

MINUTES

Oakdale, California
April 5, 2022

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

Staff Present: Steve Knell, General Manager/Secretary
Sharon Cisneros, Chief Financial Officer
Eric Thorburn, Water Operations Manager/District Engineer
Kim Bukhari, Human Resources Administrator

Also Present: Fred Silva, General Counsel

**ADDITION OR DELETION OF
AGENDA ITEMS**

General Manager, Steve Knell requested consent item number 6 be pulled and brought back at a later date

**FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS
ITEM NO. 1**

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION FOR ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT (OID) PROCLAIMING A LOCAL EMERGENCY, RATIFYING THE PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY BY EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 ISSUED ON MARCH 4, 2020, AND EXECUTIVE ORDER N-08-21 ON JUNE 11, 2021, WHICH AUTHORIZES REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 3, 2022 THROUGH MAY 3, 2022 PURSUANT TO BROWN ACT PROVISIONS

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal and seconded by Director Orvis to adopt resolution of the Board of Directors of the Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) proclaiming a local emergency, ratifying the proclamation of a state of emergency by executive order N-29-20 issued on March 4, 2020, and executive order N-08-21 on June 11, 2021, which authorizes remote teleconference meetings of the legislative bodies of Oakdale Irrigation District for the period April 3, 2022 through May 3, 2022 pursuant to Brown Act Provisions, and was voted by the following roll call vote:

Director Tobias	No
Director Doornenbal	Yes
Director Orvis	Yes
Director Santos	No
Director DeBoer	Yes

The motion passed by a 3-2 vote

CONSENT ITEMS
ITEM NOS. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7

ITEM NO. 2

APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2022, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2022, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 8, 2022, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 14, 2022, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 21, 2022 AND RESOLUTION NOS. 2022-03, 2022-04, 2022-05 AND 2022-06

A motion was made by Director Tobias, and seconded by Director Santos and was unanimously supported, to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 28, 2022, the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Meeting of March 1, 2022, the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 8, 2022, the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 14, 2022, the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Special Meeting of March 21, 2022 and Resolution Nos. 2022-03, 2022-04, 2022-05 and 2022-06

ITEM NO. 3

APPROVE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS

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

ITEM NO. 5

APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE TWO MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2022

A motion was made by Director Tobias, and seconded by Director Santos and was unanimously supported, to approve the Treasurer's report and financial statements for the two months ending February 28, 2022.

ITEM NO. 7

APPROVE CONTINUATION OF THE REORGANIZED BOARD AGENDA AND FOLLOW BEST GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

A motion was made by Director Tobias, and seconded by Director Santos and was unanimously supported, to approve continuation of the reorganized Board agenda and follow best governance practices.

ACTION CALENDAR
ITEMS NOS. 8 - 14

ITEM NO. 8

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2022 AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR IRRIGATION OF LANDS OUTSIDE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENTS

A motion was made by Director Santos, and seconded by Director Tobias, to adopt a resolution approving the 2022 agreement establishing terms and conditions for irrigation of lands outside Oakdale Irrigation District boundaries and authorize the General Manager to execute the agreements:

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

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM NO. 9

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION FINDING THE 2022 AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR IRRIGATION OF LANDS OUTSIDE THE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOUNDARY CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT UNDER THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, and seconded by Director Santos, to approve a resolution finding the 2022 agreement establishing terms and conditions for irrigation of lands outside the Oakdale Irrigation District boundary categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):

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

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM NO. 10

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE A WATER TRANSFER AGREEMENT BY AND AMONG THE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT, SOUTH SAN JOAQUIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT AND THE CHICKEN RANCH RANCHERIA OF THE ME-WUK INDIANS OF CALIFORNIA

A motion was made by Director Santos, and seconded by Director DeBoer, to approve a water transfer agreement by and among the Oakdale Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Irrigation District and the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of the Me-Wuk Indians of California:

Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	Yes

Director Orvis	Yes
Director Santos	Yes
Director DeBoer	Yes

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM NO. 11

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE A WHITE PAPER ON THE AREAS OF FUTURE COMMITMENTS OF OID WATER RESOURCES POST IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BAY-DELTA WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN

A motion was made by Director DeBoer, and seconded by Director Tobias, to direct Staff to prepare a white paper on the areas of future commitments of OID water resources post implementation of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan:

Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	Yes
Director Orvis	Yes
Director Santos	No
Director DeBoer	Yes

The motion passed by a 4-1 vote.

