

## MINUTES

Oakdale, California  
March 17, 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**

There being no Public Comment; Public Comment closed at 9:01 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

### **PUBLIC HEARING ITEM NOS. 2, 3**

### **ITEM NO. 2 PUBLIC HEARING AND CERTIFICATION OF VOTE OF IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 49 MEMBERSHIP REGARDING THE MERGER OF IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NOS. 45 AND 49 WATER SYSTEMS**

On February 4, 2015 a meeting was held with the Improvement District No. 49 (ID 49) and Improvement District No. 45 (ID 45) memberships to discuss:

- Instructions received from the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources and the State of California Department of Public Health to merge the two water systems, and
- Changes to the Operation & Maintenance and Capital Replacement Fund rate structures.

A letter was issued on March 2, 2015 (copy attached) informing the ID 49 and ID 45 memberships that it was the consensus of the members in attendance at the meeting to approve the merger of the two systems and to authorize OID to proceed with having legal counsel draft new formation papers for ID 49 which would include the merger of ID 45 and the new rate structures.

This Public Hearing is required under Oakdale Irrigation District Improvement District Policy (Resolution No. 90-26) to offer the opportunity for the members of ID 49 to vote on the proposed merger and new rate structure. At the end of the Public Hearing, a tally of the votes to determine approval or rejection of the merger proposals will be certified by the Board. If less than 1/3 of the members oppose the merger the project will move forward.

Water Operations Supervisor (Water Utilities) Bob Nielsen was present and stated that Improvement District No. 49 membership voted to approve the merger with Improvement District No. 45, by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 (by mail)  
Noes: 0 (by mail)  
Passed by a total vote of 14 to 0  
(All non-votes (8) are considered as yes votes.)

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to certify the vote of Improvement District No. 49 Membership approving the merger of Improvement District Nos. 45 and 49 water systems and have legal counsel draft new formation papers for ID 49 which would include the merger of ID 45 and the new rate structures.

**ITEM NO. 3**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AND CERTIFICATION OF VOTE OF**  
**IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 45 MEMBERSHIP REGARDING THE**  
**MERGER OF IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NOS. 45 AND 49 WATER SYSTEMS**

On February 4, 2015 a meeting was held with the Improvement District No. 45 (ID 45) and Improvement District No. 49 (ID 49) memberships to discuss:

- Instructions received from the Stanislaus County Department of Environmental Resources and the State of California Department of Public Health to merge the two water systems, and
- Changes to the Operation & Maintenance and Capital Replacement Fund rate structures.

A letter was issued on March 2, 2015 (copy attached) informing the ID 45 and ID 49 memberships that it was the consensus of the members in attendance at the meeting to approve the merger of the two systems and to authorize OID to proceed with having legal counsel draft new formation papers for ID 45 which would include the merger of ID 49 and the new rate structures.

This Public Hearing is required under Oakdale Irrigation District Improvement District Policy (Resolution No. 90-26) to offer the opportunity for the members of ID 45 to vote on the proposed merger and new rate structure. At the end of the Public Hearing, a tally of the votes to determine approval or rejection of the merger proposals will be certified by the Board. If less than 1/3 of the members oppose the merger the project will move forward.

Water Operations Supervisor (Water Utilities) Bob Nielsen was present and stated that Improvement District No. 45 membership voted to approve the merger with Improvement District No. 49, by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 (by mail)  
Noes: 0 (by mail)  
Passed by a total vote of 37 to 0  
(All non-votes (28) are considered as yes votes.)

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to certify the vote of Improvement District No. 45 Membership approving the merger of Improvement District Nos. 45 and 49 water systems and have legal counsel draft new formation papers for ID 45 which would include the merger of ID 49 and the new rate structures.

**CONSENT ITEMS**

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

**ITEM NO. 4**

**APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES  
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2015  
AND RESOLUTION NOS. 2015-12, 2015-13, AND 2015-14**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 3, 2015 and Resolution Nos. 2015-12, 2015-13, and 2015-14.

**ITEM NO. 5**

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

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

**ITEM NO. 6**  
**APPROVE BOARD ATTENDANCE AT THE ACWA**  
**SPRING CONFERENCE MAY 5-8, 2015 IN SACRAMENTO, CA**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve Board attendance at the ACWA Spring Conference May 5-8, 2015 in Sacramento, CA.

**ITEM NO. 7**  
**APPROVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING PERSONNEL**  
**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES WITH THE OPERATIONS EMPLOYEES**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Resolution Adopting Personnel Policies and Procedures with the Operations Employees.

**ITEM NO. 8**  
**APPROVE AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGE PERMIT ON THE CLARIBEL LATERAL**  
**(APN: 064-032-063 – JAMES A. LUTZ AND EMMA JEAN LUTZ FAMILY TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Agricultural Discharge Permit on the Claribel Lateral (APN: 064-032-063 – James A. Lutz and Emma Jean Lutz Family trust).

**ITEM NO. 9**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE CLARIBEL LATERAL**  
**(APN: 064-032-063 – JAMES A. LUTZ AND EMMA JEAN LUTZ FAMILY TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Claribel Lateral (APN: 064-032-063 – James A. Lutz and Emma Jean Lutz Family Trust).

**ITEM NO. 10**  
**APPROVE AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGE PERMIT ON THE**  
**RIVERBANK LATERAL (APN: 063-028-022 – JOHN M. BRICHETTO 2012**  
**IRREVOCABLE TRUST, JOSEPH PAUL BRICHETTO 2012 IRREVOCABLE TRUST,**  
**AND JOHN PETER BRICHETTO SEPARATE PROPERTY 2008 TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Agricultural Discharge Permit on the Riverbank Lateral (APN: 063-028-022 – John M. Brichetto 2012 Irrevocable Trust, Joseph Paul Brichetto 2012 Irrevocable Trust, and John Peter Brichetto Separate Property 2008 Trust).

**ITEM NO. 11**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE RIVERBANK LATERAL**  
**(APN: 063-028-022 – JOHN M. BRICHETTO 2012 IRREVOCABLE**  
**TRUST, JOSEPH PAUL BRICHETTO 2012 IRREVOCABLE TRUST,**  
**AND JOHN PETER BRICHETTO SEPARATE PROPERTY 2008 TRUST)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Riverbank Lateral (APN: 063-028-022 – John M. Brichetto 2012 Irrevocable Trust, Joseph Paul Brichetto 2012 Irrevocable Trust, and John Peter Brichetto Separate Property 2008 Trust).

**ITEM NO. 12**  
**APPROVE AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGE PERMIT**  
**ON THE RIVERBANK PIPELINE (APN: 062-026-007 – AREIAS)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Agricultural Discharge Permit on the Riverbank Pipeline (APN: 062-026-007 – Areias).

**ITEM NO. 13**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE**  
**RIVERBANK PIPELINE (APN: 062-026-007 – AREIAS)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment on the Riverbank Pipeline (APN: 062-026-007 – Areias).

**ITEM NO. 14**  
**APPROVE AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGE PERMIT ON THE**  
**FAIRBANKS PIPELINE (APN: 207-027-008 – PARODI, TORRES,**  
**LENEE R. ADAMS AND PAULETTE R. ADAMS REVOCABLE TRUST OF 2010)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Agricultural Discharge Permit on the Fairbanks Pipeline (APN: 207-027-008 – Parodi, Torres, Lenee R. Adams and Paulette R. Adams Revocable Trust of 2010).

**ITEM NO. 15**  
**APPROVE ENCROACHMENT PERMIT ON THE FAIRBANKS**  
**PIPELINE (APN: 207-027-008 – PARODI, TORRES, LENE R.**  
**ADAMS AND PAULETTE R. ADAMS REVOCABLE TRUST OF 2010)**

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to approve the Encroachment Permit on the Fairbanks Pipeline (APN: 207-027-008 – Parodi, Torres, Lenee R. Adams and Paulette R. Adams Revocable Trust of 2010).

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

**ITEM NO. 16**

**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE ENCROACHMENT  
AND PIPELINE RELOCATION REQUEST (APN: 014-001-032 – MARTIN)**

The Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) Mootz Lateral, Cavil Drain, McGee Reclamation Pump Pipeline, and McGee Spill Lateral cross the above noted parcel. Dave Martin is the tenant on the property, and he plans to convert the parcel from irrigated pasture to almonds this year. Mr. Martin has requested that he be permitted to plant almond trees within the limit of the OID easement on all the facilities across the parcel. OID has a prescriptive 60' foot right-of-way for any open channel facility and a 30' right-of-way for any pipeline. Mr. Martin would like to leave one drivable bank along each open ditch, and encroach with trees along the opposite bank.

Mr. Martin's second request is to have the McGee Reclamation Pump Pipeline relocated closer toward McGee Road, such that his tree rows will be less affected by the pipeline.

Mr. Martin met with the Water Committee at their March 3, 2015 meeting to discuss the issue. Action from the full Board is requested at this time. OID Staff was available to answer any questions of the Board.

A motion was made by Director Doornenbal, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to deny the encroachment and pipeline relocation request (APN: 014-001-032 – Martin).

**ITEM NO. 17**

**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPROVE  
RENEWAL OF 2014/2015 GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE**

The Finance Committee and Staff met with TSM Insurance Brokers on February 27, 2015 to review the District's 2015 Group Health Insurance renewal quotes. Three health care providers submitted quotes, Kaiser, Sutter Health, and Blue Shield. The District received declinations from California Choice, United Health Care, Cigna, and Aetna.

