

## **MINUTES**

Oakdale, California  
April 7, 2015

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: Steve Webb, President  
Herman Doornenbal, Vice President  
Frank Clark  
Al Bairos, Jr.

Staff Present: Steve Knell, P.E., General Manager  
Jason Jones, Support Services Manager  
Eric Thorburn, P.E., Water Operations Manager  
Kathy Cook, Chief Financial Officer

### **ADDITION OR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no additions or deletions of Agenda Items.

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

There were no items taken out of sequence.

At the hour of 9:01 a.m. the Board welcomed public comment.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM NO. 1**

Elaine St. John who resides in Copperopolis was present and stated that they are very concerned about the fish flow releases in New Melones. They have circulated a petition to stop the fish flow releases and have obtained over 500 signatures in support of the petition.

There being no further Public Comment; Public Comment closed at 9:02 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ITEM NO. 2**

General Manager Steve Knell discussed the Action Plan for the 2015 Irrigation Season.

#### **2015 Water Status:**

The San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index had recorded on March 31<sup>st</sup> a season to date precipitation of 13.7 inches.

The lowest precipitation recorded historically, season to date was 14.8 inches (1924) followed by 15.4 inches (1977) and 20.4 inches (2014).

For OID to have gone 3 years into this drought experiencing only limited reductions in water availability is a testament to the benefits of the \$50 million in water conservation investments (2001-2011) OID has made to its water delivery system. OID's average annual water use has dropped 15% over that 10 year period. Last year, OID's water use, with additional drought conservation measures implemented, reduced water uses another 11% (252TAF to 225TAF) from its 2011 benchmark.

This year's challenge will be even greater as the Stanislaus basin has yielded an unprecedented limited supply of water.

This year's inflow to New Melones will be 250-280 TAF (estimated DWR numbers). Using the 250 TAF number, under the districts 1988 Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation, formula water available to the two districts would be 365 TAF or 183 TAF to each district. Under the 1988 Agreement, when total inflows are less than 450K into New Melones, the districts can draw upon their conservation account water. The amount of that draw cannot exceed 225 TAF. OID's conservation account in New Melones holds about 71 TAF. Depleting that account 42 TAF gets OID to an allocation of 225 TAF for water year 2015, leaving 29 TAF remaining in the conservation account.

That remaining water would be available next year if inflows to New Melones are less than 450 TAF.

#### **Not Enough Water to Go Around:**

Recognizing the many needs and uses of water in the basin, and the fact that there may not be enough water to meet all those needs this year, OID and SSJID entered into a discussion with the federal agencies to discuss the 2015 water year. The federal agencies included the Bureau of Reclamation, who operated New Melones Dam and the National Marine Fisheries Service, who have legal authority over the implementation of the Biological Opinion on the Stanislaus River. From those discussions an Agreement regarding the operations/management of New Melones to meet both fish and agricultural needs for the remainder of the year were reached.

The basics of the plan are this:

- Federal officials will be able to meet all their springtime fishery "pulse flows." The first pulse flow was March 24-26 for steelhead; the second from mid-April thru mid-May for salmon.
- Federal officials will be able to meet base flow needs for the fish in the river through December.
- The irrigation districts will equally divide 450,000 acre-feet of water this year. That's 150,000 acre-feet less than normal.
- End of Month Storage for September to be no less than 115,000 acre feet.

- The irrigation districts to consider additional conservation measures this season to ensure that the end point of 115,000 acre-feet in New Melones is met or exceeded.
- The Agreement would keep Lake Tulloch at normal operational levels through September.

All the above is contingent on the State Water Resources Control Board approving the elements of the plan and in granting the Bureau of Reclamation their requested changes as outlined in their submitted Temporary Urgency Change Petition to the State Water Board.

As of late last week, the staff at the SWRCB issued a request for supporting information on aspects of the Agreement. At issue is the end of month storage for September (EOMSS). The SWB staff is supporting an EOMSS number of 225 TAF, as opposed to the 115 TAF in the Agreement and raising water quality concerns about the lowering of New Melones, both for sediment and turbidity. That supportive information the districts are to provide won't arrive at the SWB until COB on Tuesday (today) April 7<sup>th</sup>. The SWRCB itself has given themselves up to 2 weeks to make a decision. That potentially puts us out to April 21<sup>st</sup>.

