

CALAVERAS PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

September 10, 2024
5:00 pm

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jack Tressler
Richard Blood
J.W. Dell'Orto
Kevin Sparks

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brady McCartney

STAFF PRESENT: Travis Small, General Manager
Mathew Roberts, Water System Superintendent
Adam Brown, District Legal Counsel
Carissa Bear, Clerk of the Board
Alison Bekolay, ClearGov (Virtual)
Alice Towey, East Bay Municipal Utility District (Virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT:

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER: The regular meeting was called to order by President Tressler at 5:09 P.M.
2. ROLL CALL OF DIRECTORS: Directors Tressler, Blood, Dell'Orto, and Sparks were present. Director McCartney was absent.
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Limit 3 minutes per person/15 minutes per subject): None
5. CONSENT ITEMS
 - a. August 20, 2024, Regular Board Minutes
 - b. Claim Summary

President Tressler inquired about the work done on truck #10. Mr. Roberts explained that it is a 2020 Ford F-250 that needed routine maintenance as well as replacement of the front calipers. President Tressler was not pleased with a 2020 truck already needing that type of repair. A motion was made by Director Dell'Orto, seconded by Director Blood, to approve Consent Items a-b. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Sparks, Blood, and Tressler voted yes. Motion carried 4-0.

6. CLEARGOV PRESENTATION

Alison Bekolay with ClearGov provided a presentation. Mr. Small explained that this product can help the District win an Award for Excellence in Government Finance through the Government Finance Officers Association, as well as transparency awards through ACWA/JPIA. Director Dell'Orto asked for more information on what winning these awards would do for the District. Mr. Brown explained that it shows the District's commitment to transparency. This

information is what grand jury look at and it will show that the District is being proactive. Director Blood inquired if this product would help the District save time for budget preparation, Mr. Small confirmed it would. President Tressler believes this will be a great tool especially during a future Prop 218. Director Dell'Orto liked the customizable aspect of the product. Ms. Bekolay and the Board discussed a possible time frame for going live if the District decided to move forward with this product. Mr. Small hopes to go live with this product for the fiscal year 2025/26. The Board asked Mr. Small to look more into the contract conditions, making sure that it is not something the District will not be able to get out of in the future. Mr. Small will follow up with Alison and report his findings to the finance committee.

7. MOKELUMNE RIVER VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS

Alice Towey with East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) provided a presentation on the Mokelumne River Voluntary Agreement also known as the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program. This program is an alternative implementation action in the State Water Board's update to the Bay-Delta Plan. This program will increase flows through the Delta and significantly improve habitat while implementing a modern science and governance structure that will meet state regulatory requirements and improve conditions for the environment, farms, homes, and businesses. Mr. Small asked where the water for this program will be purchased; Ms. Towey responded that it will be purchased from California Department of Water Resources (DWR), landowners, as well as purchase programs at market price. She explained that there is not a lot of transferable water on the Mokelumne River but if other agencies are interested in selling water, they can. Director Blood expressed his concern with the potential of causing a shortage of water for other agencies. Ms. Towey explained that each agency involved has an agreement for what their agency can willingly provide, preventing shortfalls. Director Blood inquired if there is one central location with information on the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program; Ms. Towey believes the reports will be on the California Natural Resources Agency's (CNRA) website. This program is not in place yet, so details are still being figured out. Director Blood inquired if DWR will be a part of the program; Ms. Towey confirmed that they will be, due to the fact that they are one of the leads for the program and have received funding from legislative for it. Director Sparks asked if EBMUD is the administrator for the program. Ms. Towey clarified that EBMUD is taking responsibility for the financial contribution. DWR is more of the administrator. At this time EBMUD is just asking for support from other agencies for when DWR makes their decision. The District can decide to be a signatory as a covered party. At that point, the District would enter into an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board. Mr. Small asked what the term is for the program. Ms. Towey said it is an 8-year term with the option to go 15 years.

8. PROBABLE MAXIMUM FLOOD STUDY FOR THE MIDDLE FORK DAM- REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Mr. Small did not list a deadline date yet, but he believes it will be in early November. The District is required to update the Probable Maximum Flood Study For The Middle Fork Dam in compliance with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations and is also required to update the study in compliance with state regulations through the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). Mr. Small received two budgetary estimates; both firms have previous business relationships with the district and are interested in submitting a proposal once the

District advertises the RFP. Our current chief dam safety engineer cannot help evaluate the proposals due to the fact that his company, GEI, will also be submitting a proposal. Mr. Small recommends hiring an independent dam safety engineer or using WGA to help with the evaluation of the proposals to ensure a fair process. A motion was made by Director Blood, seconded by Director Sparks, to authorize the General Manager to publish the RFP for the Probable Maximum Flood Study For The Middle Fork Dam. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Sparks, Blood, and Tressler voted yes. Motion carried 4-0.

9. SOUTH FORK PUMP STATION PUMP #1 REBUILD AND INSTALL

Pump #1 was pulled in July and taken to a facility to be inspected by a mechanic. The mechanic informed the District that the pump will need a full rebuild. Mr. Small inquired about a brand-new pump and was given a rough estimate of \$250,000. This is the alternative. Director Blood asked if this was the same part that was replaced previously; Mr. Roberts confirmed this part was replaced in the same pump about 6 years ago. Which is past the warranty. Director Sparks asked what the warranty would be for this; Mr. Small did not know. Mr. Small asked WGA to look into the possibility of getting funding from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on this. He believes the issues with the pump may have been caused by one of the big storms in January 2022, but it took a while to show. President Tressler inquired if the District needs to invest in other options to protect the pumps from storms. Mr. Roberts explained that some of that is included in capital improvements. A motion was made by Director Blood, seconded by Director Sparks, to authorize the General Manager to publish the RFP for the Probable Maximum Flood Study For The Middle Fork Dam. A roll call vote was taken. Directors Dell'Orto, Sparks, Blood, and Tressler voted yes. Motion carried 4-0.

10. BUDGET UPDATE 2024/2025

Mr. Small gave a monthly budget update through August 31, 2024. A change was made in QuickBooks Online that affected the way overtime and reimbursements were being reported. They are all being put into the same pot as salary; they should all go into their own pots. He is working on getting that cleaned up for accurate reporting. Mr. Small looked into what it would take to get out of the El Dorado Savings Bank certificates early. The District would need to find an alternative investment that provides a minimum of a 6% return in order to make it worthwhile. He recommends just staying put until the term ends.

11. REPORTS

a. Legal Counsel's Report

No report this month.

b. Water System Superintendent's Report

Mr. Roberts presented his monthly maintenance report. This time last year, it was reported that the District treated 41.8 million gallons of water compared to this year's 42.3 million gallons. The District sold 34.7 million gallons of water last year compared to this year's 40.3 million gallons. The crew is trying to keep the spillway service road at Schaads dry so they can remove logs and debris which is required by California Division Of Safety Of Dams and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The crew repaired 6 leaks for the San Andreas distribution system and 2 for the Mokelumne Hill distribution system. The crew responded to 162 USA tickets. Director Sparks inquired about the reported color complaints. Mr. Roberts explained that both of the complaints were in regard to the major leak from last month. The FERC inspection

went well, waiting for the report to come back. The Division of Drinking Water (DDW) Lead Service Line Inventory investigation portion has been completed as of today. The data just needs to be inputted into the portal. This is due October 15, 2024. The District is among few who will meet the deadline.

c. District Engineer Report

Mr. Small along with District Engineer and District Legal Counsel are working on the Paloma new service request. The service address in question is already in the District's sphere of influence. According to Mr. Brown, the District needs to adjust the boundaries to include the potential customers through annexation with Calaveras Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). This will allow future customers to obtain service with the District too. Director Dell'Orto expressed his concerns with the potential water need of these potential customers. He would like to make sure that their water demand does not overwhelm the system. Director Blood asked for an update on the Recycled Backwash Project; Mr. Small has a meeting with the District Engineers on Thursday. He will be able to provide an update after that. Director Blood asked if the District has gone after the available grant money with Calaveras Public Power Authority (CPPA). Mr. Small will follow up with Dennis Dickman on that. Director Blood inquired if the District Engineers had heard back on the county line for the jail. Mr. Small will follow up on that at his Thursday meeting.

d. General Manager's Report

Mr. Small gave an update on the proposed hotel for San Andreas. The hotel team sent the District an estimate for the cost of improvements to the system. They are proposing the District waves the system improvement because of the benefit to the District from the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT). Mr. Small informed the hotel team that they will need to take that proposal to the county for confirmation that the district will receive funding from TOT.

e. Directors' Comments:

Mr. Small reported that an ex-director of Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA) reached out to the local agencies to see if they would be interested in funding a forestry project. Mr. Small does not feel this project directly benefits the District since the project will not be in the District's area.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Tressler adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Carissa Bear, Secretary/Clerk of the Board