

**PANOCHÉ WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
October 30, 2024**

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held on October 30, 2024, starting at 9:00 am. Those present at the meeting were:

Directors: Aaron Barcellos, President  
Steve Fausone, Secretary  
Neill Callis, Director (Arrived during Agenda Item 5)  
Wayne Western, Director

Staff : Patrick McGowan, General Manager  
Sandra Reyes, Water Master

Others: Palmer McCoy, GBA  
Lauren Layne, Baker Manock & Jensen  
John Bennett, J.F.B. Ranch, Inc.  
Hugh Bennett, J.F.B. Ranch, Inc. (Via Telephone)

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Barcellos called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

**ROLL CALL**

A quorum of the Board of Directors was present.

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Director Neil Callis recused himself from voting on Agenda Item # 9, the permanent easement to PG&E for Turlock Fruit Company.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**REPORT ITEMS**

**SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT: DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN UPDATE**

Attorney Lauren Layne with Baker Manock & Jensen provided the Board of Directors with an overview of the sustainable groundwater management act (SGMA) and the Delta Mendota Subbasin. Mrs. Layne explained that there are six plans within the subbasin being combined into one ground sustainable plan (GSP). The GSP was sent out for a public comment period in May and twenty two of the twenty-three groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA) have accepted the plan. The final GSA is scheduled to adopt the GSP in November, 2024. A draft of the GSP has been provided to the state water resources control board (SWRCB) for review. The probationary hearing is scheduled to take place in June of next year. One of the items to be addressed is our willingness to be held responsible for water quality issues within our subbasin. Delta Mendota Subbasin personnel have held multiple tours to help educate SWRCB and staff of the complex issues our region is attempting to address.

## ACTION ITEMS

### **BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE CENTRAL DELTA MENDOTA REGION SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT SERVICES ACTIVITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT OF SS-MOA PARTICIPANTS**

Attorney Lauren Layne reported that the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) is currently a coordinating partner for the twenty-three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and the 6 Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The twenty-three GSA's agreed to develop a single GSP for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. As part of this process, the GSA's also adopted a Memorandum of Agreement to replace the prior Coordination Agreement, which was no longer required due to the adoption of a single GSP. The Fourth Amendment identifies the cost share split within the activity members for the well mitigation program, \$300,000 over three years, or \$100,000 annually. Panoche Water District's share of this total is \$1,200 annually for three years. The funds in this joint sharing account will be invested and only those who contribute to the fund will earn interest. Annually the coordination committee will determine if funds are adequate, or if more is needed.

Upon a motion by Director Callis and seconded by Director Western, the board approved the Fourth Amendment to the CDM SGMA Services Activity Agreement as presented.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia  
Abstain: None

### **BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE SOUTHERN DELTA-MENDOTA CANAL SUBSIDENCE MANAGEMENT AREA POLICY**

General Manager Patrick McGowan reported that a few changes had been made to the Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency Subsidence Policy (CDMGASAP). The corrective pumping limit increased from .25 to .50 acre-foot to the acre and Region A increased to 1 mile from either side of the Delta-Mendota Canal. Mr. McGowan also reported that he and Mr. Chase Hurley of Water and Land Solutions have been working diligently on acquiring possible mitigation water for this program. McGowan reiterated that this internal policy will be self-correcting. If overdraft and subsidence are not addressed adequately the areas will expand and groundwater pumping will continue to be minimized in order to meet our goals.

Upon a motion by Director Callis and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the Board approved the Southern Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Management Area Policy as presented.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia  
Abstain: None

### **BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT TO PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC FOR WINSTON FARMS, TO 10e2 DITCH**

General Manager Patrick Mc Gowan presented the board with a copy of a map indicating the location of the easement being requested for PG&E and Winston Farms. The District's recommendation was to allow the execution of the permanent easement with PG&E since it would not interfere with District operations and maintenance.

Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved authorizing the permanent easement to PG&E.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Callis, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia  
Abstain: None

**BOARD TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PERMANENT EASEMENT TO PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC FOR TURLOCK FRUIT COMPANY, TO T-CANAL**

Director Neill Callis recused himself from voting on this Agenda Item noting a Conflict of Interest. General Manager Patrick McGowan presented the board with a copy of a map indicating the location of the easement being requested for PG&E and Turlock Fruit. The District’s recommendation was to allow the execution of the permanent easement with PG&E since it would not interfere with District operations or maintenance.

Upon a motion by Director Western and seconded by Secretary Fausone, the board approved authorizing the permanent easement to PG&E.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Ayes: Barcellos, Fausone, Western  
Nays: None  
Absent: Correia  
Abstain: Callis

*At approximately 9:43 am, President Barcellos announced that the Water District meeting would be taking a five-minute break.*

*At approximately 9:48 am, President Barcellos announced that the Water District meeting would resume.*

**REPORTS ON OTHER ITEMS PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54954.2(a)(3)**

No other items.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES**

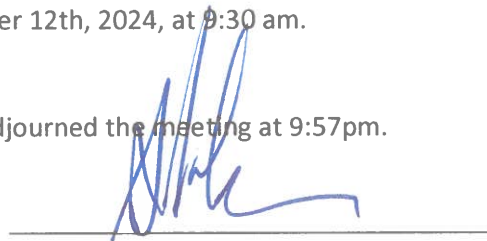
A. Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12th, 2024, at 9:30 am.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, President Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 9:57pm.



Aaron Barcellos, President



Steve Fausone, Secretary