The 110 TAF additional demand by the SWRCB staff needs to be resolved before the irrigation districts will support or allow any water going past Goodwin. The districts are not opposed to coming to a workable agreement but need certainty that any decision will not put the districts at unreasonable risk resulting from the changes to the Agreement.

**Best Case Scenario:**

If the target of EOSS is 115 TAF, and to insure we make the target, staff recommends planning for a diversion and distribution of 210 TAF to OID water users from its 225 TAF allocation. Under that scenario an allocation of 30-inches per each irrigated acre may be possible.

As of April 6<sup>th</sup> the Water Operations Department has been instructed to implement the 30-inch cap on all deliveries until further notice.

**Worst Case Scenario:**

If the target of EOSS is 225 TAF, the impact to OID could potentially be a reduced allocation of 55 TAF to its 225 TAF entitlement, leaving a distribution of 170 TAF to water users (assuming no buffer and minimum system losses). Under that scenario an allocation of 24-inches per each irrigated acre may be possible.

**Water Delivery Allocation Program:**

OID believes by the end of April this uncertainty will be resolved. Until then, the following 2015 Allocation Program is being presented to the Board for review and public input.

**2015 Water Season – Allocation Program**

1. An allocation of XX -inches per irrigated acre for Tier 1 water users.
2. An allocation of XX-inches per irrigated acre for Tier 2 water users.
3. The allocation is a firm supply to each gate.

4. "Unused water" at the gate may be transferred to other gates within the OID service area only.
5. Water assignment limits between gates is set at 12-inch minimums.
6. OID Conveyance Agreements would be available and required to move both surface water and groundwater from private deep wells throughout OID's conveyance system.
  - a. Conveyance Agreement applications must be submitted along with the associated processing fee for approval by OID staff prior to each pumping event.
  - b. Private deep wells must be metered upstream of the inlet to OID's conveyance system. Flow meters must have an indicator-totalizer that measures instantaneous flow and cumulative volume.
7. All Conveyance Agreements would need to be completed and submitted to OID 15 days before the delivery date of water.

Advantages/Disadvantages/Foreseen Limitations:

1. A significant amount of gates in OID are not measurable. Landowners who paid for water will want to know they received that which they paid for.
  - a. How is that to be resolved?
    - i. Gate to gate transfers to measurable gates only?
    - ii. Gate reconciliation will not be possible by OID.
2. OID converted to an electronic keypad and data entry system. Experience by DSO's is limited in this technology. Complicating this situation by possibly adding 100s if not 1000s of water transactions could be problematic.
3. Theft will be a problem with the reduction of water to each gate. OID has a program in place to address with fines and loss of water for the remainder of the irrigation season for repeat offenders.
4. A standing Water Committee may be needed weekly to address near-term issues during the implementation of the 2015 Water Season - Water Allocation Program

Several members of the public, Joe Dutra, Robert Longstreth, Ryon Payton, Brian Lemons, Tom Orvis, Jack Cox, Jerry Gomes and Carla Shearer, were present and commented on the action plan for the 2015 irrigation season.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

**ITEM NOS. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15**

**ITEM NO. 3**

**APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17, 2015 AND RESOLUTION NOS. 2015-15, 2015-16, 2015-17, 2015-18, 2015-19, 2015-20, 2015-21, 2015-22, AND 2015-23**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 17, 2015 and Resolution Nos. 2015-15, 2015-16, 2015-17, 2015-18, 2015-19, 2015-20, 2015-21, 2015-22, and 2015-23.

**ITEM NO. 4**

**APPROVE THE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Irrigation District Statement of Obligations.

**ITEM NO. 5**

**APPROVE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

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

**ITEM NO. 6**

**APPROVE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2015**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Chief Financial Officer's Report for the month ending February 28, 2015.

