

June 16, 2021  
Special 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 special session on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Doug Williams, Vice President Joe Tonascia and Directors Sonny Flores, Andrew Shelton and John Tobias. Also present were District Manager/Engineer Jeff Cattaneo, Assistant Manager Sara Singleton, Deputy District Engineer Garrett Haertel, Associate Engineer David Macdonald and Board Clerk/Office Specialist III Barbara Mauro. Participating remotely was District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Williams at 5:00 p.m.

**a. Pledge of Allegiance**

President Williams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**b. Roll Call**

Mrs. Mauro called roll. President Williams, Vice President Tonascia and Directors Flores, Shelton and Tobias were present.

**c. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board**

There were no public comments.

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

**1. Discuss and Consider Approval of Drilling Contract for the North San Benito Basin-Dedicated Deep Monitoring Well Installation Study**

Mr. Haertel reported that the District, as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), is tasked with all of the components for SGMA (Sustainable Groundwater Management Act). Staff and our consultants determined the data collected is not adequate for meeting the SGMA requirements. Mr. Haertel stated the engineering staff acquired quite a few existing wells but determined 6 additional new monitoring wells were needed throughout the County. District staff put out a bid for installing the new wells, which was approved for Grant Funding through Proposition 68. Also, the milestone dates the District will be achieving are consistent with the grant requirements.

Three bids were received; Maggiora Brothers Well Drilling in the amount of \$540,439.00 was the winning bid. Firms who also submitted bids were: Norcal Pump and Well Drilling, \$587,391.50 and ABC Liovin Drilling, \$624,680.00.

Director Tobias asked if any of these wells can be used as an irrigation well. Mr. Haertel stated no; they only have 4 inch casings and are not meant for that purpose.

With a motion by Director Shelton and a second by Director Flores, the Board of Directors approved a Drilling Contract for the North San Benito Basin-Dedicated Deep Monitoring Well Installation Study to Maggiora Brothers Drilling for \$540,439.00 by 4 affirmative votes, Williams, Flores, Shelton and Tobias and 1 abstention, Tonascia.

**2. Discuss and Consider Approval of Drilling Contract for the North San Benito Basin-Dedicated Shallow Monitoring Well Installation Study**

Mr. Cattaneo reported there will not be a contract for this item tonight.

Mr. Haertel reported this item is also a part of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for SGMA. Only 1 bid was submitted for this item and it did not meet the drilling specifications. Mr. Haertel stated the intent is to bring this item before the Board at the June 30, 2021 meeting.

There is no action needed by the Board on this item.

**3. Discuss and Consider 1% salary increase for SEIU 521 represented employees effective July 12, 2021, in accordance with Article 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District and SEIU 521, which provides that the District may provide a higher amount of COLA than what is provided in the MOU, subject to two weeks' notice to the Union**

Mr. Cattaneo reported this item is consistent with the action the Board recently took for the unrepresented employees. As stated in the MOU with the union, a 0%-15% Ag allocation states a 0% COLA. Because the MOU provides for an increase with 2 weeks notification, a Meet/Confer is not needed.

With a motion by Vice President Tonascia and a second by Director Tobias, the Board of Directors approved a 1% salary increase for SEIU 521 represented employees effective July 12, 2021, in accordance with Article 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District and SEIU 521, which provides that the District may provide a higher amount of COLA than what is provided in the MOU, subject to two weeks' notice to the Union by 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**4. Discuss and Consider eliminating the ten unpaid furlough days for SEIU 521 represented employees for Fiscal year 2021-2022, in accordance with Article 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District and SEIU 521, which provides that the District may provide fewer furlough days than what is provided in the MOU, subject to two weeks' notice to the Union. This item will not change or affect four unpaid office closure days between December 25, 2021 and January 1, 2022 during the District's year-end office closure, provided in Section 13.2.B of the MOU**

Mr. Cattaneo reported this action is also consistent with the action the Board recently took for the unrepresented employees, eliminating the 10 unpaid furlough days called for in the MOU.

Mrs. Singleton added this excludes the 4 days between December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 1<sup>st</sup> for the planned office closure. Employees can choose to use personal or vacation leave for these days.

With a motion by Director Flores and a second by Vice President Tonascia, the Board of Directors approved eliminating the ten unpaid furlough days for SEIU 521 represented employees for Fiscal year 2021-2022, in accordance with Article 10 of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District and SEIU 521, which provides that the District may provide fewer furlough days than what is provided in the MOU, subject to two weeks' notice to the Union. This item will not change or affect four unpaid office closure days between December 25, 2021 and January 1, 2022 during the District's year-end office closure, provided in Section 13.2.B of the MOU by 5 affirmative votes, Williams, Tonascia, Flores, Shelton and Tobias.

**4. CLOSED SESSION—Conference with Legal Counsel—existing litigation**

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

**Center for Biological Diversity, ET AL v. United States Bureau of Reclamation, ET AL**

**(CASE NO.: 1:20-CV-00706-DAD-EPG)**

*(The Board convened in Closed Session at 5:18 p.m.)*

**5. OPEN SESSION**

**Report any action if any**

*(The Board reconvened in Open Session at 5:47 p.m.)*

President Williams stated there was no action to report from Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to report, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

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Minutes were approved at the June 30, 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