

**PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
April 16, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held on April 16, 2024, at 9:00 am. Those present at the meeting were:

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

Staff: Marlene, Brazil, Accounting Supervisor
Juan Cadena, Water Resources Manager
Chris Carlucci, Maintenance Manager
Josh Marquez, Contracts Administrator
Patrick McGowan, General Manager
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 9:01 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 APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Director Fausone, the Board approved the March 12, 2024, regular board meeting minutes as presented. The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Correia, Fausone, Linneman, Western
Nays: None
Absent: None
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 Fausone and seconded by Director Correia, the board approved the financial report as presented by Accounting Supervisor Mrs. Brazil. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND APPROVE RESOLUTION # 835-24 AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY

General Manager Patrick McGown presented the board with the Settlement Agreement between Panoche Drainage District and the Grassland Basin Authority explaining that the Settlement Agreement would be executed later in the week. Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Director Fausone, the board approved Resolution # 835-24 authorizing the execution of the Settlement Agreement with the Grassland Basin Authority. The vote on the motion was as follows:

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

THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE PANOCHÉ DRAINAGE DISTRICT DELINQUENCY POLICY

General Manager Patrick McGowan presented Panoche Water Districts existing delinquency policy which strongly incorporates Panoche Drainage. After discussion, the expressed goal was a delinquency policy that either District can utilize efficiently and would withstand legal challenges. Mr. McGowan was directed to work with Legal Counsel to develop an updated policy.

THE BOARD TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE PROPOSITION 218 LETTER AND PROTEST FORM SENT TO LANDOWNERS

The Proposition 218 Letter and Protest Forms sent to landowners were presented to the board for discussion. Mr. McGowan reported to date we have received 4 protest forms from landowners. The date and time of the formal protest hearing was discussed. Additionally, there was conversation regarding setting an acceptable water rate range in succeeding years.

REPORT ITEMS

OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

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

- General Maintenance

- Weed control – The Buick drain, Hamonds drain, Davidson drain, and Althea drain were all sprayed.
- In Charleston Drainage District - Checking oilers on CH-2 pumps.
- Pacheco Water District Weed Control – PWD sprayed these locations – Laterals 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6, Pacheco ponds, Pacheco lift, and Pacheco drain
- San Luis Drain Weed Control – Minimal Activity, did fill the squirrel bait stations.
- On the San Luis Drain – Picked up trash from Henry Miller Rd to Hwy 165. The crew gathered 4 trailer loads of trash.
- Worked on EPA Account for PDD. Updating the Annual Verification Questionnaire Report.

DRAINAGE MANAGEMENT

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

- The discharging stopped as of late February/early March.
- We have been collecting samples and will have results soon.

GRASSLAND BASIN AUTHORITY

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

- They have started working on the pistachios.
- Mr. McCoy reported that we violated the selenium threshold in February. Chris Linneman, Mr. McCoy, and David Cory had a conversation with the state board. The state board looked at our reactions and the steps we've taken to handle the violation. Mr. McCoy also noted that the environmental side wrote a letter too and that it had very little to do with the violation. Chris Linneman, David Cory, Patrick McGowan, Mr. McCoy, the state board, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had a phone conversation stating that we can show why the violation happened and that the Panoche Drainage District is now going out and taking samples weekly. Our only hurdle has been the turn around time for the results – it takes seven days.

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 from the previous board meeting held on March 12, 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: Mr. McGowan informed the Board he is awaiting an estimate change order from Bockman & Woody for the 5 additional tile sumps.
- ii. Land Acquisition: Nothing to report
- iii. Land Development: Mr. McGowan reported the plan to work with Grassland Basin Authority, and Firebaugh Canal Water District on leveling past District drainage ponds.

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.

C. San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority

Mr. McGowan reported that the Salt Control Program is the new priority after years of focus on Nitrates. The Central Delta Mendota Subbasin is being considered as an archetype for a proposed Prioritization and Optimization study. The selection process is in May. Currently we are in Phase 1 of the study and that can last 10 to 12 years, with Phase 2 possible lasting 12 to

15 years, and then the study would move into Phase 3. Mr. McGowan noted that the idea is for us to be at the table in participating in this study. SJVDA believes it vital to participate in shaping the process of Salt management in our region in the future.

D. Other Matters: Nothing to report

At approximately 9:59 am, President Barcellos suspended the Drainage District meeting and called the Water District Board meeting to order.

At approximately 10:25am, 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:

At 10:26 am, the Board met in Closed Session regarding real property negotiations and conference with legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation. At 11:27 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

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

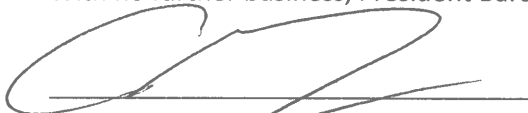
At 11:29 pm, the Boards met in Closed Session to meet with legal counsel on related anticipated litigation. At 12:00 pm, Mr. Williams stated that no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

FUTURE MEETING DATES

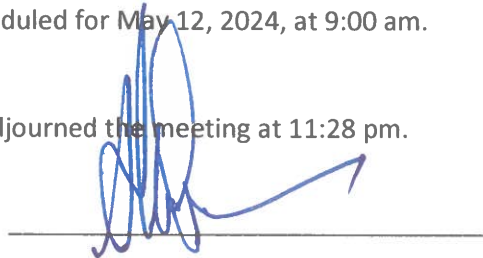
The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for May 12, 2024, at 9:00 am.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 11:28 pm.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary