

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

June 27, 2023

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Irrigation District convened in special session at the District's main office located at 1036 W. Main Street, Grass Valley, on the 27th day of June 2023, at 4 p.m.

Present were Karen Hull, President (Division III) and Rich Johansen, Vice President (Division V), and Directors Ricki Heck (Division I); Chris Bierwagen, (Division II); and Trevor Caulder (Division IV).

Staff members present included Jennifer Hanson, General Manager; Greg Jones, Assistant General Manager; Doug Roderick, Director of Engineering; Chip Close, Director of Water Operations; Keane Sommers, Director of Power Systems; Steve Prosser, Director of Maintenance; Sandra Dunlap, Director of Finance; Monica Reyes, Director of Recreation; Naomi Schmitt, Director of Human Resources; and Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary.

STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order: President Hull called the meeting to order
- President Hull led the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call: 5 Members Present

WORKSHOP ITEMS

PLAN FOR WATER WORKSHOP - STAGES 7, 8, AND 9: DEMAND MODEL DEVELOPMENT UPDATES AND SENSITIVITY ANALYSES

Jennifer Hanson, General Manager, introduced Katherine Klug with David's Engineering, who provided a presentation.

Public Comment:

Laura Peters, past NID Board Director, and member of the public:

- Inquired how the developer of the model defined agricultural water

Peter Burnes, member of the public:

- Requested an interactive version of the map to allow zooming in for a greater resolution per parcel
- Suggested a link be provided to Article X – Water Section 2 of the California Constitution and reading aloud sometime

June 27, 2023

- Commented on all plant stress not accounted for only by increased irrigation and that it is not a linear function
- Commented on Director Johansen's example of sub-Saharan Africa being good, stating that at some point, the 'agriculture' must change, and the need for more investigation and understanding
- Inquired where we are headed as the PFW process comes to a 'close' and what will be next steps after that

Otis Wollan, resident of Colfax:

- Commented on satellite data in comparison to crop report data
- Commented on telemetry utilized by PCWA and savings benefit
- Commented on water theft
- Requested confirmation of baseline and actual raw water sales in 2022
- Provided the Board with his printed questions from the most recent Urban Water Management Plan and Ag Water Management Plan and included questions he would like answered
- Congratulated the District on the data and drilling down to understand pasture trends over past years

Diana Suarez, resident of Colfax:

- Commented on the baseline shown on the Raw Water Customer slide
- Clarified "frequency" on the graph on the precipitation slide

Michael Ross, member of the public:

- Commented on California Department of Water Resources (CADWR) Land Use Survey Interactive GIS Map
- Commented on conveyance (carriage) water, asked how it is factored into the model, and provided a definition from the California Water Plan Water Portfolio
- Commented on poor audio from the Boardroom podium
- Inquired if anyone had looked at the change in land use from rural raw water customers to urban treated water end uses, stating it would be a large demand reduction
- Inquired if there was an average NID raw water customer per acre purchased water and an average ET based per acre demand
- Commented on using actual demand averages rather than "crop" demands on sensitivity bookends
- Thanked Davids Engineering for a nice presentation

Board discussion ensued regarding the following:

- Environmental flows are regulatory flows for this modeling
- Land Uses
- Permanent crops and truck crops
- Demand for raw water, beneficial use, and avoiding overinflating numbers and understating or overstating demand
- Land Use percentages and correlation between land use and water use

June 27, 2023

- Percentage of raw water users that return crop report surveys
- Instances where farms are serviced by wells
- Percentage served by the District in service boundaries
- Open ET Data – Rationale of identifying and integrating different data sets or selecting one
- Baseline level, how dry abnormal years were factored in, and length of time
- How system loss was derived, Raw Water Master Plan, and benefits of gauging station information
- Volume of water assumed per parcel, Districtwide crop averages, and utilization combination of different data sources
- Bookend scenarios
- Historical data on the number of parcels added within 1000 ft of canals, considering surplus years, wells drying up, and possible changes to the irrigation season
- ET associated with changes to temperature and modification to water use
- Raw water season dates and modeling if the season extended
- Environmental flows included ReSim and overall demand

MEETING ADJOURNED at 6:00 p.m., to reconvene in regular session on Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Business Center located at 1036 West Main Street, Grass Valley, California.

Submitted By



Kris Stepanian, Board Secretary