

MINUTES

Oakdale, California
June 18, 2002

The Board of Directors of the Oakdale Irrigation District invited all to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and then met in Regular Session at the hour of 9:00 a.m. Upon roll call, there were present:

Directors: Jack Alpers
 Louis Brichetto
 Frank Clark
 Tony Taro
 Steve Webb

Staff Present: Steve Knell, General Manager
 Mike Evans, Watermaster
 Bob Nielsen, Supervisor of Field Operations
 Wayne Truhett, Supervisor of Facilities and Right-of-Way
 Kathy Cook, Chief Financial Officer

Director Alpers introduced Oakdale Irrigation District's new general counsel, Michael Ijams, Esquire of Curtis & Arata.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Charles Morisoli stated he felt it was a waste of time and frivolous to be looking at soil samples and our time would be better utilized getting more water to the farmers.

Mr. Henry Burtschi questioned the amount of water that was delivered through VAMP and had other questions regarding the delivery of water. General Manager Steve Knell and Director Webb responded to his questions.

Mr. Burtschi commented that the OID Newsletter was well done and wanted to know the process for distribution. General Manager Steve Knell responded to his questions.

ADDITION OR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS

Director Alpers asked that Item #7 be removed from the consent calendar and be moved to the action calendar. Director Clark asked that Item #5 be removed from the consent calendar and be moved to the action calendar.

**ACTION TO TAKE VARIOUS ITEMS
OUT OF SEQUENCE**

Watermaster Mike Evans asked that Item #10 be heard first on the action calendar as the parties involved were waiting in the audience to be heard.

**COMMUNICATIONS
ITEM NO. 1
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Steve Knell asked Mike Evans, Watermaster, to provide a water update of usage within the District. Mr. Evans provided this information.

On the issue of going to a ten (10) day rotation – Some of the agricultural community is concerned that OID begin a ten (10) day rotation. Those that have limited soil conditions are asking for 10 days, but the majority of the district is not asking for a 10-day rotation. We will try and balance the farmer's needs and the productivity of the land while managing these resources throughout the water season. However, we recognize that certain crops need some special attention.

The Board decided that a ten (10) day rotation should begin. Town water deliveries are to start this weekend and continue every weekend thereafter.

- ✍️ **Water Measurement Issues** – This Board approved an outside company to calibrate the weirs that are at Goodwin and on the south and north main. There has been an accounting problem regarding those measurements. The weirs have not been calibrated in ten years, and we need to recognize that the calibration of a weir changes over time. As moss grows in the channel the channel gets smaller and velocities change as well as the configuration and the hydraulics. Our measuring site is also a very poor measuring site; however, it is the only site available. On a scale of 1-5 for measuring sites with 1 being the best, we are at a 4. It will take about three years to fine tune this so that perhaps at the end of next year we will have a better measurement. I will be asking the Board to continue this service on an annual basis. An important issue that will be brought up at the meeting on Thursday is the calibration of the weir for Stockton East Water District. To our knowledge it has not been calibrated. The number that comes from Stockton East Water gets reported to Tri-Dam and Tri-Dam reports to us.
 - Calculations from Tri-Dam: Due to the calibration process, Tri-Dam reported that we were getting more water than we received. Mike Evans continually ordered more water in order to make deliveries, and we were ordering higher than we had ever done in the past. We didn't short anyone during that period, and the accounting problem has now been resolved and we have credited back this water. We don't have

our SCADA tied in to Tri-Dam yet, so a call is made daily to get an accurate reading.

- ✍✍ Status – Support Services Manager – We have completed the job description and this position will be posted in-house for the next five days. We will review any applications received, and if we don't find anyone in-house we will advertise outside.

ITEM NO. 1b **DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS**

Director Clark:

- ✍✍ June 4 meeting: It was discussed that if the weir at the regulating reservoir doesn't work as designed that we go back to the designer. General Manager Steve Knell responded that we sent a letter to Bill Kull asking him to coordinate this with Mead & Hunt. Director Clark also commented that this is something to advise our new counsel Mr. Michael Ijams.
- ✍✍ June 4 meeting: An item was to be included regarding individuals who wanted to put in gates but could not afford the upfront cost. General Manager Steve Knell advised that it is on this Agenda as Item #10.
- ✍✍ Status of our legal position as a possible third-party to lawsuits involving wastewater discharges from ConAgra that enter our drainage system. Our legal counsel should review that contract and see if there are discharges from ConAgra that get into our drainage ditch. What is our legal position as a third-party being sued or being held accountable by the Regional Water Quality Board? General Manager Steve Knell stated that this would be an Agenda item in the near future.
- ✍✍ Vendors wanting to bid on our petroleum product purchases – Are we moving ahead or has any action been taken on that?

Director Taro

- ✍✍ Do we have a storage tank that we fuel the big equipment with? Bob Nielsen responded to his question.

Mr. John Brichetto commented regarding the ConAgra statement of Director Clark and stated that we should also be going after every dairyman as another source of pollution.

Director Alpers

- ✍✍ Employee Insurance – The prior board discussed duplicate coverage insurance. Perhaps we can come up with some kind of system whereby if they give up part of their insurance we can split the savings, decreasing our costs and increasing their income.
- ✍✍ General Manager Steve Knell and I met with the Attorney General Bill Lockyear and spoke with him about the need for a scientific approach to some of the environmental requirements that these resource agencies demand from us.

**CONSENT CALENDAR
ITEM NO. 2,3, 4, 6, 8**

**ITEM NO. 2
APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 4, 2002**

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the regular meeting of June 4, 2002.

**ITEM NO. 3
APPROVE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S
STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

A motion was made Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Irrigation District's Statement of Obligations.

**ITEM NO. 4
APPROVE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT'S
STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Improvement District's Statement of Obligations.

**ITEM NO. 6
APPROVE CLOSING CAPITAL PROJECT WORK ORDERS
#0162 GATE REPLACEMENT-MC KEON PROPERTY
#1063 GATE REPLACEMENT – FORBES PROPERTY
#1065 GATE REPLACEMENT – KNUDSEN PROPERTY**

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve closing capital project work orders #1062, #1063 and #1065.

ITEM NO. 8
APPROVE RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN EASEMENT FOR
THE FORMER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 14
DEEP WELL PUMP FROM STEVE AND EARLENE ANDRADE

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve resolution accepting an easement for the former Improvement District No. 14 deep-well pump from Steve and Earlene Andrade.

ITEM NO. 5
REVIEW AND APPROVE MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT
AND INTERNAL FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE
MONTH ENDING MAY 31, 2002

Directors Clark and Brichetto had questions that were answered by General Manager Steve Knell and Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook. A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report and Internal Financial Reports for the month ending May 31, 2002.

ITEM NO. 7
CONSIDER APPROVING A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AN
EASEMENT FOR THE ADAMS CREEK DRAIN FROM
BRUCE AND RHONDA BOESE

Director Alpers questioned the status of fencing requirements. Bob Nielsen responded to his questions. A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve a resolution accepting an easement for the Adams Creek Drain from Bruce and Rhonda Boese.

ITEM NO. 10
CONSIDER THE INSTALLATION OF A
TURNOUT GATE ON THE AGUIRRE PROPERTY
LOCATED AT 9600 SAWYER AVENUE

A discussion was held and presentation of the facts made by Mrs. Aguirre. A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Alpers to have the District install a turnout gate and voted as follows:

Ayes: Alpers and Webb
Noes: Brichetto, Clark and Taro

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Clark to allow the landowner to pay for the turnout and pay OID over a 5-year period of time.

The motion was tabled until the next Board of Director's meeting for determination by legal counsel on loans to landowners by OID for improvements. The Finance Department to advise the Board of the interest rate that would be applicable to such loan.

ITEM NO. 9
APPOINT ALTERNATE COMMISSIONER TO THE
SAN JOAQUIN ADVISORY WATER COMMISSION

No action taken as Director Alpers had previously been substituted as the Alternate Commissioner. A resignation letter signed by Director Webb will be forwarded to the San Joaquin Advisory Water Commission.

ITEM NO. 11
CONSIDER THE AGREEMENT FOR SPECIAL SERVICES
FROM THE LAW FIRM OF LIEBERT, CASSIDY AND WHITMORE

A motion was made by Director Alpers, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to terminate our agreement with Liebert & Cassidy and advise them of such termination in writing within the 30-day period of time.

