

MINUTES

Oakdale, California
February 6, 2024

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

Directors: Tom Orvis, President
Brad DeBoer, Vice President
Linda Santos
Herman Doornenbal
Ed Tobias

Staff Present: Scot A. Moody, General Manager/Secretary
Sharon Cisneros, Chief Financial Officer
Eric Thorburn, District Engineer/Water Operations Manager
Joe Kosakiewicz, Construction and Maintenance Manager

Also Present: Fred Silva, General Counsel
Tim O’Laughlin, Water Counsel (Via phone)

ACTION TO TAKE VARIOUS ITEMS OUT OF SEQUENCE

There were no items taken out of sequence.

At the hour of 9:04 a.m., the Board welcomed public comment regarding the Consent Calendar or anything not on the Action Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Public Comment closed at 9:04 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM NOS. 1-6

- 1 Approve the **Board of Directors Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2024**
- 2 Approve **Oakdale Irrigation District’s** Statement of Obligations
- 3 Approve the Treasurer’s Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2023
- 4 Approve Discharge Agreement on the Riverbank Lateral (APN: 063-028-024 – Sconza Candy Company)
- 5 Approve Storm Drainage Agreement on the Langworth Pipeline (APN: 062-010-026 – Gordon Braker Plumbing Contractor, Inc.)

6 Approve Storm Drainage Agreement on the Reed Pond (APN: 006-012-081 – River Oak Grace Church)

A motion was made by Director Deboer, and seconded by Director Doornenbal, to approve the above-noted Consent Calendar Items #1 through 6:

Director Orvis	Yes
Director DeBoer	Yes
Director Santos	Yes
Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	Yes

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Observing no online members of the Public or members of the Public in the audience, the Board proceeded to Action Calendar accordingly.

ACTION CALENDAR
ITEM NOS. 7 and 8

Item No. 7

Review and take possible action to Adopt a Resolution to Consider a One-Year Forbearance to Allow Unused Water Purchased in 2023 to be Made Available During the 2024 Irrigation Season

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, and seconded by Director Deboer, to: Adopt a Resolution to Consider a One-Year Forbearance to Allow Unused Water Purchased in 2023 to be Made Available During the 2024 Irrigation Season:

At the hour of 9:17 a.m., the Board welcomed public comment on Item 7.

Director Tobias mentioned that he sees this as a growing pain that OID did not quite see as being negotiated. Director Tobias mentioned that he would like to see staff look at some of the comments and see if there are avenues that we can take for next year and come up with a fair way that would represent the District as well as the landowners and to make things work better for both OID and the landowners. He feels 2023 is a good deal and that there will always be bumps in the road for the District and landowners.

Julia Stornetta with Stanislaus East Mutual Water Company addressed the board regarding the price increase and expressed her view regarding problems with capacity on the OID side. Ms. Stornetta requested that the Board take these capacity constraints into consideration on the OID side and also requested that the Board consider carrying forward.

Landowner, Louis Brichetto, Jr. addressed the Board and explained that he has two properties in the 10-year. His biggest issue is that he would like to see this continue past the 2024 year and that OID would continue to be lenient. Mr. Brichetto also stated there are issues with the lateral, delivery and with PG&E. He is on the Paulsell Lateral and there are capacity constraints that the District is trying to remedy and he shares those constraints with other landowners.

Landowner, Louis Brichetto expressed that everybody likes the idea of taking care of the Basin, but if the bar keeps getting raised higher and higher, it's not doing it. There needs to be flexibility every year, whether it's a constraint on OID side. Recharge the basin. That's the main goal. As an in-

district guy and out of district guy, I'm sitting on a teeter-totter. If it's all about the Basin, maybe there needs to be a balancing act there.

Director Deboer expressed his views that Item No. 7 is a great compromise. This is the first year getting through the process and this item seems fair to both landowners and the District.

Public Comment closed at 9:29 a.m. on Item 7 and the Board Meeting continued.

Director Santos mentioned the constraints of supply for building out the projects is something that is out of the landowner's control. She expressed her view that giving consideration is necessary, as the same thing could happen for OID projects.

Attorney Silva pointed out that the Resolution on the Agenda that is being considered deals with the 2023 season and that all of the comments thus far deal with what could happen in the future and so forth and are speculation about what could happen.

Director Orvis suggested having the Water Committee do a 10-year program review and also directed the General Manager and staff to be prepared to do a year-end review. We can't go on making adjustments forever.

Director Tobias expressed that what we passed in 2023 seemed like a good deal but then there is always going to be bumps in the road for the District and landowners. He believes there is an opportunity to iron things out and make this thing work better.

Director Orvis	Yes
Director DeBoer	Yes
Director Santos	Yes
Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	Yes

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

Item No. 8

Review and take possible action to Approve the Revised Employee 2024 Unrepresented Salary and Wage Schedules Effective January 14, 2024

A motion was made by Director Deboer, and seconded by Director Santos, to approve the Revised Employee 2024 Unrepresented Salary and Wage Schedules Effective January 14, 2024, as amended:

Director Tobias mentioned that Item No. 8 was looked over in Committee and it was brought back to the Board for final approval.

