

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

*Date:* Thursday, February 6, 2020  
*Time:* 1:00 P.M.  
*Location:* Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD, 849 Allen Road, Bakersfield, 93314

**DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT**

Roy Pierucci, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD  
Dennis Johnston & Jeevan Muhar, Arvin-Edison WSD  
Charlie Riddle, Henry Miller WD  
Don Collins, Pete Kaiser and Mark Mulkay, Kern Delta WD  
Skye Grass, Kern-Tulare WD  
Ben Wilson and Dana Munn, Shafter-Wasco ID  
Jason Gianquinto, Semitropic WSD  
Michael Blaine, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

**DIRECTORS AND ALTERNATES ABSENT**

Eric Averett, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD  
David Nixon, Arvin-Edison WSD  
Kimberly Brown and Dick Diamond, North Kern WSD  
Bruce Kelsey, Kern-Tulare WD  
Jeff Siemens and Jim Nickel, Olcese WD  
Dan Bartel, Rosedale-Rio Bravo WSD  
Dan Waterhouse, Semitropic WSD  
Lefty Delis, Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa WSD

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Dave Hampton, Cawelo Water District Coalition

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Kris Lawrence, Westside Water Quality Coalition  
Tim Ashlock, Buena Vista Coalition

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Nicole Bell, KRWCA Manager  
Steve Torigiani, General Counsel, Young Wooldridge, LLP  
Ryan Dodd, Provost & Pritchard  
Steve Teglia, Kern Delta WD  
Kevin Gobler, Wonderful Citrus  
Christine Gutierrez, GEI  
Stephanie Hearn, GEI  
George Cappello, Grimmway

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chairman Gianquinto called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

**2. ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM**

Acting Chairman Gianquinto announced a quorum.



### 3. **INTRODUCTIONS**

None.

### 4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### 5. **Appointment of Officers\***

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary/Treasurer
  - i. Discuss splitting position\*

A motion was made by Director Ben Wilson to keep the offices the same; Chairman Eric Averett, Vice-Chairman Jason Gianquinto and Treasurer Dennis Johnston. It was also moved to split the position of Secretary Treasurer. Upon a second by Director Skye Grass, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

### 6. **APPROVAL OF 11/07/2019 Board Meeting Minutes\***

Director Dennis Johnston moved to approve the regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 7, 2019. Upon a second by Director Skye Grass, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

### 7. **TREASURERS REPORT**

- a. December 2019, January 2020 and February 2020 Accounts Payable/Receivable Ratification and Approval\*

Manager Bell reviewed the Financial Reports with the Authority Board. Treasurer Johnston reported that he has reviewed all financial reports and recommends approval. Director Skye Grass moved to approve and ratify the financial reports as submitted. Upon a second by Director Roy Pierucci, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

  - i. New Financial Reports Structure\*, Treasurer Dennis Johnston moved to approve the new Financial Report Structure. Upon a second by Director Ben Wilson, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

### 8. **CONTRACTING & SCOPE OF WORK**

Manager Bell reviewed the following agreements with the Authority Board.

- a. Accountant Engagement Agreement, Ratification\* Director Michael Blaine moved to approve ratification of the agreement. Upon a second by Director Charlie Riddle, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.
- b. State Compensation Insurance Fund, Workers Compensation Insurance, Ratification\* Director Ben Wilson moved to approve ratification of the agreement. Upon a second by Director Dennis Johnston, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.
- c. Land IQ 2020 Scope of Work, Approval\* Director Michael Blaine moved to approve the Scope of Work. Upon a second by Director Roy Pierucci, a vote was taken with no abstentions and was unanimously carried.

### 9. **KRWCA MANAGER REPORT/ILRP PROGRAM UPDATE**

Manager Bell reported on the following:

- a. Administration
  - i. Payroll Services, Accounting and Workers Compensation Insurance update: It was reported that the previously contracted payroll service and Workers Compensation



Insurance provider have been replaced as of 12/31/2019. New service providers were addressed it item 8 a and b.

- ii. Form 700, due April 1, 2020, reminder
- iii. 2020 Member Enrollment Update
- b. Grower Outreach Update
  - i. NMP Self Certification Continuing Education Units (CEU) Training, 20 attended
  - ii. Winter Outreach & Education Meetings: 519 Members represented.
    - 1. 12/18/19, Wasco Elk's Lodge, 224
    - 2. 1/7/20, Kern Ag Pavilion, 225
    - 3. 1/16/20, Buttonwillow Recreation Center, 70
- c. Regional Water Board
  - i. 2020 New Requirements for On-Farm Drinking Water Wells, RB Mailed Letters 11/1/19

