

MINUTES
Minutes of the Board of Trustees Reclamation District No. 537
August 1, 2023

Pursuant to the foregoing consent and the notice thereof, duly and regularly posted and given to all members of the Board of Trustees, and by-laws of said District, a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District No. 537 was called to order by President William Mattos on Tuesday August 1, 2023, at 9:06 am in-person and via Teams online meeting.

1. Meeting attendance/introductions:

Meeting was attended by Trustees William F. Mattos, Dan Ramos, Tom Ramos, and Ray Yeung. Trustee Ross Peabody was absent. Also in attendance were the following RD staff and consultants: William A. Mattos, Rebecca Smith and Tina Anderson.

2. Approval of agenda

Trustee Dan Ramos made a motion to approve the agenda, Trustee T. Ramos seconded, and the motion passed 4-0-0. Trustee Peabody was absent. Motion carries.

3. Approval of minutes of the Board Meeting on June 6, 2023

Trustee Dan Ramos made a motion to approve the June 6, 2023 minutes, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 4-0-0. Trustee Peabody was absent. Motion carries.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items District

No members of the public attended the meeting.

Business/Action Items

1. Report on District Finances

a. Status of District finances

Mr. Dumars presented the District's finances, see attached. Mr. Dumars reported money outstanding from taxes within old RD 827 area has not been included in the finances. Mr. Mattos doesn't want weed management paid yet. Clearwater should be paid. The tractor balance was paid off.

2. Engineers' Report and Updates (MBK):

a. DWR Spring Inspection:

Ms. Anderson recommended putting out two requests for bids: one for erosion control and one for vegetation control. Based on previous conversations, it is our understanding that the district will repair rodent holes using inhouse staff; however, rodent holes could be repaired under the erosion control project bid, if needed. Trustee Mattos and Manager Mattos will review and get back to Ms. Anderson regarding the bids.

A water leak noted in the Yeung area. Manager Mattos will send letter to Mr. Yeung

requesting the leak be fixed.

b. FMAP Update:

FMAP 2024 applications are due August 31, 2024. Trustee Tom Ramos made a motion to approve the Local Maintaining Agency Authorizing Resolution No. 2023.08.01 to execute the agreement, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 4-1-0. Trustee Ross was absent. Motion carries.

The District received advance funding in the amount of \$179,100 for FMAP 2023, of which approximately \$150K is earmarked for O&M.

c. FEMA Update

The emergency debris removal and culvert repair work have been submitted to FEMA. Debris removal is moving along. The culvert is an issue; FEMA wants to know the age of the pipe. Based on the photos provided it looks like it was deferred maintenance, which FEMA will deny. The board decided to pull the culvert repair from FEMA.

d. Pump Station Update

Water levees will be dropped to 7' to start to drain the ditch to do maintenance. They may be dropped even more, if needed.

Mattos showed PG&E invoices that the Board. He believes Forgen should pay their share. Forgen said they aren't responsible. Water typically doesn't need to be pumped this time of year. It should only be the excess water costs. Mattos was asked to go to Forgen and request a split of 50% and if this doesn't work Smith will draft a letter, but the mythology needs to be concrete and may need to include past PG&E bills.

e. Yolo Bypass Levee Update

MBK did a site tour with DWR to look at the slip sites. Additional information was requested and we are waiting for the information. Additionally, DWR will be doing trenching; MBK has asked to be present during this process.

f. CAMU Update

A draft IS/MND is available for internal review. SAFCA will likely put it out for public review in August for a 30 day public review. The final IS/MND will go to their board for approval in October. RD 537 should hold a special meeting, following the SAFCA board meeting, to approve the IS/MND as the responsible agency.

GEI has requested a budget augmentation of \$10,000. Trustee Dan Ramos made a motion to approve the augmentation provided by GEI, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 4-0-0. Trustee Peabody was absent. Motion carries.

3. USACE Weir Widening Project Update

The USACE Sacramento Districts Construction Contract was awarded to Granite Construction. Granite has started construction and we will see some changes occur in August. One of the largest changes will be the detour of Old River Road into a new configuration that requires a T stop intersection on the north side of the existing weir. This condition will last 2-3 years until traffic can be placed on the newly built road bridge. The USACE office trailers will be staged in mid to late August on the north side of the property close to the Ishimoto property.

Once they construct their two ramps into the construction area, they will provide access to emergency personnel in the event of an emergency to access the site.

If anyone in RD537 has a question please use Sean Thomas as Sean.T.Mcneil@usace.army.mil, Office: (916) 557-5318. Do not show up on site unannounced as they have safety and cultural training that is mandatory to go on site. If a need to visit the site arises, please send your request to Sean with a 48-hour advance notice.

4. Attorneys' Report

Board election will be the second Tuesday of November. Smith will post an advertisement for candidates. Billy Mattos will post on the web site. If no more than 3 candidates 54 days prior to election there won't be an election; Yolo County will appoint the candidates. If more than three candidates, an election is required. For all candidates, five landowners must sign their petition.

Big Notch. Yolo County filed a lawsuit against the state. There are two main reasons from the lawsuit, DWR said they were going to do a cutoff wall and then removed it from their plans; additionally, the County believes DWR plans to increase the volume and duration of water going through Big Notch. CEQA has limited time on when you can file (6 months from when DWR made the decision to change from 6,000 to 12,000 cfs and extend the period they would be using the Big Notch). Trustees would like to work with the County. RD 537 wants to know what impacts they are going to have and when is the 6-month deadline. Smith may not be able to answer those with certainty as it is hard to determine when the 6-month deadline is; however, it won't be any later than October 2023.

Informational Items

1. Manager's Report

General Manager Mattos reported that the mowing was completed in mid-June. There was a landowner complaint as how bait was put out due to concern with animals other than squirrels being able to get in. The bait boxes follow county guidelines and the labels, but different bait stations will be used in the area of concern.

2. WSAFCA Update

Nothing new to report.

3. Additional Informational Items/Trustee Comments

Two landowners asked why ditches were not cleaned out by the District. The District will review easements in this area. D. Ramos will get a quote. The procurement policy can be used to authorize funding review of easements. The district can look at a policy for landowner vs. District responsibility.

A request was made by Trustee Mattos to get an update on the Upper Feasibility Study. Trustees said they would like a cross levee built, were the railroad tracks and road are located, between RD 537 and RD 1600.

4. Adjourn

Trustee Mattos adjourned the meeting at 11:28 AM.