SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 NOVEMBER 16, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No.1, was held at 3:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021** via in-person and teleconference.

Trustees Present: Jeff Clay Michael Burchardi

Brad Joos Lori Parker

Trustees Absent: Jeff Holzer

Others Present: Paeter Garcia Mary Martone

Gary Kvistad Eric Tambini Karen King John Britton Laura Copple

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

President Clay called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m., he stated this was a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ms. Martone conducted roll call and reported that four members of the Board were present, with Trustee Holzer absent.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

President Clay led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. REPORT BY THE SECRETARY TO THE BOARD REGARDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTING OF THE NOTICE AND AGENDA:

Ms. Martone presented the affidavit of posting of the Agenda, along with a true copy of the Agenda for this meeting. She reported that the Agenda was posted in accordance with the California Government Code commencing at Section 54950, as well as District Resolutions No. 340 and 808 in compliance with AB361. The affidavit was filed as evidence of the posting of the Agenda items contained therein.

4. ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS, IF ANY, TO THE AGENDA:

Mr. Garcia stated there were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

5. Public Comment:

President Clay welcomed any members of the public participating telephonically and offered time for members of the public to speak and address the Board on matters not on the Agenda. Mr. Garcia reported that no written comments were submitted to the District for the meeting. There was no public comment.

6. <u>CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) UPDATE:</u>

A. General Manager's Report

Mr. Garcia reported on the current information related to the COVID-19 pandemic and the District's actions. He reported that the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department issued Health Officer Order No. 2021-10.6 effective 5:00 p.m. on November 4, 2021 through December 4, 2021 which extends the mandatory requirement for the use of face coverings indoors, regardless of vaccination status, or until the Order is extended, rescinded, or superseded.

7. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2021:

The Regular Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2021 were presented for consideration.

President Clay asked if there any changes or additions to the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 19, 2021. No changes or additions were requested.

It was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the October 19, 2021 Minutes as presented.

8. Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda Report was provided in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia reviewed the Consent Agenda materials for the month of November.

It was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by President Clay, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the Consent Agenda.

9. MANAGER REPORTS - STATUS, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION:

- 1. Financial Report on Administrative Matters
 - a) Draft June 30, 2021 & 2020 Financial Audit Presentation by Bartlett, Pringle & Wolf, LLP

The Draft Financial Statements were included in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia introduced Mr. John Britton from Bartlett, Pringle & Wolfe, LLP for the presentation of the District's draft June 30, 2021 and 2020 Financial Statements.

Mr. Britton reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the June 30, 2021 and 2020 Financial Statements. He reviewed the District's current assets, liabilities and fund equity, statement of revenues, statement of changes, statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements. Mr. Britton reported that the District's financials conform to required Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and the State Controller's Minimum Audit Requirements for California Special Districts. He explained that the District's audit resulted in no disagreements with Management relating to the financials and was a clean audit with no reportable findings or exceptions.

Mr. Garcia recommended approval and acceptance of the June 30, 2021 and 2020 Financial Statements as presented and authorization for Management to submit the final version of the Financial Statements to the State Controller and Santa Barbara County.

It was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Burchardi, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve and accept the June 30, 2021 and 2020 Financial Statements as presented by Bartlett, Pringle & Wolf, LLP and authorize Management to execute the final documentation and distribute to the appropriate governmental agencies.

The Board thanked Mr. Britton for the presentation. Mr. Garcia expressed his appreciation and compliments to Mr. Britton and the staff at Bartlett Pringle & Wolf, for their assistance with the audit.

b) Presentation of Monthly Financial Statements – Revenues and Expenses
The monthly financial statements were included in the handout materials and emailed
to the Board members attending the meeting via phone conference. Ms. Martone
announced that the report was posted on the District's website in the Board packet
materials for any members of the public wishing to follow along or receive a copy.

Ms. Martone reported that at last month's meeting there was Board discussion to include an additional column on the financial report that would show expenditures to date in comparison to adopted fiscal year budget amounts. She stated that staff researched customization options within the accounting software and provided a supplemental report titled "Fiscal Year-To-Date Revenues and Expenses" in the Board packet that incorporated the requested information.

Ms. Martone reviewed the Statement of Revenues and Expenses for the month of October. She highlighted various line-items related to revenue and expense transactions that occurred during the month. Ms. Martone reported that District revenues exceeded expenses by \$254,805.77 and the year-to-date net income is \$1,270,332.89. Ms. Martone stated that the Board would be provided a six-month budget update at the January meeting.

c) Approval of Accounts Payable

Ms. Martone reported that the Board was provided the Warrant List for October 20, 2021 through November 16, 2021 in the handout materials and emailed to the Board members attending the meeting via phone conference. Ms. Martone announced that the Warrant List was posted on the District's website in the Board packet materials for any members of the public wishing to follow along or receive a copy.

The Board reviewed the Warrant List which covered warrants 24135 through 24185 in the amount of \$347,608.12.

It was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Burchardi, seconded by President Clay, and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to approve the Warrant List for October 20, 2021 through November 16, 2021.

10. REPORT, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE BOARD ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS:

A. UPDATE REGARDING STATEWIDE DROUGHT CONDITIONS:

The Department of Water Resources Current Reservoir Conditions report, and an October 19, 2021 ACWA Advisory were included in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia discussed the conditions of the major reservoirs within California as published by the Department of Water Resources, noting that there are several reservoirs throughout the state that are at all time historic low levels due to drought conditions. Mr. Garcia reported that on October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom issued a proclamation that placed all 58 of the state's counties in a drought emergency. Mr. Garcia stated that ID No.1 is fortunate to have a diversified water supply portfolio which assists in managing dry year periods. Mr. Garcia also provided a brief overview of water supply conditions of some of the other local agencies within Santa Barbara County.

B. SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT:

1. Eastern Management Area Update

The Board packet included various materials relating to the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

Mr. Garcia reported on the topics discussed at the October 28, 2021 Regular Meeting of the EMA GSA, which included a PowerPoint presentation discussing the GSP development timeline. He indicated that the draft GSP has been circulated to the public and written comments have been received. Mr. Garcia reported that the EMA is currently preparing responses to the written comments which will become part of the final GSP to be sent to the Department of Water Resources in January 2022. He also discussed ongoing stakeholder outreach and the EMA Citizen Advisory Committee meeting that took place on October 11, 2021. He stated that the next meeting of the EMA GSA is scheduled to be held on November 18, 2021.

2. Public Draft Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency – Groundwater Sustainability Plan – Website https://www.santaynezwater.org/eastern-management-area-groundwater-sustainability-plan

The Executive Summary of the Public Draft Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Plan was included in the Board packet.

Mr. Garcia reported that the Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Eastern Management Area was posted for public review and comment on September 8, 2021 and that the public comment period closed on October 24, 2021. He explained that various public comments have been received by the EMA GSA and that responses to comments are being developed and will be incorporated into the final GSP. Mr. Garcia referred to the Executive Summary of the Draft GSP as contained in the Board packet and explained that a complete copy of the Draft GSP has been posted on the SGMA website (santaynezwater.org) and made available at the public library and other designated areas. Mr. Garcia encouraged all Trustees and members of the public to review the electronic version of the draft GSP and to submit any public comments they may desire through the SGMA website. He reported that the EMA GSA will review and consider adoption of the final EMA GSP at its December 2021 or January 2022 meeting prior to submitting the final GSP to the Department of Water Resources by the January 31, 2022 due date. Mr. Garcia reported that each member agency of the EMA GSA must review and consider the GSP prior to the EMA GSA's approval and adoption of the final GSP. Trustee Joos provided comments relating to the public comments submitted on the Draft GSP, future costs of implementing SGMA, and future management of the GSP.

Mr. Garcia recommended the ID No.1 Board concur with an action by the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency to approve and adopt the final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eastern Management Area in a form substantially similar to the Public Draft GSP, subject to the finalization of the responses to public comments, and that the ID No.1 Board authorize Trustee Joos to cast his vote as a member of the EMA GSA Committee in favor of approving and adopting the final GSP.

