth to negotiate a new water supply agreement. Director Mayer attended NCWA meetings and the County's Rolling Acres town hall meeting. Director Barth attended the YSGA Executive Committee meeting. Director Kimball had no updates to report. Director Smith attended the YSGA's Yolo-Zamora Project Landowner meetings.

11. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Sicke provided reports on the following:

- a) Operations, Maintenance, and Water Conditions: Sicke provided an overview of current

water conditions as of March 4, 2025:

1. Clear Lake is currently at 7.65 feet Rumsey, and Cache Creek Dam is releasing flood flows in the amount of 410 cfs.
 2. Indian Valley Reservoir is currently at 263,500 AF storage and above the USACE's maximum allowable flood storage curve. The District is currently releasing 650 cfs and will continue releasing through the hydropower turbines until the storage in Indian Valley is below the flood storage curve level.
 3. Northern Sierra precipitation is currently tracking above average at this time of year.
 4. Sicke provided updates on landslides downstream of IVR.
 5. Sicke reviewed groundwater level conditions for February 2025.
- b) Financial Report Summary – Reviewed preliminary finances through February 2025.
 - c) Capital Improvement Program – Provided updates on the planning and construction activities related to capital projects, and storm related repairs needed to be addressed at the Walnut Siphon, and Buffone's Bridge.
 - 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:
 - YSGA: Roosevelt Ranch Tour (March 5)
 - ACWA State Legislative Committee Meeting (March 7)
 - NCWA Annual Meeting (March 7)
 - Yolo County Drought Task Force Meeting (March 10)
 - NCWA Groundwater management Task Force Meeting (March 10)
 - YSGA Executive Committee Meeting (March 11)
 - CII Board Meeting (March 11)
 - Westside Sacramento IRWM Coordination Committee Meeting (March 12)
 - ACWA Water Management and Groundwater Committees' Meetings (March 13)
 - DWR/Yolo County Coordination Meeting Voluntary Agreements (March 13)
 - YSGA Board of Directors Meeting (March 17)
 - District Farmers' Council Meeting (March 19)

12. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Kimball asked if there will be a Strategic Plan Committee meeting soon. Sicke stated yes.

Mayer suggested we should have the District's Farmers' Council review the Board meeting time and report back whether there is a better time for farmers to participate in Board meetings. Sicke stated that would be added to the Farmers' Council meeting agenda.

Tucker asked about the redundancy knowledge for operating Cache Creek Dam and Indian Valley Reservoir facilities. Sicke reported that the District's Lake County Operations and Maintenance Worker, Marco Palomino, has worked closely with Lopez this year to become trained on all

operational aspects of flood releases at Indian Valley Reservoir, and is already proficient at operating the gates at Cache Creek Dam. Tucker also noted that it would be helpful to review the IVR hydropower expenses and revenues in the next Infrastructure Committee meeting.

13. CONSIDERATION: Payment of Bills

M/S/C approved the following claims for payment – Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Checks # 64478-64494.

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

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

14. CLOSED SESSION: Long-Term Water Supply Agreements

Closed session conference with real property negotiators pursuant to Government Code § 54956.8

Property: Long-Term Water Supply Agreements under District's Clear Lake Water Right

Agency negotiators: Tom Barth, Shane Tucker, Kristin Sicke

Negotiating parties: Lake County Sanitation District, Calpine, NCPA

Under negotiation: Price and terms of agreement

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

15. CLOSED SESSION: Bay-Delta

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 Tucker reported that the Directors, General Manager Sicke, Assistant General Manager Cadaret, and Legal Counsel Bezerra participated in the closed session item and that there was nothing to report.

16. ADJOURNMENT

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



Shane Tucker, Chair

ATTEST:


Kristin Sicke, Secretary