

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
July 15, 2024**

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held on July 15, 2024, at 9:00 am. Those present at the meeting were:

Directors: Aaron Barcellos, President  
Steve Fausone, Secretary  
Wayne Western, Director

Staff: Patrick McGowan, General Manager  
Chris Carlucci, Maintenance Manager  
Josh Marquez, Contracts Administrator  
Sandra Reyes, Water Master

Others: Neill Callis, Turlock Fruit Company  
Palmer McCoy, GBA  
Phil Williams, Legal Counselor

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Barcellos called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Barcellos led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present.

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no conflicts of interest.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE JUNE 11, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Secretary Fausone and seconded by Director Western, the Board approved the June 11, 2024, regular board meeting minutes as presented. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia, Linneman  
Abstain: None

## **THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF CONCERNING THE PANOCHE DRAINAGE DISTRICT DRAFT SOLAR POLICY**

General Manager Patrick McGowan reported on a red-line version of the Solar Policy that annotated changes that had been made since the last board meeting. After discussion by the Board, it was suggested adding additional language to the solar policy that stated any pre-existing solar agreements would be grandfathered in. There was also discussion around verbiage stating a landowner would be required to notify the District of their plans for solar projects. Members of the Board were adamant that this language be removed. The board also discussed water being transferred out of the District from these APN's and suggested it be brought for board approval, which is already a requirement of our Water Transfer Policy. McGowan was given direction to work with legal counsel to make changes to policy and bring back for Board review in August's meeting.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

- A. Accounts Payable**
- B. Monthly Financials**
- C. FYE 2024 Budget to Actual**
- D. Other financial matters**

Upon a motion by Secretary Fausone and seconded by Director Western, the board approved the financial reports as presented by Water Master Sandra Reyes for Accounting Supervisor Mrs. Brazil who was absent. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia, Linneman  
Abstain: None

## **REPORT ITEMS**

### **OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE**

Maintenance Manager Mr. Carlucci reported on the following operations and maintenance activities for the month of June:

- General Maintenance
- Staff cleaned Davidson drain (1 mile).
- Staff replaced road crossing pipeline on Buick drain.
- Weed Control – Staff sprayed Althea, Davidson, Hammonds, Nees, and Buick drains.
- Charleston Drainage District – Checking oilers on CH-2 pump.

Mr. Carlucci also noted that a pump at Charleston Drainage District needs to be repaired for approximately \$7,700. Follow-up conversations between Palmer, Chris Linneman, and Patrick will determine how this will be handled upon direction from CDD Board of Directors in August's meeting.

### **DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT**

General Manager Patrick McGowan reported on the following drainage management activities for the month of June:

- We are meeting our load targets, and there are no issues to report at this time.

### **GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY**

The General Manager of the Grassland Basin Authority (GBA) Mr. Pamer McCoy reported on the following:

- They finished the first cutting of Jose Tall Wheat Grass and are 4,000 tons short of last year, due to fire and lack of water.

- The GBA budget will reflect being \$150,000 short and the determination is being made on whether to pull this shortfall from reserves.
- The levees of the old ponds are currently being lowered and it's looking like this project may be exceeding budget.
- The GBA is working on the new pipeline project to be able to deliver water.
- The new ponds have pretty much been completed.
- There has been some vandalism and GBA is currently re-working on the electrical room and re-running water. There show be a draw down in August and GBA is hoping to test the system then.
- GBA hired a new employee.
- The GBA is currently looking at buying water from FCWD and having CCID convey it for the alfalfa. If for some reason, that does not work, then they will look at fallowing the ground next year.

### **THE BOARD TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM STAFF ON VARIOUS MATTERS AFFECTING THE DISTRICT**

Staff reported on various items that had been completed, or were ongoing, on the Action Items List presented - dated June 11, 2024. General Manager Patrick McGowan reported that a meeting was held with Patrick, Juan, Marlene, Palmer, and Emily about the annexation process. Mr. McCoy reported that he would be discussing the results of this meeting at his GBA Board meeting being held on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Mr. McGowan reported on the following:

#### **A. Prop 84 Grant for Westside Regional Drainage Plan**

- i. Tile Sump SCADA Project: Nothing to report.
- ii. Land Acquisition: Nothing to report.
- iii. Land Development: Nothing to report.

#### **B. Annexation**

- i. Mr. McGowan reported that he and Mr. Cadena were able to meet with Mr. Nelson and he agreed to pay the Drainage Service Landlocked Fee in exchange for having us clean his drain. More discussion needs to be had with Dave Cory and Chris Linneman.

#### **C. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority (SJVDA)**

Mr. McGowan reported that the Prioritization & Optimization (P&O) archetype study with the Delta Mendota Sub basin is the focus at this time. Mr. McGowan reported that there are two consultant groups currently competing with one another. The concern is that the hydrological data is unified and not conflicting. The authority was drafting an agreement where the SJVDA will pay EKI, our (SGMA) consultant, \$10,000 to gather this information for the P&O study group. We are also working with Summers to provide crop data, but there seem to be some voids in our crop mapping.

**Other Matters:** Mr. McGowan reported that staff has been working on the Koda ponds and have moved 12,000 cubic yards of dirt in 10 days. Mr. McGowan noted that even though our equipment rates are in line with everyone else, we are working on trading out work with the GBA to help lessen the expenses to our growers.

*At approximately 10:05 am, President Barcellos announced that the Drainage District meeting would be taking a five-minute break.*

*At approximately 10:11 am, President Barcellos announced that the Drainage District meeting would resume.*

### **REPORTS ON OTHER ITEMS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2 (a)(3)**

There were no other items.

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Legal Counsel**

At 12:17 pm, the Boards met in Closed Session to meet with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation.  
At 12:47 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

**PANOCHÉ WATER AND DRAINAGE DISTRICTS CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Legal Counsel**

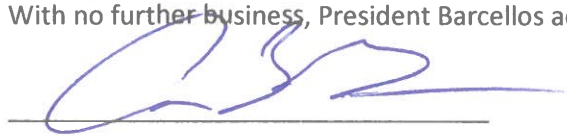
At 12:06 pm, the Boards met in Closed Session to meet with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation.  
At 12:16 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

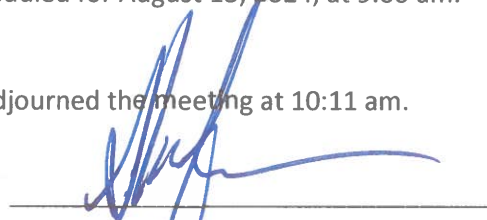
The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for August 13, 2024, at 9:00 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 10:11 am.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary