# Watermaster District

### - DRAFT MINUTES --

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors June 2, 2022

Directors present: Rod Dowse, Jeff Fowle, Bruce Fiock, FJ Hayden, Tony Bishop

Absent: John Spencer, Rick Lemos

Others in Attendance: Leah Grassman, Bonny Nichols, Cherie Stephens, Peter Kiel, Elisa Noble, Nick Joslin

(Friends of the Shasta), Susan Hart

#### 1. Call to Order

a. **Establish Quorum**- a quorum is established. Meeting called to order by Chairman Fiock at 7:01pm

b. **Agenda Approval –** ACTION: Approve Agenda as presented. MOTION: Fowle SECOND: Bishop; AYES: Dowse, Hayden, Fiock; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

#### a. Regular meeting May 25, 2022

ACTION: Approve minutes as amended to remove Director Spencer's name from Item 2a, as he was absent. MOTION: Fowle; SECOND: Dowse; AYES: Fiock, Hayden, Bishop; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

#### 3. Public Comment – none.

# 4. Old Business (possible action items)

# a. Discuss Proposed Updates to the SWB Emergency Drought Regulation

ED Noble reported that she submitted written comments on the final regulation that were due May 31st. The final regulation will be released June 10th, and it is scheduled for adoption at the June 21st SWB Meeting.

NO ACTION.

b. Discuss curtailments and other coordination under the SWB Emergency Drought Regulation WM Grassman provided an update on ongoing work being completed under the SWB (pending) contract.

NO ACTION.

# c. Discuss and Approve SSWD Contract with SWB for services related to the Drought Regulation

ED Noble provided a reminder that the SWB contract required the District to carry both Non-Hired Auto Insurance and Professional Liability Insurance. She reported that Churchill Insurance provided the following quotes: \$2,768 annual premium for professional liability insurance, and \$298 annual premium for non-hired auto insurance. Board discussion was had regarding the pros and cons of entering into the state contract.

ACTION 1: Approve SSWD Contract with SWB for services related to the Drought Regulation. MOTION: Fowle; SECOND: Bishop; AYES: Fiock, Hayden; Dowse; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

ACTION 2: Approve purchase of non-hired auto and professional liability insurance, as per the quotes provided from Churchill Insurance. Also, confirm that SSWD General Liability policy includes Directors and Officers coverage. MOTION: Bishop; SECOND: Dowse; AYES: Fiock, Hayden; Fowle; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

#### d. Discuss and Approve SSWD 2022-23 Budget

Chair Fiock and ED Noble provided an update on discussions with the Financial Committee and Vice Chair Fowle. The current draft budget was presented and discussed. The per person fee was proposed at \$193, and the per AF fee at \$.74. Discussion was had regarding how to best provide

additional compensation for employees using their personal vehicles for District business, particularly with off-road miles and increased costs of fuel, maintenance, etc. WM Grassman reported that she had discovered additional water rights owned by CDFW for which SSWD had not previously billed. Discussion was held with Peter Kiel regarding the legality of SSWD billing for these additional rights.

ACTION 1: Approve SSWD 22-23 Budget with the following amendments:

- 1) Spread total workers' compensation billed amount across 12 months
- 2) Increase vehicle stipend total amount to \$4,000
- 3) Bill CDFW for all pertinent rights, pending legal verification

MOTION: Fowle; SECOND: Bishop; AYES: Flock, Hayden, Dowse; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

ACTION 2: Approve the administrative fee waivers included in the packet, and add Pfieffer. MOTION: Fowle; SECOND: Bishop; AYES: Fiock, Hayden; Dowse; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

#### 5. New Business (possible action items)

# a. Discuss Concept of Potential Reorganization of Staff Positions

ED Noble reported that staff were discussing potential options for reorganizing tasks, especially as Bonny's hours are increased over the next year.

NO ACTION.

b. Discuss Role of SSWD in Implementation of 1707s, SHAs, and other instream flow dedications WM Grassman described how landowners that have completed instream flow dedications are increasingly expecting SSWD to provide management of those flows. The State Water Board has also expressed their desire for SSWD to provide this service. However, this would be work above and beyond the regularly provided Watermaster service, and is not the District's legal obligation. While it is important for SSWD to be involved in the development of any potential instream flow dedications to ensure no water users are harmed, we need to evaluate the District's ongoing involvement. Staff also expressed a desire to have the Board more involved in the analysis of potential harm to other water users. ED Noble said she would draft a policy for consideration at the next meeting.

ACTION: All no-injury analyses of proposed instream flow dedications will be brought to the SSWD Board for a final decision of SSWD's position and involvement.

MOTION: Bishop; SECOND: Fowle; AYES: Fiock, Hayden, Dowse; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none.

#### c. Discuss mailer with SSWD updates to include with billing notices

ED Noble reported that staff was discussing the usefulness of a mailer with current updates to be sent out with the billing notices. Board and staff discussion proposed the following issues be included: drought regulation, notes on 22-23 budget, how to measure your diversion, SSWD involvement in instream water dedication proposals, and not in implementation. ED Noble suggested providing brief summaries of these issues in the mailer, and then stating that more details could be found on the website. (it was later determined that timeframe was too short, but that an update mailer should still be sent this summer/fall).

#### 6. Financials

**a.** Financial reports tabled until new bookkeeping services are implemented. ED Noble reported that Bonnie Jespersen has said she can complete corrections required by the audit by the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline.

MOTION: Pay obligations as presented, totaling \$3,120. MOTION: Fowle; SECOND: Dowse; AYES: Hayden, Bishop, Fiock; NOES: none; ABSTENSIONS: none

- 7. Non-Public Closed Session (Personnel Updates and Discussion)
- 8. Return to Open Session no action taken in closed session
- 9. Next regular meeting July 27, 2022, at 7:00 pm
- **10. Adjournment –** 8:45pm

Minutes approved [ ] as presented [ ] with correction	ons on theday of
Signature of Board Chairman	Signature of Secretary