

HILMAR COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
March 5, 2024

Members Present – Jim Jones, Frank Hilliard, David Anderson, Jim Gerdes, and Tony Salvador.

Members Absent – None.

Public in Attendance – Ms. Crystal Casey and Mr. Raju Toor.

.....
Action Items

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by David Anderson and seconded by Jim Gerdes. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to approve Bills Payable: March 2024 was made by Frank Hilliard and seconded by Tony Salvador. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to approve the continuation of the emergency order the Board approved at the July 31, 2023, Board meeting, based on the conditions continue as per Resolution 565, was made by Frank Hilliard and seconded by Tony Salvador. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to adopt Resolution 567: A Resolution Updating Investment Policy and Accepting the 2023 Annual Investment Report was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by David Anderson. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by David Anderson and seconded by Jim Gerdes to Table Action Item 6d until after closed session discussion. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to adopt Resolution 568: A Resolution Authorizing the President of the Board of Directors to Execute Purchase and Sale Agreement and Joint Escrow Instructions for Real Property, Location: 045-200-033 was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by David Anderson. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting – 03/05/24
.....

The meeting was called to order at 5:28 p.m. by President Jim Jones.

Consent Items – A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Items.

Public Forum – Ms. Crystal Casey spoke, inquiring as to what was the status with the water issue, regarding Nitrates and dirty water. Curtis Jorritsma stated nitrates were going to be part of his District Manager’s Report and he would be happy to address the issue.

District Manager’s Report –

Curtis Jorritsma went ahead with his report. He stated that nitrates naturally occur in ground water. Our source of water is two wells pumping ground water. We continue to test twice a week for the

nitrate levels. Prior to the first nitrate spike, the testing requirement was twice a year. We are in regular communication with the State regarding the nitrate results. We flushed the water lines last week with the hope of assisting with the dirty water issue and possibly helping with the nitrate levels. Curtis stated, our website will have the current updates regarding nitrate results. We are currently exploring all nitrate treatment options. Curtis had a conversation with the company, Microvi, who provide nitrate treatment options. They are set to provide the District with projected costs.

Curtis provided update on the following projects:

- Project W05-2023 Test Hole and Water Sampling – Waiting for driller to confirm exact date they will be on site.
- Project W03-1MG Storage Tank, W02: Secondary Transmission, Well #9, and Tank #2 application was submitted to DWSRF-DFS. This starts the ball rolling. We are awaiting for the next steps.

USDA is currently in a holding pattern for allocations.

Director Reports – Mr. Anderson stated that the District has been blessed with good quality water. The District, has also had to abandon wells due to different contaminants. Much of the valley relies on groundwater. The District has been working on getting additional quality water.

Action Items –

- A) The bills that are due to be paid in March were presented. A motion was made and seconded to pay the bills presented.
- B) Curtis stated the Board approved Resolution 565 – Finding an Emergency and Authorizing Abbreviated Emergency Procedures for Construction of a New Well on July 31, 2023. As part of this process, the Board needs to analyze the situation and determine if the situation still constitutes an emergency. After a brief discussion, the Board determined the conditions warrant to continue with an emergency order. A motion was made and seconded to continue with the emergency order.
- C) Curtis presented Resolution 567. In March of 2023, the investment policy was presented to the Board, as a revision, in order for the District to have the ability to invest with different financial entities. At that time, no resolution was presented. As stated in the Investment Policy, the treasurer or fiscal officer of the agency is required to annually prepare and submit a statement of investment policy. We have prepared the 2023 Annual Investment Report and are presenting it to you today with the Investment Policy. Mr. Stuart Spencer, legal counsel, stated the primary objectives are safety, yield, and ensuring prudence with investment opportunities. Staff recommends approval of the resolution. A motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution No. 567: A Resolution Updating the Investment Policy and Accepting the 2023 Annual Report.
- D) Curtis stated that this action item is related to the subject of the negotiator's report in Closed Session. Staff recommended tabling this item until immediately after the closed session. A motion was made and seconded to table Action Item 6d.

Discussion Items –

- A) This item as stated on the agenda was discussed in the District Managers report.
- B) Curtis informed the Board, as staff was working on updating the IIPP Plan, a conversation was had with the firm preparing the IIPP Plan regarding pay frequency and overtime. It was recommended that the District consider changing the pay frequency from semi-monthly to semi-weekly. The reason being, overtime is based on the pay week not the pay period and it would be a cleaner way of calculating any overtime the employees might incur. Curtis stated the subject was discussed with staff at a staff meeting and they are not opposed to the idea. We are looking at implementing this change in April 2024. We will follow up at the next meeting.

The Directors Convened to Closed Session at 6:13 p.m. to update with Real Property Negotiator per Government Code Section 5496.8. APN: 045-200-033.

Directors returned to Open Session at 6:55 p.m.

Agenda Item 6(D): The chairman called for Action Item 6(D). Staff presented the terms and conditions that have been negotiated with the Seller of the 19.7 acres located at 045-200-033, to be purchased for use as a new office, shop, and corporate yard for the District. After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to adopt Resolution 568: A Resolution Authorizing the President of the Board of Directors to Execute Purchase and Sale Agreement and Joint Escrow Instructions for Real Property, Location: 045-200-033.

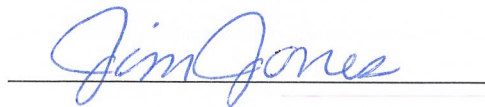
Mr. Anderson wanted to add a comment regarding the Nitrate situation and the cost of water. He stated the customers of the District are paying for the distribution of the water, the infrastructure, and the cost of maintenance, but that nobody, HCWD included, is buying the water.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

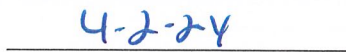
Respectfully Submitted,



Approved by:



Board Member



Date