**AGENDA #5a**

#3006

# EXETER IRRIGATION DISTRICT

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
150 South E Street
Exeter, California

**March 20, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Exeter Irrigation District was called to order by President Ferrara at 1:35 p.m. Directors present were Joe Ferrara, Greg Crosson, Bob Ward, Keith Cosart, and David Nielsen. Others Present were General Manager Gene Kilgore, Office Manager Selena Rossman, Tri- District Water Authority Controller Janice Daniel, Growers Craig Hornung and Milo Gorden

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Ferrara opened the floor for public comments. Mr. Kilgore reported he had received a written comment from Sharon Plum, herein attached.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kilgore reported Director Cosart attended the Friant Water Authority (FWA) Board meeting held on February 20, 2025. Director Ferrara attended the EKGSA Technical Advisory Committee meetings held on February 14, 2025, and on March 14, 2025. Director Crosson attended the Special EKGSA Board meeting held on February 24, 2025, and Director Ferrara attended late. Directors Ferrara and Crosson attended the Special Tri-District Water Authority Board meeting held on March 14, 2025.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

President Ferrara called for the acceptance of the Agenda. On motion by Director Cosart, seconded by Director ward and unanimously carried, the Agenda was accepted as posted.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Ferrara called for the approval of the February 13, 2025, Board meeting Minutes. On motion by Director Nielsen, seconded by Director Crosson and unanimously carried, the Minutes were approved as presented.

WARRANTS/ACCOUNTS PAYABLES

Ms. Daniel presented February's Payroll and Accounts Payables, which amounted to $180,122.93, collectively. There was no Petty cash disbursements reconciliation. Following review and discussion, on motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Cosart and unanimously carried, the Board approved February's expenditures as presented and ordered payments of warrants, Bank of Sierra, #1037-1071 inclusive, and included herewith as Exhibit "A".

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Ms. Daniel presented the Financial Statements and Reports prepared for February, noting deposits of $51,663.28. As of February 28th, the District had active ending bank balances in the Bank of Sierra, Bank of Sierra 5015, and Bank of America of $272,166.55, 20,039.01and $1,769.76, respectively. All banking accounts amounted to $293,975.32, a decrease of $130,119.99 from the previous month's ending balances.

February's investments totaled $3,019,324.25, an increase of $3,750.98. Total District funds amounted to $3,313,299.57.

Following review and discussion, on motion by Director Crosson, seconded by Director Cosart, and unanimously carried, the Financial Reports were approved as presented and ordered to be placed on file, copies of which are included herewith as Exhibit "B." Ms. Rossman provided the Grower Delinquent Accounts summary showing delinquent balances for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 amounting to $2,365.13, $4,640.22, $4,069.83, and $23,625.56, respectively. Property liens have been filed on delinquent accounts.

WEB SITE DESIGN

Taylor Gordon with Streamline provided a proposal, and a presentation of his company's abilities to assist with web design and ADA regulations, via zoom.

WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Kilgore reported that the District delivered 848 acre-feet of Class 1 water supply in February for irrigation demands. Irrigation deliveries to date totaled 16,473 acre-feet, leaving a balance to be carried over into 2025 season of 1,124 acre-feet, of which 755 acre-feet belonged to the District. Precipitation in February totaled 2.14 inches, with a seasonal total of 5.56 inches. Mr. Kilgore reported that there are a couple of scenarios that would put Millerton into Uncontrolled Season dependent upon Temperature, inflow and demands. As of March 20th, approximate reservoir conditions for Shasta, Millerton, San Luis, and Kaweah were 3,922,805 acre-feet, 327,009 acre-feet, 1,787,204 and 55,440 acre-feet, respectively.

WATER ALLOCATION

Based on 90% Bureau allocation, Mr. Kilgore recommended an initial grower water allocation of .68 acre-feet per acre. On motion by Director Cosart, seconded by Director Nielsen, and unanimously carried, the Board set the initial grower allocation at .68 acre-feet per acre.

WATER RATE

If the Bureau called for Uncontrolled Season releases (flood release), the Board authorized staff to sell flood release water at $150 per acre-foot. The Board did not set the 2025 water rate but instructed staff to inform growers that the water rate could be up to $350 per acre-foot.

2025 PROPOSED BUDGET

Mr. Kilgore presented the draft 2025 proposed Budget for adoption. The Board deferred adopting the 2025 Budget until the April Board meeting.

UNRELEASED RESTORATION FLOWS AGREEMENT

Mr. Kilgore presented the Bureau of Reclamation Unreleased Restoration Flows agreement for 2025. On motion by Director Nielsen, seconded by Director Ward, and unanimously carried, the Board authorized the execution of the agreement.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilgore reported on the status of the Paregien Property Project and the grant funding for the removal of the walnut orchard. Conveyance lines continued to be repaired for leaks. Mr. Kilgore requested guidance regarding assessment fees that are paid by agreement between growers. After discussion, the Board did not want to adopt a policy regarding payment of assessments by others if the assessments are paid.

TRI-DISTRICT WATER AUTHORITY

Mr. Kilgore reported on the Special Board meeting held on March 14, 2025, and that an agreement was reached to continue delivery of water in accordance with the Fresno Irrigation District agreement, plus $25 acre-foot.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY (FWA)

Mr. Kilgore reported on the operations of the Jones Pumping plant, of which four out of the five pumps were in operation. Also, there I slight chance that San Luis could spill, which may impact the status of the Drought Pool. Staff continue to collaborate with all parties on Delta operations. Director Cosart has been appointed to set on the O&M Committee for one year.

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. Kilgore provided an update of the EKGSA activities and announced the Special Board meeting to be held on March 24, 2025, at 3 p.m. The biological and cultural engagement letter for the Yokohl Project was executed and site visits are scheduled to early April.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board convened at to Closed Session at 3:15 p.m.

RECONVENED TO OPEN SESSION

The Board convened back to Open Session at 3:59 p.m., There were no recordable actions taken in Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice President Crosson adjourned the Board meeting at 4:00 p.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Exeter Irrigation District Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2025, at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gene Kilgore
Secretary/Manager