**ITEM NO. 7**

**APPROVE ASSIGNMENT OF CAPITAL WORK ORDER NUMBERS**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Assignment of the following Capital Work Order Numbers:

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Work Order No.</u>
River Road Pipeline	Remove and upgrade the existing gate with a new 15" x 15' Fresno 101C slide gate, 15" starter coupler, 15" concrete connection collar, 20' of 15" PVC, and a stilling well.	\$11,800	2015-013

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Work Order No.</u>
Dry Creek Lateral	Remove and upgrade existing gate with a 12" x 14' Fresno 101C slide gate.	\$ 2,500	2015-014
Town E Pipeline	Remove and upgrade existing headgate with a new 36" x 14' Fresno 101C slide gate.	\$ 5,500	2015-015
Gray Pipeline	Remove and upgrade existing in-line valve with a new 8" in-line valve.	\$ 1,900	2015-016

**ITEM NO. 8**  
**APPROVE WORK RELEASE NO. 001 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT 2013-PSA-002 WITH CENTRAL VALLEY SOFTWARE SOLUTION FOR ADDITIONAL CUSTOMIZATION SUPPORT**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve Work Release No. 001 to Professional Services Agreement 2013-PSA-002 with Central Valley Software Solution for additional customization support.

**ITEM NO. 9**  
**APPROVE WORK RELEASE NO. 006 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT 2007-PSA-009 WITH PADDOCK APPRAISAL SERVICE, INC. TO PREPARE AN APPRAISAL FOR A PIPELINE EASEMENT ON FOUR LAND PARCELS TO INSTALL A PIPELINE CONNECTING THE BRICHETTO LATERAL TO THE KUHN LATERAL**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Work Release No. 006 to Professional Services Agreement 2007-PSA-009 with Paddock Appraisal Service, Inc. to prepare an appraisal for a pipeline easement on four land parcels to install a pipeline connecting the Brichetto Lateral to the Kuhn Lateral.

**ITEM NO. 10**  
**APPROVE AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGE PERMIT ON THE CLARIBEL LATERAL (APN: 064-031-017 – L & J BRICHETTO REVOCABLE TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Agricultural Discharge Permit on the Claribel Lateral (APN: 064-031-017 – L & J Brichetto Revocable Trust).

**ITEM NO. 11**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE CLARIBEL LATERAL (APN: 064-031-017 – L & J BRICHETTO REVOCABLE TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Claribel Lateral (APN: 064-031-017 – L & J Brichetto Revocable Trust).

**ITEM NO. 12**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE FAIRBANKS**  
**PIPELINE (APN: 207-270-08 – PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Fairbanks Pipeline (APN: 207-270-008 – Pacific Gas and Electric).

**ITEM NO. 13**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE CAPE HORN LATERAL**  
**AND LESNINI LATERAL NO. 1 (APN: 002-022-015 – GISLER 2012 TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Cape Horn Lateral and Lesnini Lateral No. 1 (APN: 002-022-015 – Gisler 2012 Trust).

**ITEM NO. 14**  
**APPROVE ABANDONMENT OF THE ROMERO PIPELINE**  
**(APNS: 014-003-008/009/010 – BRICHETTO/BOERSMA, GILTON, CHRISTY)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Abandonment of the Romero Pipeline (APNS: 014-003-008/009/010 – Brichetto/Boersma, Gilton, Christy).

**ITEM NO. 15**  
**APPROVE QUIT CLAIM OF THE ROMERO PIPELINE**  
**(APNS: 014-003-008/009/010 – BRICHETTO/BOERSMA, GILTON, CHRISTY)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Quit Claim of the Romero Pipeline (APNS: 014-003-008/009/010 – Brichetto/Boersma, Gilton, Christy).

**ACTION CALENDAR**  
**ITEM NOS. 16, 17, 18**

**ITEM NO. 16**

This item was pulled from the Agenda.

**ITEM NO. 17**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO CERTIFY THE**  
**VOTE OF IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 51 MEMBERSHIP**  
**TO APPROVE ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The vote of ID51 for the Election of Committee Members is being submitted to the Board for certification.