Kaiser has offered a **rate pass** on the District existing group health plans for renewal on May 1, 2015. Open enrollment will be held during the month of April.

**Current Health Plan Monthly Premiums: (May 2014 – April 2015)**

<u>Kaiser</u>	Deductible <u>HMO (Core Plan *)</u>	<u>HC HMO</u>	<u>Traditional HMO</u>
Employee + 1	\$394.80	\$460.20	\$490.57
Employee + 2	833.02	971.02	1,035.59
Employee 2 or more	1,192.28	1,389.80	1,482.26

*Current Enrollment*

Employee +1	2	0	9
Employee + 2	1	0	13
Employee 2 or more	1	2	26

\* Core plan provided to employee at no cost.

In accordance with all District bargaining unit's MOUs, the District's health insurance premium contributions are capped. There will be no premium increases passed-on to District employees.

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the renewal of 2014/2015 Group Health Insurance Coverage with Kaiser.

**DISCUSSION  
ITEM NOS. 18, 19**

**ITEM NO. 18  
DISCUSSION ON SURFACE WATER SHORTAGE  
POLICY AND POTENTIAL REVISION FOR 2015 WATER SEASON**

Attached for reference is OID's Surface Water Shortage Policy, which was adopted by resolution in December of 2008. The OID implemented Level II drought measures outlined in the policy throughout the 2014 water season. Those measure's included:

- Scheduling rotation intervals according to ET,
- eliminating 10 day rotations,
- suspending out-of-district irrigation services and transferring no water,
- reducing Tier II water users by 50%,
- running deep wells to meet irrigation demand as necessary,

With these measures in place, OID's total 2014 water year diversions were 201 TAF.

With the continuation and worsening of the drought; with New Melones in the position of potentially being emptied this year, brings the added risk of an ESA issue with fisheries on our river. That brings scenarios into play we don't wish to address. With that said, staff believes OID needs to be in a position to take even more measures to buffer or have insurance of getting or keeping a water supply sufficient to get to September 30<sup>th</sup> and enough water to meet fish flows through the fall.

If that is the goal, staff doesn't believe that OID's Level III drought measures as outlined in the current policy (zero discharge and rotation allocation) will give us the assurance we need to reach that goal. Staff believes that an allocation of water to each farm gate, one that provides a uniform and defined "inch-limit" is necessary.

This approach would provide incentives to minimize or eliminate runoff while allowing equitable distribution of available supplies to each water user. With implementation of the

new STORM software and progression towards volumetric tracking and billing during the 2015 water season, staff feels comfortable that OID can move away from the traditional “rotation system” and to an “arranged delivery system” for our farms.

If the Board decides to go down this path, to be compliant with the Water Code, a public hearing must be held by the Board followed by a public notice period within 10 days of the adoption of any ordinance or resolution. Staff is requesting direction from the Board. To implement, OID would have to hold a public hearing on April 7<sup>th</sup> with adoption of a resolution by April 17<sup>th</sup> to put this into place.

Several members of the public, John Brichetto, Ken Krause, Brian Lemons, Bob Holmes, and Tom Orvis, commented on this discussion item.

This item will be brought back to the Board at its April 7, 2015 Board Meeting.

**ITEM NO. 19**  
**DISCUSSION ON BUSINESS ITEMS AS THEY APPEAR**  
**ON THE TRI-DAM BOARD AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2015**

This item is placed here for the Board to discuss Tri-Dam agenda items.

**ITEM NO. 20**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**

**Safety Activities**

1. OID has gone 41 days without a lost time injury accident.

**Administration Activities**

1. GM will be speaking as part of a panel at the California Water Policy Conference being held at the Claremont McKenna Colleges in Pomona, March 20<sup>th</sup>.
2. OID submitted by the deadline the SWRCB’s informational request.
3. Sent letters to eight individuals asking them about their Statement of Use filings with the Department of Water Resources and asking them to clarify some matters on their filings. One response and inquiry has been received.
4. Met with members of the Family Farm Alliance in Merced regarding OID’s On Farm Funding Program. They soon realized that the Modesto Bee had miss-portrayed the actions and intent of this OID program and offered OID the opportunity to provide that clarity to its readers statewide. OID will be submitting such an article to them for publication.

**Construction Activities**

1. Assisting Water Ops./Engineering Dept. with various assigned tasks including field and plan review of capital projects.
2. OID forces are working on maintenance tasks and JSF’s completed by Water Dept. staff.



3. Conducting Contract Administration activities on contracts to be renewed and/or issued and work releases.
4. Conducting Safety Coordinator tasks pertaining to all hands training, safety inspections and new employee training.
5. Support Services Manager will be attending the SDRMA conference on 3/24 in Sacramento.
6. Support Services Manager along with the Pest Dept. will be attending the Target training and update on herbicides/pesticides course on 3/25.
7. Water Ops. Manager and I will be assisting with the Ag Luncheon on 3/19.

