

Estrella-El Pomar-Creston Water District (EPCWD)

Special Meeting Minutes

February 15, 2022

Windfall Farms Conference Room, 4710 Flying Paster Lane, Paso Robles

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM by Jerry Reaugh.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL

Directors Present:

Dana Merrill (absent)
Lee Nesbitt (by videoconference)
Jerry Reaugh (by videoconference)
Hilary Graves (absent)
Herb Rowland (by videoconference)

ITEM 3: CONSIDER RESOLUTION 2022-001 INVOKING THE USE OF REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB 361

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-001 INVOKING THE USE OF REMORE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS UNDER AB 361 made by Jerry Reaugh, seconded by Lee Nesbitt, roll call vote:

Dana Merrill – absent
Hilary Graves – absent
Jerry Reaugh – yes
Lee Nesbitt – yes
Herb Rowland - yes

Motion passed 3-0.

ITEM 4: PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was presented.

MOVE TO SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT

ITEM 5: JOINT MEETING WITH SHANDON-SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT TO DISCUSS AND CONSIDER THE INITIAL STEPS TO PURSUE PUBLIC FINANCING TO FUND WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT BENEFITING THE PASO ROBLES SUB BASIN. MULTIAGENCY MEETIN PURSUATNT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954(b)(3)

- a. Update on status of SSJWD applications submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board
Scott Sinton and Matt Turrentine described the current status with the 2nd letter regarding deficiencies being addressed with responses now at the State Water Resources Control Board and

a potential response time from them being in months. There is approximately 2,000 AF in flood flows and 12,000 AF unappropriated that could be released if pipeline capacity is available. Matt Turrentine addressed the necessary retrofit at the Salinas Dam where flood flows might also be available and the timing of raising the floodgates at the same time could be advantageous. This would require funding potentially including bond issuance, grant funding, etc. The question was posed as to how much the lake capacity could be increased; potentially double.

- b. Presentation from Jeff Land and Brandis Tallman on public financing options available
Jeff Land of The Oppenheimer Group, Public Financing division, which is affiliated with the California Special Districts Association, discussed revenue bonds. These would finance capital improvements, would have installment payment options and would be funded by assessments (with a Prop 218 ballot). He described the various approaches to this including how ratings affect debt service reserve fund levels and bond insurance. Willy Cunha reported that County Staff are looking at the Salinas Dam project currently. An ad hoc committee was proposed to further examine the financial options and needs, with Matt Turrentine from Shandon-San Juan Water District volunteering and EPCWD members to be determined. Jerry Reaugh questioned whether the scope of the project should be determined first before looking at financing options. Matt Turrentine described there could be parallel paths towards determining scope and financing options. Willy Cunha asked Tom Berg for input and he indicated that the Paso Robles Sub Basin is well positioned to answer the GSP deficiencies outlined by the Department of Water Resources. The discussion moved to next steps including an ad hoc committee as described above to meeting with Shandon-San Juan Water District counterparts to look at funding options. Blaine Reely suggested asking the Paso Basin Cooperative Committee to create an ad hoc or advisory committee on funding and projects for input to the County.

Return to regular meeting agenda

ITEM 6: SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – MARCH 9, 2022

ITEM 7: ADJOURNMENT

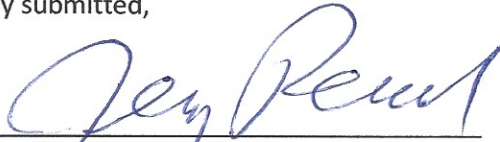
MOTION TO ADJOURN made by Jerry Reaugh, seconded by Herb Rowland, roll call vote:

Dana Merrill – absent
Hilary Graves – absent
Lee Nesbitt – yes
Herb Rowland – yes
Jerry Reaugh – yes

Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 3:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

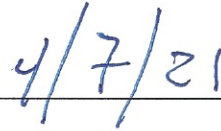


Jerry Reaugh, Secretary/Treasurer

Accepted:



Dana Merrill, President



Date