

Merquin County Water District

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, January 11, 2022

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Merquin County Water District called to order in regular session at 19684 Second Ave., Stevinson, California at 6:00 p.m.

Present were, President Freddy Oliveira, Director Rosemary Ouse, Director Danny Drumonde, Director Adam Azevedo, absent Director Phil Does.

MOTION APPROVING MINUTES of DECEMBER 29, 2021

Moved by Director Danny Drumonde, seconded by Director Adam Azevedo to approve the minutes of December 29, 2021.

Motion Carried Unanimously

MOTION APPROVING LIST OF WARRANTS

Moved by Director Danny Drumonde, seconded by Director Adam Azevedo, approving the list of warrants \$11,937.29.

Motion Carried Unanimously

MOTION ACCEPTING CHECKING ACCOUNT EXPENDITURES

Moved by Director Adam Azevedo, seconded by Director Rosemary Ouse accepting the checking account expenditure in the amount of \$45.00 to West America Bank for Safe Deposit box rental.

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion approving Entitlement Applications

No action, Entitlement applications are just starting to come into the office. This will be reposted for end of February meeting.

Civil Engineer:

1. Discussion/Action: Review of proposed projects submitted to Merced Subbasin GSA by MCWD and SWD for submittal to DWR for Grant funding.
Both SWD and MCWD adjusted the proposed projects submitted for DWR Grant Application through the Merced Subbasin GSA.

There will be a joint outreach engagement for the community on all three proposed projects if funded.

2. Discussion/Action: New delivery/weir box on Highline Lateral for Sandu Brothers
Eric will meet with Sandhu Bros, for an encroachment agreement, plus \$750 fee for the agreement to install one box. Sandhu Bros will be responsible to hire a company for installation of the box. Eric will supply the standards for the box to Sandhu Bros.

Eric also visited the pipeline up stream of the proposed box, the pipeline is exposed, this has been discussed in a previous meeting. Bobby Kelley stated it is ok for MCWD to use the dirt nearby to cover the pipeline.

The next box to the East had a hole broken in the side of the box with a direct connect to their pump suction without a shut of valve. Eric said this is not an industry standard. Director Drumonde said this is AV Thomas. Jimmy said he had asked them to plug it or remove it and they have not done anything.

Eric announced there is a GSA meeting Thursday at 2:00 p.m.

Correspondence:

None

MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Director Adam Azevedo reported on well site 14R – A subcontractor was on site and installed a new transformer for the well site. PG&E supervisor was on site, Adam asked if they could leave the old well hooked up? He said he did not get an order to disconnect, so it is in your best interest to leave it connected and he did he hooked up the old well on the new transformer. They did not finish the connection to the new well because the needed something else to finish.

Director Danny Drumonde inquired the status of Coelho well site: Eric Swenson replied according to the Merced Planning it will not be addressed until the GSA Board takes over initial approval of the new well permits in Merced County.

Dave Nervino inquired as to when the box on the Spole by River Road will be addressed due to lagoon residue in the pipeline, he states his pump screens are plugged each time irrigation season starts due to lagoon residue seepage into the pipeline from River Rock Dairy. Dave asked where will the manure be flushed before he can start his irrigation season? Dave stated it will take several days to clear the manure from the contaminated pipeline, prior to him being able to use the irrigation water to irrigate his almond orchards. The MCWD Board has banned lagoon water in the District Pipeline. Dave reminded that there recently was a contamination of sweet potatoes, if manure gets into an almond orchard, it is a different story because multiple growers have their production in the same lot. Bobby Kelley stated that was supposed to have been stopped. Director Drumonde said he will contact River Rock.

Dave Nervino stated the district should make the repairs and bill it back to River Rock.

OFFICE/MAINTENANCE

Office

Entitlements have been sent out.

Past due accounts presented to MCWD Board Members

Insurance check from the thief was deposited into account 21200 Maintenance Equipment

Funds from Special Account to General Maintenance have not been transferred as of yet.

Maintenance

Two leaks on the Storke need fixing
Completed the leaks on the Sprole
Albert Xavier has begun the project his property.
Spraying Ditches for weeds, Director Drumonde asked if they have put root killer in the tree,
they cut down Jimmy replied yes.
Backhoe ram is in and should be fixed next week.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Public Employment

California Government Code Section 54957

Titles: Office Manager, Secretary, Water Distributors

Moved by Director Adam Azevedo, seconded by Director Rosemary Ouse to go to Closed session.

Public Employment was not addressed during this meeting

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Name of Case: Petition for Long-Term Change Involving the Transfer of up to 5,000 AFY under License 5940 of SWD and ESCC, State Water Resources Control Board

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)

Initiation of Litigation – One Potential Case

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION


Moved by Director Adam Azevedo, seconded by Director Danny Drumonde to return to open session.

Motion Carried Unanimously

MOTION TO ADJOURN


Moved by Director Adam Azevedo seconded by Director Danny Drumonde to adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously


Freddy Oliveira
President

Adam Azevedo

Vice President


Betty Guest
Secretary