The ID51 Membership has elected the following Committee Members:

Dale Price  
Doug Stidman  
Jim Vermeulen

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Doornenbal, and unanimously supported to certify the vote of Improvement District No. 51 Membership to approve election of the following Committee Members:

Dale Price  
Doug Stidman  
Jim Vermeulen

**ITEM NO. 18**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE**  
**DONATION REQUEST OF STANISLAUS COUNTY HI 4-H EXCHANGE**

The Planning and Public Relations Committee met with members of the Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange on March 31, 2015. The Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange is requesting a donation in the sum of \$5,000 to help with the purchase of airline tickets for 23 people (19 youths and 4 adult leaders) to travel to Minnesota to learn about agriculture in Minnesota. In April 2011 the District donated the sum of \$2,500 to help with the travel expenses. The Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange will travel to Minnesota this year and Minnesota will travel to California next year. The Committee recommends approval of the sum of \$5,000, and it is being brought before the entire Board for consideration.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the donation request of the Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange in the sum of \$5,000.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**  
**ITEM NOS. 19, 20**

**ITEM NO. 19**  
**DISCUSSION ON THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE**  
**ORDER B-29-15 IN RESPONSE TO THE DROUGHT**

Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-29-15 on April 1, 2015 (copy attached). This was placed on the agenda for the Board to have a general discussion of the Executive Order.

**ITEM NO. 20**  
**DISCUSSION ON "SAVE THE STAN" CAMPAIGN**

Director Clark requested that this item be added to the agenda and the Tri-Dam Advisory Committee agenda for discussion.



**COMMUNICATIONS**  
**ITEM NO. 21**

**A. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**

**Safety Activities**

1. OID has gone 62 days without a lost time injury accident.

**Administration Activities**

1. GM sat on a panel at the California Water Policy Conference held at the Claremont McKenna Colleges in Pomona, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Panel was on benefits of water marketing in meeting CA water needs.
2. Valarie Kincaid spoke at the Chamber's Ag Scholarship luncheon March 19<sup>th</sup> on the "Five Threats to your Water rights." Over 300 in attendance.
3. Knights Ferry issues on water delivery to Brunner occurred last week but got resolved.
4. Met with Marci Herrmann on March 20<sup>th</sup> regarding scope and extent of work to revitalize the Save the Stan campaign. Mr. Shields in attendance.
5. Water Committee meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> to discuss water situation for 2015.
6. Planning and Public Relations Committee on March 31<sup>st</sup>.
7. SJTA Commissioners Meeting scheduled for April 20<sup>th</sup> at TID.

**Construction Activities**

1. C&M crews and equipment operators are working on JSF's generated by Water Dept. staff. Completing general tasks associated with the completion of the first rotation.
2. Assisting Water Ops./Eng. Dept. with various tasks and field review of potential projects.
3. Conducting Safety Coordinator tasks pertaining to all hands training, Safety Committee meetings and review of weekly tailgate safety meetings.
4. Support Services Manager attended the SDRMA conference in Sacramento on 3/24.
5. Assisted with the raffle at the Ag Luncheon on 3/19.
6. Conducting Contract Administration tasks pertaining to contracts that need to be renewed and work releases that need to be completed with the assistance of Lori.
7. Pest Dept. along with me attended the Target Specialty Products annual pesticide handler safety training on 3/24 and 3/25.
8. Conducting new employee safety training with the new recently hired employees for C&M and Water Ops. Training has included the online Defensive Driving module from Target Solutions.
9. Auto Shop Chief attended a train the trainer course on 3/15, Mr. Skokan is now certified to train all our new employees in forklift operations and general safety of such.
10. C&M crews have installed a turnout on the River Road Pipeline to provide surface water to the Gambini Farms. A County encroachment permit has been completed along with a traffic control plan.

**Water Operations Activities**

**Engineering**

1. Land use Conversion – Continued to work with landowners, tenants, irrigation design companies and Support Services/Water Operations concerning ongoing and future land use conversion projects.

2. Processed multiple Encroachment and Ag Discharge Agreements and continued field inspection during installation of the associated facilities.
3. Continued to prepare CEQA documents for the Fringe and Additional Annexations.
4. Responded and commented on several requests for information and proposed parcel splits and lot line adjustments.
5. Prepared irrigated acreage delineation maps for updates in the STORM software system as necessary.

