RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 1601

306 Second Street
Isleton, CA 95641

Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting

August 19, 2025

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER.**
President Sgarrella called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees (Board) to order on August 19, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. ROLL CALL: In attendance: President Barry Sgarrella, Trustee Dave Huston and Trustee Jasbir Gill. District's superintendent Mr. Ricky Carter Jr., District's engineer with KSN Mr. Chris Neudeck, District's attorney Mr. Jesse Barton and District's accountant/treasurer Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay with Butterfield and Company.
Also attending. Mrs. Brooke Carter, Mr. Salvador Ramos, Mr. Danny Villegas, Mr. Steven Garcia, Ms. Ceci Giacoma, and Mr. Richard Silva.
Attending by conference call, District's secretary Mrs. Linda Carter and Ms. Elizabeth Davis.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT: ANY PERSON MAY SPEAK ON ANY TOPIC INCLUDING ANY AGENDA ITEM LISTED BELOW, PROVIDED IT IS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF RD 1601.**
Ms. Elizabeth Davis with Solano RCD gave the Board an update on the habitat projects. Ms. Davis told the Board that maintenance work has been taking place clearing the pocket site area removing black berry bushes.
When the canal was being cleaned, one of the crossings was taken out. They need a crossing put back in so they can have access to the east side of the canal. Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. will contact Ms. Davis after the meeting to discuss the crossing issue.

3. **MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING.**
Trustee Huston entertained a motion to approve the July 15, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented, motion was seconded by President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

4. **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.**
Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay discussed the accounts payable, accounting notes and financial statements with the Board. One invoice that came in late was from Panelized Structures Inc. for $436,000, for March through May for the solar array. This will be added to today's report. Mrs. Tzintzun-Garibay will hold the retention on this invoice. President Sgarrella and Trustee Huston reviewed the accounts payable before today's

meeting. See attached financial reports for details. After some discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve accounts payable, the late added invoice, transfers, DWR invoices and paying of warrants, motion seconded by Trustee Huston, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

5. **BOARD WILL HEAR AN UPDATE FOR ASSESSMENT CALL NO. 34 BASED UPON OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE VALUATION ASSESSMENT ROLL DATED JULY 21, 1992.**
   Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay informed the Board that everyone has paid for their portion of Assessment Call 34.

6. **BOARD TO DISCUSS AND POSSIBLY APPROVE A PROPOSED THREE-YEAR BUDGET AND HIRING AN ENGINEERING GROUP TO DEVELOP A NEW ASSESSMENT FOR THE DISTRICT.**
   Mr. Jesse Barton reminded the Board of last month's meeting when he was given Board approval to go out and seek out a few engineering consulting firms for the Board to consider hiring to prepare a new assessment roll.
   The Board is aware that the District has some very expensive projects coming up and the District is in need of more funding. The District does not have the funds to cover everything. The District has not raised their assessment rate since 1992.
   Mr. Barton went over with the Board the two proposals he received. First proposal is from SCI Consulting Group for $47,600, and proposal from Larsen Wurzel and Associates, Inc. (LWA) for $40,500. Mr. Chris Neudeck told the Board there will be additional costs for KSN and Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay.
   After a lengthy discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve hiring the engineering consulting firm LWA to prepare a new assessment for the District, motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried. Mr. Barton will notify LWA and President Sgarrella will sign the contract.

7. **BOARD TO CONSIDER AND POSSIBLY APPROVE EMPLOYEE'S REQUEST TO ADD DENTAL INSURANCE TO EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS PACKAGE.**
   At last month's meeting Mrs. Perla Tzintzun-Garibay went over with the Board several dental insurance plan options. After discussion President Sgarrella entertained a motion to approve purchasing the Humana dental plan (for one year at that time the Board will revisit the plan) for qualified District employees, motion seconded by Trustee Huston, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

8. **EMPLOYEE MANUAL-THE BOARD WILL CONSIDER APPROVING AMENDMENTS TO ITS EMPLOYEE MANUAL.**
   Nothing to report at this time.

9. **GRAZING LEASES- THE BOARD WILL HEAR AN UPDATE AND DISCUSS ISSUES WITH IOU SHEEP COMPANY.**
Mr. Jesse Barton went over with the Board what was discussed at last month's meeting The Board may terminate both leases with Mr. Cole Bakke (IOU Sheep Company). After last month's meeting Mr. Barton contacted Mr. Cole Bakke and sent him a follow-up email. Mr. Barton read to the Board the email he had sent to Mr. Bakke. The email stated that Mr. Bakke did not fulfil his obligations within the lease he has with the District, he didn't feed off the levees nor do the needed maintenance or placed a fence at the Chevron Point 40-acre lease. Mr. Bakke is also late on his lease payment for both the levee and 40-acre lease. Mr. Bakke said he understood that the leases were going to be terminated, he asked for 90 days to be able to move his sheep and equipment. Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. told the Board that Mr. Bakke still has couple camp trailers and tanks left. At last month's meeting the Board spoke about having the goat company that has the contract with the rice project come and graze on the levees. Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. told the Board they have not given him a price for having the goats graze the levees and the 40-acres. Mr. Richard Silva told the Board he is interested in leasing the 40-acres. He told the Board the first 5-year lease free for him to clean the 40-acres up, then he would pay the District the same amount as Mr. Bakke is paying the District now. Mr. Barton told Mr. Carter Jr. find out how much it would cost to clean up the 45-acres and bring back the estimate to the Board at the September meeting.

10. **SOLAR POWER-THE BOARD WILL DISCUSS RISING ELECTRICITY COSTS. THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT.**
Mr. Chris Neudeck gave an update on the progress of the District's solar array project. He told the Board that PG&E has rejected the invitation to an on-site meeting. PG&E has referred to the matter of the pad for the transformer to their standards department seeking a variance. Racking and PV Panel fabrication has been completed. PV Module installation and stringing was completed on August 13th. County /Special Inspections are on going. Underground electrical signed off. Structural Bolting Special Inspection completed. Switchgear location. The RFP has been put on hold pending PG&Es determination regarding switchgear location. PG&E standards division has communicated that per design standards the switchgear needs to be located local to the transformer. PG&Es project manager is seeking a variance internally to allow switchgear inside of the pumphouse using the existing equipment location as a basis. Carport racking installation completed on August 13th.
President Sgarrella waiting to hear from PG&E where to place the switchgear. The logical place to put the switchgear would be in the pump house, it's protected and out of the weather. Also, the switchgear would be above water, not like the transformer. PG&E wants a sealed transformer placed at grade. Still deciding on whether or not placing the sealed transformer on a pad or putting the sealed transformer in concrete vault underground. PG&E wants it under ground with the switchgear placed next to it at ground level where we could have potential inundation from localized flooding. Received an email from PG&E yesterday, stating that they want the switchgear with the transformer and more or less stop bothering them. President Sgarrella said that the next step is one option have Mr. Neudeck speak with his contact with PG&E, second option

is to go further up the chain with PG&E. The switchgear has arrived and it is being stored at Panelized Structures Inc. facility. No action taken today.

11. **SUBVENTION AGREEMENT FOR 2025-2026-THE BOARD WILL REVIEW AND MAY APPROVE THE NEW SUBVENTION AGREEMENT.**
Mr. Jesse Barton told the Board that he had reviewed the agreement and it was the same as last year's agreement. Mr. Barton recommended to the Board for the Boards approval. After some discussion Trustee Huston entertained a motion to approve the Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program Work Agreement for fiscal year 2025-2026 and Resolution 2025-06, motion seconded by Trustee Gill, VOTE: AYES: Sgarrella, Huston and Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

12. **SEVENMILE SLOUGH LEVEE EROSION REPAIR PROJECT. BOARD WILL RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE SEVENMILE SLOUGH EROSION REPAIR PROJECT.**
Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board the status of the erosion repair project on Sevenmile Slough. The 90% revised plan set should be submitted in October 2025. Imagery captured and incorporated into plan set. DWR has authorized a revision to the project footprint. The project is being revised to extend the project to the West from Levee Station 166+00 to 163+00 and reduced at the East from 180+00 to 172+00. Survey of the West section is scheduled for September 2025. Revised plan submission set on hold pending survey data. Biologist Ms. Dianne Moore conducted a site assessment of the biological conditions present. It was determined that the 800 LF from Levee Station 172+00 to 180+00 was going to make the project not feasible due to the mitigation cost to construct this section. It was also found that a segment of 300LF to the East deteriorated extensively and has light vegetation making this a more feasible option to construct within current project funding and a more immediate need. Tentative construction scheduled for September 2026.

13. **PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT TW-21-1.2, PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR THE PLANNING ENGINEERING, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE TWITCHELL ISLAND WETLAND ENHANCEMENT AND RESTORATION PROJECT. (TWERP) (EXPIRES 12/31/2027). BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS. THE BOARD MAY REVIEW BIDS AND REWARD CONTRACT. THE BOARD MAY APPROVE A NEW SURETY FOR THE GRASS SEEDING PORTION OF THIS PROJECT.**
Mr. Chris Neudeck discussed with the Board the status of the Twitchell Island Wetland Enhancement and Restoration Project (TWERP).
At the District's last month's meeting the Board approved giving KSN authority to go out to bid for the planting/irrigation for the TWERP project. Mr. Neudeck told the Board due to some complications with the specifications the project will be bided in September and the award of the contract will be at the District's September Board meeting.

Mr. Jesse Barton explained to the Board that Liberty insurance has acquired Ohio Liberty and for that reason Hanford needs to change their surety. After some discussion Trustee Gill entertained a motion to approve the transfer of the Surety Bond, motion seconded President Sgarrella, VOTE: AYES: President Sgarrella, Trustee Huston and Trustee Gill NOES: None ABSTAIN: None ABSENT: None, motion carried.

14. PROJECT FUNDING AGREEMENT TW-24-1.0-SP-PHASE 2 OF THE SAN JOAQUIN SETBACK LEVEE MULTI-BENEFIT PROJECT. THE AGREEMENT WITH DWR WILL IMPROVE DISTRICT LEVEES ALONG THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER. (EXPIRATION 12/31/2028). BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND DISCUSS. THE BOARD MAY APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF MITIGATION CREDITS UPON CONFIRMATION OF THE APPROPRIATE MITIGATION BANK.

Mr. Chris Neudeck reported to the Board the status of the Twitchell Island Wetland Enhancement and Restoration Project. Mr. Neudeck told the Board that KSN has received minimal comments for 90% Phase1 berm plans. KSN are finalizing some geotechnical design criteria with ENGEO and will then finalize plans. He went over compensatory mitigation strategy with the Board. KSN met with Delta Stewardship, and GEI is working on Consistency Determination documentation.

Mr. Neudeck anticipates bidding for Phase 2 this fall and beginning construction in May 2026. No action taken today.

15. DWR AGREEMENT "SUBSIDENCE MITIGATION FUNDING AGREEMENT" (SMFA) (WETLAND DEVELOPMENT/SUBSIDENCE REVERSAL AND CARBON SEQUESTRATION PROJECT) (EAST END AND RICE PROJECT) (SMFA EXPIRES 12/31/2030). THE BOARD WILL RECEIVE A STATUS UPDATE AND AN UPDATE ON THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT EQUIPMENT.

Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. reported to the Board that grazing is taking place in the rice project and Mr. Danny Villegas is mowing in the wetland project.

16. ENGINEERING REPORT: MR. Chris NEUDECK.

I. Project Funding Agreement TW-21-1.2 TIMES /TWERP Project.
   A. Look under item number 13.

II. Project Funding Agreement TW-24-1.0-SP Phase II of District Multi-Benefit
   Look under item number 14.

III. District Pump Station Solar Array.
   A. Look under item number 11.

IV. Systemwide Multi Benefit Project Sevenmile Slough Erosion Repairs.
   A. Look under item number 12.

V. AB 360 Levee Subvention Program.
   Mr. Chris Neudeck reviewed with the Board the repair of Levee Seepage at Levee Station 235+00 to 236+75 (175LF) just east of the center island road along Sevenmile Slough levee. The District's personnel used the District's excavator for the repair. They reprocessed an old long reach excavator's 2-foot-wide bucket the District had in surplus. Lira Welding performed minor fabrication on the bucket

and added a quick disconnect mechanism to be compatible with the District's new Caterpillar excavator. The levee seepage has been repaired and stopped through the construction of a bentonite slurry core trench. Sacramento County's road shoulder rebuild to subgrade (Class 2-1/4 AB) now waiting on trench moisture to dry out, then Sacramento County will overlay and pave.

17. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: MR. RICKY CARTER JR.

- Routine levee patrols are made daily.
- Routine pump maintenance made daily.
- Rodent control.
- Core trenched on Sevenmile slough at Levee Station 234+00.
- Rented a long reach excavator from Asta Construction to clean C-1 and C-2 canal, due to vegetation clogging canal flow.
- Mr. Danny Villegas started mowing SMFA wetlands.
- Toe ditch cleaning.
- Levee mowing.
- Reordered quick gel and hole plug for core trench.
- Sprayed C-1 canal.

Mr. Ricky Carter Jr. reported to the Board that on September 11, 2025, the District along with other State and County agencies will be holding a flood fight class. Mr. Carter Jr. also informed the Board that he has purchased a new home and will be moving off the island.

18. ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be called to order. September 16, 2025, at 9:00 am, the regular meeting was adjourned at 10:55 am.

Presiding Trustee of the Regular Meeting August 19, 2025, certifies the above minutes.

Linda Carter

Secretary