### **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. Conducted multiple landowner meetings, completed field assessments and collected survey data before water is brought back into the system to allow for preparation of plans for potential 2015/16 winter construction projects.
4. Responded and commented on several requests for information and proposed parcel splits and lot line adjustments.
5. Prepared quitclaims and abandonments for the Knights Ferry Water Rights system downstream of the new KFC box and upstream of the new Morrison Pipeline tie in structure.

#### **Aq 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. SCADA/IT staff introduced the new STORM volumetric tracking and billing application for deployment during the 2015 water season. Training was conducted with all DSOs on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.
4. DSO orientation and training for the 2015 irrigation season was conducted on March 11<sup>th</sup>.
5. Offers were accepted and the pre-employment process is expected to be completed prior to the start of the irrigation season on March 16<sup>th</sup>.
6. Standard winter water operations continued along with OID deep well rentals for irrigation and frost protection.
7. Knights Ferry irrigation and domestic water delivery continued in the private Frymire Lateral.

#### **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. Improvement Districts No. 45 & 49:
  - Ballot packets were mailed out to the ID members on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The membership vote is scheduled for the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
4. Domestic Water Systems:
  - Monthly Coliform Bacteria water quality samples were collected on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. No problems were found. All domestic systems under OID's jurisdiction are operating without restrictions.
  - WUD completed bi-annual fire hydrant inspection and flushing program.
5. Knights Ferry Community Services District:
  - The Knights Ferry Water Treatment Plants was switched over to gravity water on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>.
6. On-Call Activities:
  - Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, WUD responded to a call of broken water line in ID 41. The service was shut off to allow customer to affect repairs.
7. Irrigation Pumping Stations:
  - WUD continues to perform routine inspection, servicing and security checks on all the irrigation pumping stations in preparation for the start of the 2015 Water Season. There is nothing unusual or out of the ordinary to report other than the items listed below:
    - Thompson Drain Pump – repaired vandalism damages to pump site.
  - Tennant Deep Well Pump was activated for rental on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Valley Home Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.
  - Howard Deep Well Pump was activated for rental from Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Hirschfeld Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Weimer Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Campbell Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - Fairbanks Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - South Main #2 Deep Well Pump was activated for rental use on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - South Main #1 Deep Well Pump was activated on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - South Main #2 Deep Well Pump was activated on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - North Main #1 Deep Well Pump was activated on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Wyatt Deep Well pump was activated for use on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Financing Activities**

1. Assisted Engineering Staff in obtaining risk transfer documents on a developer's agreement.
2. Prepared and submitted SDRMA's annual questionnaire for the 2015-2016 workers' compensation insurance.
3. Beginning July 1, 2015, SDRMA will invoice Workers' Compensation members annually instead of quarterly.

4. Finance Committee to report on meeting held on 2/27/2015 to discuss potential Refunding of Bonds.
5. Richardson and Company will begin their audit on March 23, 2015.
6. Processed Deep Well Rental usage invoices.

**B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance Committee Meeting, February 27, 2015

- Potential Refunding of Bonds
- Pre-Audit Discussion
- Review of 2015 Health Insurance Renewal

Director Clark stated that the Finance Committee met with Wells Fargo Bank and that the cost to refund the bonds would be approximately \$243,000+ and the savings over the term of the bond would not be that significant. The Directors discussed the refunding of the bonds. After a lengthy discussion, the Board concurred that they wanted a little more of a savings than what was being offered in order to move forward with the refunding. The General Manager Steve Knell stated that he would inform Wells Fargo.

Water Committee Meeting, March 3, 2015

- Request of Landowner for Encroachments on District Facilities  
(APN: 014-001-032 – Martin)

This item was on the agenda as an action item and there was no further discussion.

**C. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS**

Director Clark

Director Clark had no comments

Director Doornenbal

Director Doornenbal had no comments.

Director Bairos

Director Bairos had not comments.

Director Webb

Director Webb stated that it was going to be an interesting year and if everyone pulls together this year like we did last year we will get through the irrigation season.

At the hour of 10:06 a.m. the meeting adjourned to Closed Session.

**ITEM NO. 21**  
**CLOSED SESSION**

21. Closed Session to discuss the following:

- 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 11:35 a.m. the meeting returned to open session.

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

**OTHER ACTION**  
**ITEM NO. 22**

At the hour of 11:35 a.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next Regular Board Meeting of the **Oakdale Irrigation District Board of Directors** is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room at 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA.

The next Regular Joint Board Meeting for the **Tri-Dam Project** is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room of the Oakdale Irrigation District, 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA.

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

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Knell, P.E., Secretary