

**Merquin County Water District**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
Of the Board of Directors  
Tuesday, December 12, 2023**

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 6:00 p.m.

Present were, President Adam Azevedo, Director Danny Drumonde, Absent: Vice President Freddy Oliviera, Director Rick Jones, Director Phil Dores

Call to order at 6:00 p.m.

Information Meeting regarding proposed Increased Irrigation Water Rates.  
District Engineer Agenda Items for December 12, 2023 Board Meeting.  
Dave Nervino requested past cost of water purchases by MCWD from SWD as well as water costs proposed in recent CCID 218 for future water rates. District Engineer indicated that he would provide this information at the January 9, 2024 218 Public Hearing. See Attachment for additional information.

See Attachment: for additional information

**MOTION APPROVING MINUTES of November 14, 2023  
Tabled**

**MOTION APPROVING LIST OF WARRANTS  
Tabled**

**MOTION APPROVING CHECKING ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE  
Tabled**

**Motion approving November 2023 Financial Report  
Tabled**

**Motion approving changing MCWD Board meeting times.  
Tabled**

**Correspondence  
None**

**Civil Engineer Eric Swenson:**

1. Discussion/Action: Well 10R Status Update
  - a. Well Permit has been received from MCDEH.
  - b. Proposals for new well have been requested from Quality Well Drillers and Calwater Drilling Company.
  - c. Contract with PG&E for Electrical Service has been signed.

2. Discussion/Action: Update on MSGSA activities.
- a. Groundwater Allocations in MSGSA: EKI consultants is working to develop initial groundwater pumping allocations. Final approval of these allocations is scheduled for July 2024.
  - b. December 14th MSGSA Board Meeting. We should encourage as many people as possible to attend this 2 PM meeting at the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room in the County Building at 2222 M Street in Merced. Following is one of the agenda items to be discussed:

**SUBJECT: POTENTIAL FORMATION OF ADDITIONAL GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES (GSA)**

**SUMMARY:**

This item provides the Board with the opportunity to discuss potential impacts and actions for the Merced Subbasin GSA, should new GSA's express interest in forming in the Merced Subbasin. Staff has become aware that there are landowners within the Merced Subbasin GSA's boundaries who have expressed the interest or intention to form their own water district in order to form their own GSA.

According to the California Department of Water Resources, once exclusive GSAs are established in a basin, new GSAs may only be formed if the exclusive GSA chooses to peel back their boundaries and allow the new GSA to form. The Merced Subbasin GSA is the exclusive GSA for its portion of the Merced Subbasin.

**REQUEST/RECOMMENDATION/ACTION NEEDED:**

Discussion regarding the potential formation of additional Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Merced Subbasin and impacts to the Merced Subbasin GSA.

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**MATTERS FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT**

Frank Amaral commented that the property owner at 24165 Second Ave. used a Kubota Tractor and a chisel and was ripping the ground. There is a private irrigation line that runs through the property to service surrounding properties. Beware there is a potential for some damage to the irrigation line.

**OFFICE  
None**

**Maintenance**

Started burning on the Green Ditch and McDonald Lateral.  
Began repairs to the Sprole, then Storke, by the end of the month everything should be repaired and the Straight.

There is a wash out on pump #4 open ditch that will be fixed.  
Dave Nervino asked how the accounts receivable status was. Crystal was not in attendance for comment.

Jimmy spoke to Eric Swenson regarding Xaviers Property, the open ditch that needs reopening. Requests for bids were sent out to several prospective vendors and never received any responses for bids.

Adam Azevedo asked if all the ring cracks reported on the invoice from AllPro were on the Highline lateral. Jimmy said yes.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Moved by Director Freddy Oliviera, seconded by Director Phil Dores to Adjourn.

Motion Carried Unanimously

  
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Adam Azevedo  
President

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Freddy Oliviera  
Vice President

  
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Betty Guest  
Secretary