

LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

September 12, 2023

Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Visitors

President Arnold called the meeting to order @ 2:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Arnold, Brownfield, Milanesio, Reynolds

Directors Absent: Gutierrez

Others present: Hagman (GM), Hunter (AGM), Bennett (Senior Analyst), members of the public.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was presented and the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the agenda for September 12, 2023, Lindmore Irrigation Board meeting as provided - 1st Reynolds and 2nd Milanesio – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Minutes

Staff presented the minutes for the August 8, 2023 – Regular Lindmore Irrigation District Board meeting and the August 23, 2023, Special Lindmore Irrigation District Board meeting, and the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 8, 2023, Regular Board meeting and the August 28, 2023 Special Board meeting, 1st Reynolds and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

CLOSED SESSION:

- EMPLOYEE EVALUATION – GENERAL [Government Code Section 54957.9]
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] City of Fresno, et al. v. United States of America, Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 16-1276L
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2)] - Number of Potential Cases: One.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEAD NEGOTIATOR Michael GM Hagman – Avenue 224 @ Noall Reservoir, easement, lease, purchase, trade. [Government Code Section 54957.6]

President Arnold called the Board into closed session at 2:01 pm and the Board came out of closed session at 2:38 pm noting that there was no reportable action.

Prior/New Action Items

A. Report on Prior Board actions/discussions

Operation and Maintenance Report: AGM Hunter reported on operations and the status of repairs and maintenance. Hunter reminded the board that the Friant-Kern Canal will be off the beginning of November and the district winter maintenance program has been developed for the time the canal is de-watered.

Water Supply Report: GM Hagman reviewed the August 2023 water report noting that 9,909-acre feet were delivered to Lindmore ID.

District Water Recharge Projects: AGM Hunter reported on district recharge projects and how the Lewis Creek project has been held up by the CDFW. GM Hagman reviewed a plan for recharge on the 1st Ave leased property with the board.

Kaweah Subbasin surface water purchasing effort (discussion and direction): GM Hagman had nothing to report.

B. New Action Items

Rules and Regulations/Ordinance Review – Section 5 and Lindmore Irrigation District Ordinance #0001: GM Hagman reviewed section 5 of the Lindmore ID Rules and Regulations and how ordinance #0001 would be a more definitive replacement. After a lengthy discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To note in Section 5 in the Lindmore Irrigation District Rules and Regulations that actions would be taken in accordance with LID Ordinance #0001, 1st Milanesio and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Using District owned recharge facilities for recharging landowner allocated supply - discussion: there was considerable discussion on how this would impact all landowners and the perceived inequity of providing recharge to only a few landowners. No action taken.

FY2024 Manager's Draft Budget: Hagman noted the FY2024 draft budget that was included in the packet has not changed since the discussion in the August 8th meeting and explained the board needs to set a hearing date to review the budget before the public, take comments and consider adoption. He also explained that an adopted FY2024 budget will be the basis of the FY2024 Assessment that the Board will also consider adopting at a future Board of Equalization hearing. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set a FY2024 Budget Hearing date for October 10, 2023 – 1st Milanesio and 2nd Reynolds – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Set Board of Equalization date (Board to consider staff recommendation to hold BOE on October 10, 2023): Hagman reported that the district assessment needs to be approved in October before the County of Tulare sends out the assessments. He recommended the Board set a Board of Equalization date. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set the Board of Equalization date for October 10, 2023 – 1st Reynolds and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Set Hearing date for Unpaid Water bills (Board to consider Staff recommendation to set a hearing of unpaid bills placing them in lien against associated property, Staff recommendation is October 10, 2023): Hagman reported to the Board that Tulare County has their own process for unpaid assessments. However, Hagman noted that the Board should set a hearing date to take objections from landowners for placing unpaid 2022 water bills in lien. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set a Hearing Date for filing of liens for October 10, 2023 – 1st Brownfield and 2nd Milanesio – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Administrative Items: Staff reported that Friant Water Authority is scheduling construction tours of the FKC Middle Reach project and asked if any board members or staff are interested in attending the first tour on October 6th. Scott Reynolds, Mike Hagman and Chris Hunter were interested in joining the tour.

C. Finance Issues

Review accounts payable listing and request by staff that the Board ratify the payments made to pay the bills:

Motion: To ratify the payments made to pay the bills as follows: A/P Checks (#16329 – 16371) August 9, 2023 to September 12, 2023 in the amount of \$599,977.79 and payroll for August 2023 in the amount of \$126,069.25 for a total disbursement of \$726,047.04 - 1st Brownfield and 2nd Reynolds - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Senior Analyst Bennett reviewed the financial statements and reports.

Reports and Discussion on meetings attended or other water related business reports:

FWA Issues –GM Hagman reported on Friant meetings.

Friant Power Authority (FPA) – President Arnold noted there was no FPA meeting in August.

East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA) – GM Hagman briefly reported on the EKGSA activities.

Review upcoming Meetings Calendar: All upcoming meetings are covered.

Correspondence Report:

Nothing to report.

Other Items to be Discussed per 54954.2 (Items not appearing on the agenda)

No action.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Arnold adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Michael D. Hagman
District Secretary