ITEM NO. 12
CONSIDER DIRECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR WATER COUNSEL
BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Taro to direct the development of a request for proposal for water counsel by the General Manager and voted as follows:

Ayes: Bricchetto, Clark and Taro
Noes: Alpers and Webb

ITEM NO. 13
CONSIDER DIRECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR A WATER RESOURCES
PLAN BY THE GENERAL MANAGER

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Bricchetto and unanimously supported to the direct the development of a request for proposal for a water resources plan by the General Manager.

ITEM NO. 14
REVIEW AND CONSIDER REQUEST FROM
STANLEY PAREDES FOR CANCELLATION
OF WATER CHARGES

This item was tabled until the Board of Director's meeting scheduled for July 2, 2002. Staff is to contact Mr. Paredes and ask him to appear before the Board at that time so that a decision can be made.

ITEM NO. 15
APPROVE AND CONSIDER DIRECTOR'S ABSENCE
RELATING TO COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Webb to approve Director Bricchetto's absence relating to compensation and benefits and voted as follows:

Ayes: Alpers, Clark, Taro and Webb
Abstain: Bricchetto

DISCUSSION ITEM
ITEM NO. 16
DISCUSSION OF THE MERITS OF INSTALLING
ADDITIONAL DEEP-WELL PUMPS WITHIN THE
OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT SERVICE AREAS

Director Alpers commented that we would be wise to put in a few deep wells in preparation for reserves for those drought years and before any other permits are required to do these installations.

Mr. Dennis Edge commented that we should look at the possibility of using private wells in existence versus installation of new pumps.

Director Brichetto agreed that we should look at this. However, when there are a lot of deep wells out there that are going to be used it will add to the drain problem. I think our money is going to be a lot better spent by recovering more drain water with a minimal cost on existing weirs and pump structures. We really should get going on these, as I don't think we should wait for these big studies. There are a lot of simple fixes around and we would look a lot better by recovering water rather than adding more water to the problem.

Director Taro stated that it is a good idea, but there is a down side to it. If there is not much water in the system there isn't going to be much water in the drain ditches to recover. That was the biggest problem in the past in this district. I agree with Director Brichetto to a degree, but you have to be able to add water to the system and to take water out of the drain when needed.

Director Webb commented that the district needs to look at all its water resources not just surface or tail water. We need to look at all the resources, and groundwater is one of our resources.

Supervisor of Field Operations Bob Nielsen stated that a typical 12-inch pipe at a deep well on the north side provides 6.0 to 7.5 cfs; on the south side we have two (2) 150 hp that put out around 10 cfs. In a drought year the additional pumps would be a significant help.

It is important that the Board make a decision because we are in the process of making our capital budget for next year and this is an item that needs to be considered.

ITEM NO. 17
REPORT TO THE BOARD ON
INVESTIGATION OF ISSUES AT
THE KEELEY PIPELINE

General Manager Steve Knell provided a report to the board relative to the background of the Keeley Pipeline. The report provided agricultural acreage development of the Keeley Pipeline for the years 1935 through 2002, a map detailing construction of pipeline development, estimated cost and conclusion. It was Steve Knell's recommendation that:

1. Contract the redesign work to district engineer
2. Resolve the issue of type of service to design for
3. Construction of the pipeline will increase operating head on the system. Customers need to be warned that damage resulting from such a change will be their responsibility to minimize
4. OID construct a pressure box at Kaufman Road enabling OID to end its service at an OID facility, not a private facility

This Keeley Pipeline project will be included on next year's capital improvement budget.

Mr. Larry Foard commented regarding the Integrated Water Management Plan that had been completed for OID in the past. Director Alpers responded to his comments.

CLOSED SESSION

ITEM NO. 13

At the hour of 2:30 P.M. the Board convened into Closed Session to discuss the following:

- A. **GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957.6** – Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation – Oakdale Irrigation advs. Gonzalez

A discussion was held and the limits of Oakdale Irrigation District's liability were discussed. No action taken.

At the hour of 3:00 P.M. the Board adjourned to the next **regular Board of Directors meeting** to be held on **Tuesday, July 2, 2002 at 9:00 A.M. at the Oakdale Irrigation District Office, 1205 East "F" Street, Oakdale, Ca.**

The next regular **Joint Board Meeting** for the **Tri-Dam Project** is scheduled for **July 18, 2002 at 9:00 A.M. in Manteca.**

Attest:

Steve Knell
Secretary