#### **10. REPORT OF PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP**

- a. Surface Water Monitoring:
  - i. Surface Water Expert Panel Meeting Update, Handout was provided
- b. MPEP Update: Ryan Dodd reported the following:
  - i. Funding
    - 1. Reminder that the original \$2M USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) concluded in September 2019.
    - 2. In 2019, the SSJV MPEP applied for two new USDA NRCS Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) totaling \$7M. We were confident we would at least be awarded one of the two grants, but we were unsuccessful on both. Although we do currently have some smaller funding sources, this undoubtedly impacts our MPEP path to some extent. The impact is currently uncertain.
    - 3. We are still working through a \$225k CDFA FREP grant on nitrogen removal coefficients and are working with a few other partners on some projects.
    - 4. We are also cooperating with the Almond Board and UCD on a CDFA Specialty Crop Block Grant for \$450k (Increasing grower use of statewide actual ET and soils data to improve irrigation uniformity and efficiency).
    - 5. We recently submitted two preproposals for the next round of CDFA FREP funding: 1) Phase 2 of our nitrogen removal study (3 years, \$225k) and 2) "Closing the irrigation and fertigation performance gap in the Central Valley" (3 years, \$225k).
    - 6. We will likely pursue other funding opportunities as appropriate.
  - ii. SWAT Modeling
    - 1. Reminder that the first phase of the SWAT modeling has been completed. Our modeling consultants have prepared a 499-page SWAT Methods Report summarizing the modeling effort. I have reviewed and discussed with the modeling team. No major comments of issues with the report, it's mostly a benign description of the modeling methodology and some very high level and highly summarized results. Other coalitions are still reviewing the information and we will be discussing further at our March MPEP meeting.
    - 2. Otherwise, MPEP efforts will be kept to minimum as we develop the next steps forward to meet the requirement of the MPEP work plan.



11. **CV-SALTS** <http://www.cvsalinity.org>

Manager Bell and Land IQ represent KRWCA at the Monthly CV-SALTS Meetings. Links to the monthly Meeting Package and Summary Report and other CVSALTS information is also provided on our website.

- a. [CV-SALTS Meeting Package, November 14, 2019 Meeting](#)
- b. [Land IQ Summary Report for November 14, 2019 Meeting](#)
- c. CV-SALTS Meeting Package, [January 16, 2020 Meeting](#)
- d. [Land IQ Summary Report for January 16, 2020 Meeting](#)
- e. [CV-SALTS Brochure](#)
- f. [CV-SALTS Brochure: New Water Quality Regulations Provide Options for Flexibility](#)
- g. [Prioritization and Optimization Study \(P&O\) Overview](#)

12. **OLD OR NEW BUSINESS**

None.

13. **ATTORNEYS REPORT**

None.

14. **CLOSED SESSION**

The Authority went into closed session at 2:36 P.M. to discuss the items listed below, and upon the conclusion of closed Session 2:49 P.M. the Chairman reconvened to open session to announce that no reportable action was taken

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel - Pending Litigation - Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
  - i. Petitions filed by the Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority, et al. with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) regarding the Tulare Lake Basin General Order.
  - ii. [Environmental Law Foundation v. SWRCB, et al., Sac. County Sup. Ct., Case No. Case No. 34-2018-80002851](#)
  - iii. [Protectores Del Aqua Subterranea v. SWRCB, et al., Sac. County Sup. Ct., Case No. 34-2018-80002852](#)
  - iv. [Monterey Coastkeeper, et al. v. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, et al., Sac. County Sup. Ct., Case No. 34-2018-80002853](#)
  - v. [Petition for Review by Protectores Del Aqua Subterranea with the SWRCB in Re CVRWQCB Order R5-2019-001 Amending General Orders for Grower Members of a Third-Party Group: Tulare Lake Basin Area R5-2013-0120-06, etc.](#)
- b. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Significant exposure to litigation – Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2). One potential case.
- c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation/Possible initiation of litigation – Government Code section 54956.9(d)(4). One potential case.
- d. Public Employment – Government Code Section 54957:
  - i. Position: Membership Coordinator

15. **KRWCA MEETING ATTENDANCE HIGHLIGHTS – INFORMATION ITEM**

- a. 11/8, Nitrogen CEU Grower Workshop
- b. 11/12, PEOC Conference Call
- c. 11/14, CVSALTS/CVSC Meeting
- d. 11/18, CVGMC Conference Call
- e. 12/4, SSVWQC/MPEP Meeting
- f. 12/12, Meeting with Shinault Baker CPAs
- g. 12/18, Grower Outreach Meeting, Wasco



- h. 1/7, Grower Outreach Meeting, Bakersfield
- i. 1/16, CVSALTS/CVSC Meeting
- j. 1/16, Grower Outreach Meeting, Buttonwillow
- k. 1/27, SSJVWQC Committee Conference Call

**16. NEXT MEETING**

The next KRWCA Board Meeting is scheduled for 1:00 PM on March 5, 2020 at the Kern County Water Agency.

**17. ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:49 P.M.