

HILMAR COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING
July 25, 2023

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

Members Absent – None.

Public in Attendance – Roxanne Azevedo

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Action Items

A motion to discuss in closed session Whether Claims for Damages from Gipe, et. al. Presents a Substantial Risk of Litigation was made by Dave Anderson and seconded by Frank Hilliard. Motion passed 5-0.

Meeting – 07/25/23
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The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by President Jim Jones.

Public Forum – Roxanne Azevedo, customer of HCWD, inquired about possible in-home water treatment systems. She stated that her household uses the water for everything and just wanted to know what systems may help given the recent Nitrate issues the District has experienced. She was provided information by the District Manager and some of the Board Members. She excused herself after the public forum was complete.

District Manager’s Report –

Curtis reported briefly on agenda item 5.a, stating that a number of individuals and entities have made claims on virtually all Merced County water agencies for damages related to the January flooding. He noted that attorney Stuart Spencer would discuss more on this when that agenda item is called.

Curtis reported that sanding issues continue to occur and that the operators have been working hard to alleviate those as much as possible. He discussed some of the social media comments that were posted as well. Mr. Gerdes asked why some of the sand was left in streets until the next day. The Board stated that in the future, they would like to see that clean-up occur the same day, even if overtime was required. Mr. Hilliard expressed concern that we need to make some decisions for handling these sand problems. Curtis asked to revisit this at the August meeting so that he could gather more information.

Director Reports – None

Action Items –

- A) Attorney Spencer gave a brief explanation of multiple claims made against the District by hundreds of Merced County residents for damages related to January Flooding, and a motion was unanimously passed after being duly made and seconded to discuss the potential litigation in closed session.

Closed Session –

The Directors Convened to Closed Session at 5:57 p.m. to conference with Legal Counsel regarding Anticipated Litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code Section 54956.9 (1 case) and to Conference with Real Property Negotiator per Government Code Section 54956.8. Location: 22063 American Avenue, Hilmar, CA.

Directors returned to Open Session at 6:52 p.m.

The Chair announced in open session that the Board voted 5-0 to deny the claims presented and gave direction to staff to submit the denial letters.

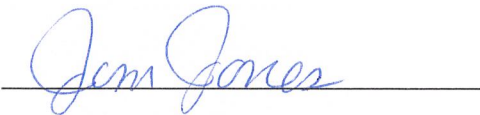
The Chair also announced that Staff was directed to continue real property negotiations.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Approved by:



Board Member



Date