It was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Parker, seconded by Trustee Burchardi and carried by a 4-0-0 roll call vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, that SYRWCD, ID No.1 concurs with an action by the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency to approve and adopt the final Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eastern Management Area in a form substantially similar to the Public Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan, subject to the finalization of the responses to public comments; and that the Board of Trustees

authorizes Trustee Joos to cast his vote as a member of the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Committee in favor of approving and adopting the final Groundwater Sustainability Plan that will be submitted to the State of California, Department of Water Resources, in January 2022.

Mr. Garcia reported that once the final GSP is adopted, the EMA GSA will be required to prepare and submit a first annual report to DWR by April 2022. He reviewed the potential costs related to the annual report and provided information relating to the next steps in the process to set up a new formal governance structure that will address the financial participation of each of the parties and other groundwater producers within the EMA.

C. HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL:

1. Notice of Preparation of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report
The Board packet included a Notice of Preparation of a Draft Program Environmental
Impact Report.

Mr. Garcia discussed the history of the California State Water Resources Control Board's regulation of Hexavalent Chromium, referred to as Chromium 6. He reported that the State Board has issued a Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the preparation of a new Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for Chromium 6 in drinking water, where a range of 17 possible MCLs will be evaluated. Mr. Garcia indicated that the public comment period for the NOP opened on November 5, 2021 and closes on December 6, 2021. He reported there is a working group convened through the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) that is specific to Chromium 6 which is currently working on a comment letter that will be submitted to the State Board. Mr. Garcia stated he would provide further information to the Board as it becomes available.

D. AMENDMENT TO RULES & REGULATIONS AND CAPITAL FACILITIES CHARGES:

 Draft Resolution No. XXX: A Resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement No. 1 Approving the Automatic Annual Adjustments to the Capital Facilities Charges and Meter Installation Fees Contained in Attachment of Appendix "C" and Appendix "D" of the District's Rules and Regulations

The Board packet included a draft Resolution for the automatic annual adjustment to the District's capital facilities charges and meter installation fees pursuant to District Resolution No. 422 and Sections 603 and 709 of the District's Rules and Regulations. The automatic adjustments will take effect on January 1, 2022.

Mr. Garcia explained that the draft Resolution was being provided for advance review by the Board because adjustments to the District's Capital Facilities Charges are implemented through amendments to Appendix "C" and Appendix "D" of the District's Rules and Regulations. He explained that the Board must be provided at least 20-days advance written notice of any proposed amendments or changes to the Rules and Regulations. He stated there was no action required at this time and the draft Resolution would be presented for consideration and action at the December meeting.

11. REPORTS BY THE BOARD MEMBERS OR STAFF, QUESTIONS OF STAFF, STATUS REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMMITTEE REPORTS, OBSERVATIONS AND OTHER MATTERS AND/OR COMMUNICATIONS NOT REQUIRING BOARD ACTION:

The Board packet included the Family Farm Alliance Monthly Briefing for the month of November and a Public Meeting Notice for the Los Olivos Community Services District Board of Directors Workshop Meeting of November 3, 2021.

12. CORRESPONDENCE: GENERAL MANAGER RECOMMENDS FILING OF VARIOUS ITEMS:

The Correspondence list was received by the Board.

13. REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

There were no requests from the Board.

14. NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

President Clay stated the next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for December 21, 2021 at 3:00 p.m.

15. CLOSED SESSION:

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:11 p.m.

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION

[Subdivision (d)(1) of Section 54956.9 of the Government Code – 2 Cases]

- 1. Name of Case: Adjudicatory proceedings pending before the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Permit 15878 issued on Application 22423 to the City of Solvang, Petitions for Change, and Related Protests
- 2. Name of Case: Central Coast Water Authority, et al. v. Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, et al., Santa Barbara County Superior Court Case No. 21CV02432

16. RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

[Sections 54957.1 and 54957.7 of the Government Code]

The public participation phone line was re-opened, and the Board reconvened to Open Session at approximately 5:43 p.m.

Mr. Garcia announced that the Board met in Closed Session concerning Agenda Items 15.A.1 and 15.A.2 and that there was no reportable action from Closed Session.

17. ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business, it was <u>MOVED</u> by Trustee Joos, seconded by Trustee Parker, and carried by a 4-0-0 voice vote, with Trustee Holzer absent, to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

THE NOVEMBER 16, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WERE APPROVED AT THE DECEMBER 21, 2021 MEETING.