Chief Financial Officer Cisneros informed the Board that the last position noted on the Board Agenda Report was inadvertently listed as "Water **Utilities** Supervisor" instead of "Water **Operations** Supervisor," yet the correct title was listed on the attached salary schedule.

At the hour of 9:39 a.m., the Board welcomed public comment.

Public Comment closed at 9:40 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

Director Orvis	Yes
Director DeBoer	Yes
Director Santos	Yes
Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	Yes

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

COMMUNICATIONS
ITEM NOS. 9-12

Item No. 9

Directors' Comments/Suggestions

Director Deboer:

Director Deboer mentioned that he thinks we need to get the Farm Bureau to print some signs, "Please hold the wind back." He likes the rain and we need the snow up in the mountains, but he wanted to acknowledge and appreciate that some OID staff stepped up when there was a complaint regarding flooding on Claribel Road, as well as a constituent's assistance, and helped resolve the issue and hopefully Claribel Road is safer to drive.

He prays that the prices go up and the bloom is good.

Director Santos:

Director Santos commented that she likes the wind and the rain. Director Santos also expressed her appreciation that there was audience participation for today's board meeting. She also mentioned that she is glad that she is not out working in the field.

Prior to continuing Director's Comments, Landowner Louis Brichetto requested to add something to his public comments. Mr. Brichetto mentioned that there was lots of discussion at the Water Committee Meeting and therefore most landowners did not feel like they had to repeat themselves by attending today's meeting. In the future he will encourage the landowners to attend and express their views.

Director Doornenbal:

No comments were made by Director Doornenbal.

Director Tobias:

Director Tobias expressed his appreciation for the input and wants to see a nice product. He appreciates the work staff has done.

Director Tobias mentioned that he hopes to have a good season ahead of us and he loves the almond trees when they start getting flowers and is looking forward to a good bloom.

Director Orvis:

Director Orvis mentioned that a lot of cleanup and maintenance is getting done by Eric and Joe's crews due to the recent storms.

Director Orvis expressed his appreciation to Mr. Brichetto and stated he has been told that there was good conversation between staff, landowners and the Board members that were present.

Director Orvis also mentioned that he, Mr. Brichetto and Director Tobias attended the Water Committee of Stanislaus County and SGMA is going to get interesting.

Item No. 10
Committee Reports

Director Tobias stated that he attended the Water Engineering Committee meeting where they discussed the rehab and redrilling of two ag wells and one domestic well. Good discussion. Eric and Joe B. did a good job presenting regarding Improvement District 1.

Director Tobias mentioned that yesterday the Tri-Dam Advisory Committee met regarding property leasing at Tulloch and the ongoing weed issues.

Director Tobias mentioned he will be assisting Summer regarding the aquatic weed issue.

GM Moody added that he and Eric requested to meet with the Water Committee in order to have a sounding board regarding what the engineer was adding to the design of the wells.

Item No. 11
General Manager's report on the status of OID activities

GM Moody thanked staff for their clarifications and corrections.

GM Moody mentioned that there were a couple of SGMA meetings held over the last several weeks.

GM Moody attended Oakdale's State of the City last week. He was impressed with the food and mentioned that OID received an honorable mention due to their partnership with the City and using surface water in the parks.

Eric and GM Moody met with OID's consultants who are working on our water budget.

GM Moody informed the Board that he is not putting the start of water season into the Agenda at this stage.

GM Moody mentioned that the Greger facility work is going out to bid tomorrow. He is guessing that there will be a one-year time frame from when they break ground to completion and hoping that the bids come in lower than expected.

At 9:55 a.m., President Orvis read the items to be discussed in closed session and opened for public comment on these items. President Orvis read the items to be discussed in closed session and also stated the next Board meeting for both OID and Tri-Dam and opened for public comment on these items.

Item No. 12
Water Counsel Report

Water Counsel expressed that his report would be addressed in Closed Session.

At the hour of 9:59 a.m., the Board took a recess and reconvened to closed session at 10:15 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION
ITEM NO. 13 and 14

13 Government Code §54956.9(d)(2) – Potential Exposure to Litigation

14 Government Code §54957(b)(1) – Personnel Evaluation

At the hour of 11:42 a.m. the Board reconvened to Open Session.

Coming out of Closed Session, President Orvis stated there were no reportable actions.

OTHER ACTION

At the hour of 11:43 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

The next Board Meeting of the **Oakdale Irrigation District Board of Directors** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.** Details can be obtained by calling (209) 847-0341.

The next Joint Board Meeting of the South San Joaquin and Oakdale Irrigation Districts serving the Tri-Dam Project and Tri-Dam Authority and other joint business matters is scheduled for **Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.** at the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, 11011 East Highway 120, Manteca, California.



Thomas D. Orvis, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Scot A. Moody
General Manager/Secretary