

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on September 10, 2024, at 9:00 am. Those present at the meeting were:

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

Staff: Patrick McGowan, General Manager
Marlene Brazil, Accounting Supervisor
Juan Cadena, Water Resources Manager
Chris Carlucci, Maintenance Manager
Sandra Reyes, Water Master

Others: Neill Callis, Turlock Fruit Company
Palmer McCoy, GBA
Chase Hurley, Water and Land Solutions
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

Grassland Basin Authority's General Manager Palmer McCoy let everyone know that Aldo Sansoni's funeral services were being held on Friday.

ACTION ITEMS

BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE AUGUST 13, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the Board approved the August 13, 2024, regular board meeting minutes as presented. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

BOARD TO REVIEW AND GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DRAFT TILE LINE POLICY

General Manager Patrick McGowan and General Manager of the Grassland Basin Authority (GBA) Palmer Mc Coy each reported on the draft tile line policy that was discussed at the last GBA board meeting. It was noted that there are many unknowns at this time, such as should growers requesting to install a tile line pay an initial buy-in fee and if so, should the fee be received by the home district or GBA. Additionally, the priority of new tile lines, as opposed to already installed tile lines was discussed. The discussion was had that if one can add tile lines with no negative impact, the District would see no reason to not approve the request. Each of the five entities addresses their tiled and non-tiled lands differently through their respected drainage service fees. It was agreed that each entity should work to develop their tile line policy, and the GBA simply manage the water it receives. It was suggested that the GBA draft a policy and distribute it to the five entities to assist our Boards in finalizing a home district policy.

BOARD TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 838-24 AWARDED A CONTRACT TO ANTHONY'S LASER LEVELING TO CONSTRUCT PROPOSITION 84 GRANT-FUNDED SAN JOAQUIN RIVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT FIELD CONSOLIDATION & RE-BORDERING PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING RELATED ACTIONS

General Manager Patrick McGowan presented the Board with a letter and bid tabulation received from Engineer Chris Linneman of Summers Engineering noting that two bids were received from qualified bidders on September 4th, 2024. One bid was from Anthony's Laser Leveling and the other from Wood Brothers, Inc. The low bidder was Anthony's Laser Leveling from Kerman, CA with a bid amount of \$ 1,777,750.00. It was noted that Anthony's Laser Leveling has worked with the District in the past, and the District is confident that they will be able to complete the project.

Upon a motion by Secretary Fausone and seconded by Director Correia, the board approved Resolution # 838-24 awarding the contract to Anthony's Laser Leveling for the SJRIP Field consolidation & re-bordering project as presented. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

BOARD TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION # 839-24 CERTIFYING THE NO-CONTEST ELECTION AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO APPOINT THOSE CANDIDATES WHO FILED DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY

General Manager Patrick McGowan presented the Board with a letter received from the County of Fresno Board of Supervisors asking that a certification listing the qualified individuals who filed a Declaration of Candidacy with the District and a District Board Resolution be submitted on the District's behalf. Once the board has taken action on this item and returned the requested documentation, the office of the County of Fresno Board of Supervisors will submit letters of appointment to the appointees, along with a copy to the District.

Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved Resolution # 839-24 certifying the no-contest election and requesting appointments as presented.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. Accounts Payable**
- B. Monthly Financials**
- C. FYE 2025 Budget to Actual**
- D. Other financial matters**

Upon a motion by Director Correia and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved the financial reports as presented by Accounting Supervisor Mrs. Brazil. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

REPORT ITEMS

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

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

- General Maintenance
- Staff cleaned the Buick drain.
- Staff made repairs to Buick drain road crossing pipe.
- Weed Control – Staff sprayed Althea, Davidson, Russell, T-Canal, Nees, and Buick drains.
- Charleston Drainage District – Checking oilers on CH-2 pumps – will be pulling out at the beginning of October at the Charleston Drainage District Board’s direction.
- San Luis Drain Weed Control – Hwy 152 to Hwy 165. Staff also placed squirrel bait at bait stations.

Mr. Carlucci also informed the Board that he is currently scouting early buy-in programs on chemicals for weed control, to hopefully assist in a more effective weed control plan that minimizes labor hours.

DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT

Water Resources Manager Juan Cadena reported on the following drainage management activities for the month of August:

- We are under our thresholds and there was hardly any activity happening due to no rainfall.

GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY

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

- Mr. McCoy wanted to thank the Panoche Water District staff for taking their time to go over the work associated with maintaining the San Luis Drain.
- Mr. McCoy also reported on a fire incident that recently occurred, where a loaded hay truck caught fire.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Mr. McGowan reported on the following:

A. Prop 84 Grant

Mr. McGowan reported that reimbursements for Invoice 24 and 25 have already been sent out.

B. Annexation, Landowner Authorization Forms

Mr. McGowan reported that the Landowner Authorization Agreements have been sent out, and we are awaiting their return. The District has also billed for the costs associated with the annexation to date.

C. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority (SJVDA)

Mr. McGowan reported that on July 16th, the San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) informed their members that they will no longer be supporting the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority in regard to the day-to-day accounting and meetings. February 28, 2025, is the target date for the separation between SLDMWA and SJVDA. A request was made to SLDMWA for an accounting of time management from Lauren Viers to assist potential interested parties in providing an estimate for services. San Luis Water District offered that future meetings could be held at their office pending approval from their Board of Directors. A request was also made to receive a formal proposal from Summers Engineering to take over the management of the SJVDA.

D. Other

Mr. McGowan reported that it has been quiet on the prioritization and optimization study, but they still plan on hitting their scheduled completion date. The board requested an update for the October meeting.

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 August 13, 2024.

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 11:45 am, the Boards met in Closed Session to meet with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation. At 12:07 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

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

There was no Water and Drainage District Joint Closed Session held.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

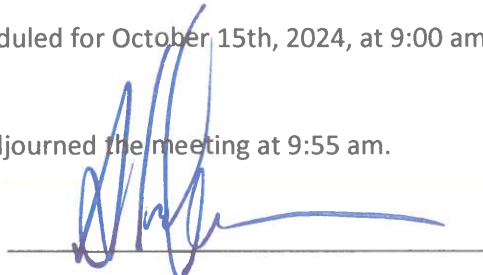
The next special meeting of the Board was scheduled for October 15th, 2024, at 9:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 9:55 am.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary