

**Linden County Water District
Regular Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2018**

Directors Present: President Paul Brennan, Vice President David Fletcher, Director Cliff Powell, Director Myron Blanton and Director Elaine Reed

Board Secretary Barbara Kascht and General Manager Tom McCoy were also in attendance

Directors Absent: None

Public Comment: None

Agenda Items:

1. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Swearing In of Newly Appointed Director.** President Paul Brennan administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Director Elaine Reed.

2. OLD BUSINESS

- a. **Quality Service Contract Renewal.** General Manager Tom McCoy asked for clarification on the direction the Board wants to take in the next few years. He cited uncertainty of capacity of the water system. The District has enough water to meet potable water demands but there is uncertainty about fire suppression. Director Myron Blanton stated the focus has been on the water storage tank project. Vice President David Fletcher asked about the status of the Highway 26 water line replacement project. General Manager Tom McCoy stated it was still with the engineers. Several reasons were cited for delay of the project; increased permit fees, lumping projects together and engineering firm transition. General Manager McCoy and District staff will review plans one more time before finalizing. President Paul Brennan asked that District Engineer Matt Ospital attend the September 20, 2018 meeting. Funding was also discussed. It was suggested to begin educating ratepayers now on reasons additional increases are necessary before the Prop 218 rate increase ends in June 2020. A 40% reduction in water usage by customers contributed to the projected income shortfall for planned District projects. Groundwater sustainability will also be a factor in the future. David Fletcher moved to retain Tom McCoy's services for this next fiscal year, seconded by Myron Blanton. **AYES: 4 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 1 ABSENT: 0** Motion carried
- b. **Financing.** Barbara Kascht has begun the RD Apply process to obtain the Level 2 eAuthentication ID necessary to create the USDA online loan payment application. The Board reviewed Karen Servas' contract for grant writing, which had been revised by District Legal Counsel Dean Ruiz. The contract time frame was extended through June 30, 2019. Myron Blanton moved to approve the contract, seconded by David Fletcher. **AYES: 5 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0** Motion carried.

- c. **CARNA Farming Lease.** The Board reviewed the agricultural lease as revised by District Legal Counsel Dean Ruiz. Exhibit “A”, the legal description of the property, will be added. Myron Blanton moved to approve the agricultural lease with CARNA Farming, seconded by David Fletcher. **AYES:** 5 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 0 Motion carried.
- d. **Solar Project.** Requests for Proposals will go out on August 24, 2018 for the WWTP site only. The tentative construction schedule has the project completed before the end of the year.
- e. **Capital Replacement Projects.** President Paul Brennan asked to be notified of incidences such as the notice of violation. In the future, staff will send a mass email to all Board members advising of the situation. General Manager Tom McCoy explained the three tiers within the Public Water System. The District received a Tier 3 for a monitoring violation. The District Engineer is currently working on the following projects:
- Water main down Highway 26
 - Sewer main down Highway 26
 - Sewer line repairs on Duncan
 - Water line on Knox
- f. **Sustainable Groundwater Management.** Vice President David Fletcher provided figures on the depth-to-water (DTM) levels for each of the District’s wells in 1992, 2015 and 2018. There is talk about either 1992 or 2015 being the minimum threshold level. The District is currently below either year. Compliance will need to be time averaged instead of by month. Information from the meeting regarding the Hydrogeological Conceptual Model (HCM) and monitoring data gaps was also discussed. The District is in a critically overdrafted area. According to preliminary water budget figures, there is enough agricultural usage within the boundaries of the District to permit 300 acre feet per year. Vice President David Fletcher will research to determine which orchards are in the District. Additionally, the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority is holding a public open house on August 29, 2018 at the Cabral Center in Stockton. Vice President Fletcher volunteered to staff the District’s table. Information has been posted on the website and several places in Linden. Staff will print flyers and distribute door hangers.
- g. **Water Usage.** July water usage figures and high users were considered. Usage for the last two months compares favorably with 2014.

David Fletcher moved to add a late agenda item, seconded by Cliff Powell. **AYES:** 5 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 0 Motion carried.

- h. **Evaluation Form Sub-Committee – Goal Setting.** Vice President David Fletcher and Director Myron Blanton will confer to update the employee self-evaluation form.

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

David Fletcher moved to approve the consent calendar as follows:

- a. July 26, 2018 Regular and August 2, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes
- b. Warrant Listing
- c. Financial Reports
- d. Operations Report

seconded by Elaine Reed. **AYES:** 5 **NOES:** 0 **ABSTAIN:** 0 **ABSENT:** 0 Motion carried.

The Board discussed putting CPA audit services out to bid. It was agreed to stay with David Vaughn.

4. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business David Fletcher moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Myron Blanton. **AYES**: 5 **NOES**: 0 **ABSTAIN**: 0 **ABSENT**: 0 Motion carried.