

April 28, 2021  
Regular Meeting  
5:00 p.m.

*On March 18, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20, which enhances State and Local Governments' ability to respond to COVID-19 Pandemic; this meeting was conducted with some members participating via conference phone. Because of this, all voting was done by roll call vote.*

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in regular session on Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present at the District were: President Doug Williams, Vice President Joe Tonascia and Director John Tobias; Directors Sonny Flores and Andrew Shelton participated virtually. Also present at the District were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro. Also participating virtually were District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem and Finance Manager Natalie Sullivan.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Williams called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. Roll Call**  
Mrs. Mauro called roll. President Williams, Vice President Tonascia and Director Tobias were present at the District; Directors Flores and Shelton participated virtually.
- c. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board; rebuttal will be limited to 3 minutes; no new business agenda items will be heard after 8:00 p.m.**
- d. Approval of Agenda**  
Mr. Cattaneo stated the Closed Session item needs to be removed from tonight's agenda. Noting that change, a motion was made by Director Flores and seconded by Vice President Tonascia, the Agenda was approved by 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.
- e. Public Input: Members of the Public are Invited to Speak on any Matter not on the Agenda**  
There were no public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- |                                                                           |                       |                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>1. Approval of Minutes for:</b>                                        | <b>March 31, 2021</b> | <b>Regular Meeting</b> |
|                                                                           | <b>April 14, 2021</b> | <b>Special Meeting</b> |
| <b>2. Allowance of Claims</b>                                             |                       |                        |
| <b>3. Acknowledgement of Paid Claims prior to the April Board Meeting</b> |                       |                        |
| <b>4. Acceptance of Quarterly Investment Report, March 31, 2021</b>       |                       |                        |

With a motion by Director Tobias and a second by Director Shelton, the Consent Agenda was passed with 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

**5. Presentation by Francisco Diaz, San Benito County Assistant County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters on Redistricting San Benito County Supervisorial Districts**

The Board received a presentation by Mr. Diaz of San Benito County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters on redistricting San Benito County Supervisorial Districts.

Mrs. Singleton noted that the District Act, which is an act of the California Legislature, calls for the District's Board of Directors to have division boundaries that are coterminous with the County's Board of Supervisors. Director Tobias asked if there is any action necessary or could the District piggy-back on the County process. Mrs. Singleton added staff will review this matter with Counsel.

**6. Consider Resolution Proclaiming May as Water Awareness Month**

Mr. Novack stated the District annually declares May as Water Awareness Month. This action coincides with the start of the irrigation season. During this time, Mr. Novack stated he increases advertising regarding water conservation, particularly outdoor water usage. Also, there is usually an increase in residential inspections at this time of the year. Mr. Novack then read the resolution into the record.

With a motion by Director Tonascia and a second by Director Shelton, the Board of Directors approved Resolution #2021-08, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Proclaiming May as Water Awareness Month* with 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**7. Consider Resolution Restating the District's Investment Policy**

Mrs. Singleton stated the District annually reviews its Investment Policy. District Counsel reviewed it for any changes and determined none were needed.

With a motion by Director Tobias and seconded by Director Flores, the Board of Directors Approved Resolution #2021-09, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Restating the District's Investment Policy* with 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**8. Consider Resolution Approving of an Unfunded Accrued Liability Management Policy**

**10. Staff Report—Refinancing of the District's Outstanding CalPERS Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) Financing Funding Status**

Mrs. Singleton stated to the Board, she would be taking agenda items #8 and #10 together. Regarding the UAL Financing Funding Status, Mrs. Singleton stated the pre-closing was completed today. Tomorrow, the wire transfer will be done to pay off CalPERS. She added, this matter is not a one and done, which is why the policy is needed to manage it.

Regarding the Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) Management Policy, staff has worked with the District's Bond Counsel to develop this policy. The resolution on the agenda

tonight, adopts this policy and will proactively manage the UAL. This policy has also been reviewed by the Finance Committee. The recommended review period for this policy would be at least every 5 years.

With no questions from the Board, a motion was made by Director Tobias and seconded by Director Flores, the Board of Directors approved Resolution #2021-10, *A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District Approving of an Unfunded Accrued Liability Management Policy* with 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**9. North San Benito County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)**

• **Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District held another Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting today. The committee was presented with a simulation of the effects of climate and growth over the span of 50 years. Based on the model, the findings for our area for the future appear to show it to be warmer and wetter. Because it shows Northern and Southern California as warmer and dryer, this will likely be a reduction in the CVP allocation, so managing our allocation and adding more surface water storage will be vital. Also, per Mr. Cattaneo, the committee was presented with a list of projects and management actions.

Mr. Cattaneo anticipates a draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by early June and the first part of July for the public review draft.

**11. Committee/Agency Representative Reports:**

**a) San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Tonascia/Cattaneo)**

As per Mr. Cattaneo, he will cover this under his manager's report.

**b) Pajaro River Watershed Flood Prevention Authority (Flores/Shelton)**

As per Director Flores, they discussed a contract for a storm water plan, environmental issues regarding the Pajaro River Flood Plain and general business.

**c) Water Resources Association (Flores/Shelton)**

As per Director Flores, the members discussed Water Awareness Month activities, the Environmental Literacy Program and general business.

**d) Finance Committee (Tonascia/Williams)**

As per Vice President Tonascia, this has already been covered.

**12. Monthly Operations and Maintenance Report**

Michael Craig showed several photos to the Board, showing District staff performing maintenance on 2 large valves. Also, Mr. Craig stated one of the 16" Bailey valves will be replaced which will cause a shutdown of the Hollister Conduit for about a week at a to be determined schedule time in the future. He further reported the use of the NEXGEN program which is helping with preventative maintenance and the Asset Management Plan which is keeping District facilities up to date.

**13. District Manager/Engineer's Report:**

**a) Reach 1 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District continues to work with Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) on reviewing the pump rebuilds or replacements.

**b) Zone 3 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District continues to release water from Hernandez Reservoir through Tres Pinos Creek, at a rate of approximately 65 CFS (cubic feet per second).

**c) Zone 6 Operations**

Mr. Cattaneo reported that Congressman Panetta's office is working on zebra mussel eradication in San Justo Reservoir. This would be a reimbursable project, per his office. Mr. Cattaneo stated the District is not having an operational problem at the reservoir. Eradication is unproven and has only been done successfully in 1 setting which was not similar to our reservoir. The cost to the District, if it is done as a reimbursable project, would be upwards of \$5 million. Mr. Cattaneo added unless this is a non-reimbursable project, the District is not interested in moving forward.

**d) San Luis Delta Mendota Authority Activities**

Mr. Cattaneo reported the District is moving forward on purchasing about 1000 acre feet of the North Delta water to add to our urban water supply; this water will cost approximately \$1100/AF. Adding this to our CVP allocation should be enough to supply our urban water needs for 4-5 years.

**e) Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project**

Mr. Cattaneo reported SCVWD is continuing to seek funding for the project. They are looking into WIIN Act Funding as well as WIFIA. Also, SCVWD is seeking partners up to 35% to help fund the project.

*(Items #14 and #15, were removed during the approval of the agenda)*

**14. CLOSED SESSION: Conference with legal counsel—**

**Existing litigation**

**a) Government Code 54956.9(a)**

**San Benito County Water District v. Randy McAlpine  
(CL-13-00437)**

**b) Government Code 54956.9(a)**

**Randy McAlpine v. San Benito County Water District  
(CU-17-00050)**

**15. OPEN SESSION:**

**Report any action from Closed Session, if any**

**16. Adjournment**

With nothing further to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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Approved at the May 26, 2021 Board meeting and signed by the presiding board member.

/s/Doug Williams  
Doug Williams, President

/s/Barbara L. Mauro  
Barbara L. Mauro, Board Clerk