### **Ag Water**

1. Continued to research and respond to miscellaneous irrigation and maintenance issues and inquiries.
2. Completed commissioning and continued integration of new SCADA sites.
3. Responded to and addressed misc. SCADA operation and control issues as they arose.
4. SCADA/IT staff worked with Water Operations personnel to make minor updates and corrections to the new STORM volumetric tracking and billing application data as identified after the first rotation.
5. Training was initiated with the three (3) new DSOs.
6. The 2015 water season started on March 16<sup>th</sup>. All landowners were provided the opportunity to take water within approximately the first 14 days of the season. Upon notification of the water shortage and the potential for an allocation, more passes than usual were received.

### **Water Utilities**

1. Improvement District No. 41:
  - Pumping Station No. 3 remains out of service due to high turbidity issues.
2. Domestic Water Pumping Stations:
  - WUD continues to conduct weekly inspection, servicing and security checks of the pumping stations. There is nothing unusual or out of the ordinary to report.
3. Domestic Water Systems:
  - WUD completed bi-annual fire hydrant inspection and flushing program.
  - WUD completed bi-annual exercising of the water distribution system street valves.
6. On-Call Activities:
  - Nothing to Report.
7. Irrigation Pumping Stations:
  - WUD continues to perform routine inspection, servicing and security checks on all the irrigation pumping stations. There is nothing unusual or out of the ordinary to report.

### **Financing Activities**

1. Richardson and Company begin the 2014 audit on March 24, 2015.
2. Open enrollment for the 2015 Health Insurance renewal began on April 1<sup>st</sup> and will continue through April 30, 2015. The District received a "rate-pass" for the May 1, 2015 renewal.
3. Sent correspondence to ID51 landowners regarding conducting their annual meeting to nominate and vote for committee members. Certification of this vote is on the April 7, 2015 agenda.
4. Half of the finance department staff are in new positions and require more than usual oversight.

5. Assisting the Water Department with review of rotation sheet information.
6. Continue to work with Storm software and data collection.
7. Tentative plan to send out the first “mock” billing for ag water consumption mid-April.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Water Committee, March 30, 2015**

- Action Plan for 2015 Irrigation Season

**Planning & Public Relations, March 31, 2015**

- Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange Donation
- Alliance Contribution

Director Webb stated that the Water Committee item was previously discussed on the agenda.

Director Webb stated that the Board approved the donation request of Stanislaus County Hi 4-H Exchange in the sum of \$5,000 on today’s agenda, and the Committee approved a contribution in the sum of \$1,000 to the Alliance at the Committee Meeting on March 31, 2015.

**C. DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS**

Director Bairos

Director Bairos had no comments.

Director Clark

Director Clark had no comments.

Director Doornenbal

Director Doornenbal had no comments.

Director Webb

Director Webb stated that it is time for everybody to get together and put the pressure on Governor Brown to change the staff on the State Water Resources Control Board to have better support for agriculture.

At the hour of 10:25 a.m. the meeting adjourned to Closed Session.

**CLOSED SESSION**  
**ITEM NO. 22**

- A. *Government Code §54956.9* - Significant Exposure to Litigation Pursuant to Paragraph (2) and (3) of Subdivision (d) of §54956.9 One (1) Case**

At the hour of 11:26 a.m. the meeting returned to open session.

Coming out of Closed Session Director Webb stated that there was no reportable action.

At the hour of 11:26 a.m. the meeting was adjourned until 1:00 p.m.

**INTERVIEW OF CANDIDATE  
ITEM NO. 24**

The Board reconvened at the hour of 1:00 p.m. to conduct the interview of one potential candidate to fill the vacancy in District 5.

Present:                    Director Webb, President  
                                 Director Doornenbal, Vice President  
                                 Director Clark

Absent:                    Director Bairos

The District received two applications to fill the vacancy of District 5; one of the applicants did not qualify and his application was rejected and the remaining candidate, Gary Osmundson, will be present today for an interview by the Directors.

Gary Omundson was present and gave a brief background on himself and the Directors asked him several questions.

This item will be brought back to the Board on April 21, 2015 as an action item.

**OTHER ACTION  
ITEM NO. 23**

At the hour of 1:12 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next Regular Board Meeting of the **Oakdale Irrigation District Board of Directors** is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room at 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA.

The next Joint Board Meeting for the **Tri-Dam Project** is scheduled for **Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room of the South San Joaquin Irrigation District, 11011 East Highway 120, Manteca, CA.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Webb, President

Attest:

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Steve Knell, P.E., Secretary