ITEM NO. 12

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE THE DRAFT FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021

A motion was made by Director Tobias, and seconded by Director Santos, to approve the draft financial statements for the twelve months ending December 31, 2021:

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

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM NO. 13

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE NEW GENERAL MANAGER

A motion was made by Director Orvis, and seconded by Director Santos, to approve employment agreement for the new General Manager:

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

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

ITEM NO. 14

REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE RISKS AND BENEFITS TO REOPEN OID TO PUBLIC MEETINGS OR TO CONTINUE WITH THE CURRENT COVID PROTOCOLS THAT ARE IN PLACE UNTIL SEPTEMBER OF THIS YEAR

A motion was made by Director DeBoer, and seconded by Director Tobias, to request Staff to come back to the May 17th meeting with a specific protocol of how the contingencies will be implemented:

Director Tobias	Yes
Director Doornenbal	No
Director Orvis	No
Director Santos	No
Director DeBoer	Yes

The motion failed by a 2-3 vote.

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, and seconded by Director DeBoer, to approve the Board Meetings be reopened to the public with the protocol elements included in the report, and the ability for Board and Staff to adjust as needed:

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

The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

DISCUSSION

ITEM NO. 15

ITEM NO. 15

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ON THE DISTRICT'S SURFACE WATER DIVERSIONS AND DEEP WELL PRODUCTION

Water Operations Manager/District Engineer, Eric Thorburn discussed the District's surface water diversions and deep well production.

COMMUNICATIONS

ITEM NO.16

A. SUMMARY OF DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Director Tobias

Director Tobias thanked Chief Financial Officer, Sharon Cisneros, Water Operations Manager/District Engineer, Eric Thorburn, Human Resources Administrator, Kim Bukhari and all District staff for a job well done.

Director Doornenbal

Director Doornenbal thanked staff for making the Director's jobs easier.

Director Santos

Director Santos congratulated Tyler Helm for his accreditation. She mentioned the letter from the landowner included in the GM report, stating it is nice to know that the employees that are the face of the District are appreciated. Director Santos mentioned the transition from our current General Manager, Steve Knell to the District's new General Manager should be a smooth transition, as Steve Knell has everything well prepared. Director Santos closed by stating that she believes the District is in a good position to face the challenges coming from the State of California, and she looks forward to a collaboration and cooperative future with employees, constituents and neighboring Districts.

Director DeBoer

Director DeBoer thanked staff for helping interview candidates, and is looking forward to the transition. Director DeBoer expressed how the District fights hard for farmers to keep the costs down for irrigation water, and that the District is not looking to get every nickel out of growers like other bureaucracy's. He expanded that the District is focused on controlling costs and keeping those costs down for the farmers, although the District does have to still be solvent. He closed by stating the District will be coming into some issues and we will need to prepare, and he believes the White Paper Plan will help with those.

Director Orvis

Director Orvis thanked staff, the group that helped guide the Director's through the hiring process for the General Manager, and specifically to Gary Phillips from Bob Murray and Associates. He extended his thanks to Steve Knell, General Manager who brought everyone to the District. He reminded everyone about the 108th annual meeting honoring Wayne Zipser's retirement from the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**Finance Committee**

Director DeBoer stated the Finance committee met on March 1, 2022 and listened to the Investors presentation prior to the regular meeting.

Public Relations/Outreach Committee

Director Tobias commented that two high school students were awarded scholarships.

C. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

General Manager, Steve Knell, discussed the information that was provided in the Board Packet.

D. WATER COUNCIL REPORT

There was no Water Council report.

At the hour of 11:12 a.m. the Board welcomed public comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT
ITEM NO. 17

There was one public comment from Robert Frobose.

There being no further Public Comment; Public Comment closed at 11:14 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

At 11:14 a.m., President Orvis read the items to be discussed in Closed Session and opened for Public Comment on these items.

There was no public comment.

At the hour of 11:15 a.m. Public Comment closed and the Board reconvened to Closed Session.

CLOSED SESSION
ITEM NO. 18:

A. Government Code §54957 – Public Employment: General Manager

B. Government Code §54956.8 – Conference Real Property Negotiator

Negotiating Parties:	South San Joaquin Irrigation District, Tuolumne River Agencies, Stockton East Water District, Federal and State Contractors
Property:	Water
Agency Negotiators:	General Manager and Water Counsel
Under Negotiations:	Price and Terms

C. Government Code §54956.9(d)(1) – Existing Litigation

SJTA, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board
Judicial Council Coordination Proceeding 5013

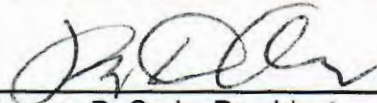
At the hour of 12:33 p.m. the Board reconvened to Open Session.

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

OTHER ACTION
ITEM NO. 19

At the hour of 12:34 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next Board Meeting of the **Oakdale Irrigation District Board of Directors** is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 17, 2022 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 Projects and Tri-Dam Authority and other joint business matters is scheduled for **Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, 11011 East Highway 120, Manteca, CA.



Thomas D. Orvis, President
Board of Directors

Attest:



Steve Knell, P.E.
General Manager/Secretary

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