

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024**

An adjourned regular meeting of the Board of Directors and Proposition 218 Public Hearing was held on May 21, 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
Juan Cadena, Water Resources Manager
Chris Carlucci, Maintenance Manager
Josh Marquez, Contracts Administrator
Sandra Reyes, Water Master

Others: Neill Callis, Turlock Fruit
Palmer McCoy, GBA
Chase Hurley, Water and Land Solutions
Phil Williams, Legal Counsel

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

PROPOSED 2024-2025 DRAINAGE SERVICE FEE RATES PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Proposition 218, President Barcellos opened the public hearing to receive testimony regarding the proposed drainage service fee rates. After waiting three minutes and receiving no testimony, President Barcellos closed the public hearing.

Mr. McGowan reported to the board that the District received four protest letters, totaling 735 acres and that a resolution would be presented at next month's board meeting.

BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER ACCEPTING AS FINAL THE PRICE, PAIGE, & COMPANY DRAFT AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FISCAL-YEAR ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2023, SUBJECT TO ANY FURTHER BOARD DIRECTION

The Board of Directors decided to table this Agenda Item and bring it back for decision at the next board meeting.

BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 16, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Secretary Fausone and seconded by Director Correia, the Board approved the April 16, 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

THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVING THE PANOCHE DRAINAGE DISTRICT DELINQUENCY POLICY

The Board advised that a revised A/R Delinquency Report would be shown at the board meetings that reflected at which stage a delinquent grower was in and adding the language to the policy that stated that at the 2-month mark, the General Manager would be following up with a personal phone call.

After discussion by the Board and upon a motion by Director Western, and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the Board approved the Panoche Drainage District Delinquency Policy. 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 2024 Budget to Actual**
- D. Other financial matters**

Upon a motion by Director Correia and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved the financial report 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, 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 April:

- General Maintenance
- Weed control – We sprayed the Davidson, Althea, Sabbatti, and 1144 Drains.
- In Charleston Drainage District - Checking oilers on CH-2 pumps.
- San Luis Drain Weed Control – Sprayed from Check 8 North to Hwy 165 and filled the squirrel bait stations.
- On the San Luis Drain – Started making gate boxes for 152 gates and Henry Miller gates.
- Started cleaning Bypass E Canal to San Luis Drain. (GBP)

DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT

Water Resources Manager Mr. Cadena reported on the following drainage management activities for the month of April:

- Site D's test results were below target – 5 parts per billion.
- Site A has zero discharge.

GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY

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

- They have started the first cutting of Jose Tall Wheat Grass.
- The GBA has begun to explore the feasibility of merging with the Grassland Basin Drainers to minimize grower expenses and improve services. Mr. McCoy has spoken to the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) regarding the discharge permit.
- The GBA will engage with PDD moving forward in the process.
- GBA is in the process of removing the drip tape from the 96 acres of pistachios.
- Will be taking out the 96 acres of pistachios and will have 180 acres left. The root stalk is not good for the soil conditions. The remaining 180 acres produces and utilizes fresh water.

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 May 14, 2024. The board requested that we add the tile line moratorium policy on June's Agenda.

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: Mr. McGowan informed the Board that we received the estimate from Bockman & Woody for the 5 additional tile sumps and it has been reviewed. The state has a 2-month delay with invoices, however Invoices # 21, 22 and 23 are approved already and will be paid.
- ii. Land Acquisition: Nothing to report.
- iii. Land Development: Nothing to report.

B. Annexation

- i. Mr. McGowan reported that he has made multiple attempts with no success to meet with one remaining landowner regarding the annexation process. Mr. Chase Hurley also explained that he has had no luck trying to contact the landowner.

C. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority

Mr. McGowan reported that there was a conference call held yesterday regarding the Salt Prioritization Optimization Control Program. The Central Delta Mendota Subbasin has been chosen to be the archetype for the Prioritization and Optimization study. The group is holding interviews with the Districts to see what is needed. Currently, they are requesting crop mapping and water deliveries. Mr. Chase Hurley was also present and provided more in depth information on the study.

D. Other Matters: Nothing to report

At approximately 10:12 am, President Barcellos announced that the Drainage District meeting would be taking a five minute break.

At approximately 10:17 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 WATER AND DRAINAGE DISTRICTS CLOSED SESSION: Conference with Legal Counsel

At 11:30 pm, the Boards met in Closed Session to meet with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation.

At 11:45 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

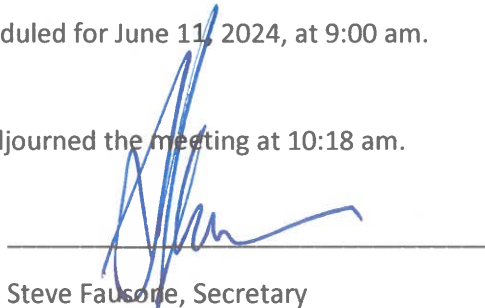
The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for June 11, 2024, at 9:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 10:18 am.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary