

Keith Hadick, President (Division 3)
Randy Sharer, Vice President (Division 7)
Casey Conrad, Treasurer (Division 6)
Andrew Adam, Secretary (Division 2)
Gerald Mahoney, Director (Division 4)
Vacant, Director (Division 1)
Vacant, Director (Division 5)



**SANTA MARIA VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – May 16, 2024**

District Office
2255 S. Broadway, Ste. 8E
Santa Maria, California

1. CALL TO ORDER: With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

a. Roll Call: Present were Directors Hadick, Conrad, Mahoney, Adam, and Sharer. Also present were Virginia Souza; Carrie Troup, CPA; Sam Hurst; District Counsel Keith Lemieux; and Interim General Manager Carol Thomas-Keefer (attending remotely).

b. Pledge of Allegiance: President Hadick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: Ms. Souza noted that she was attending as an observer on behalf of the League of Women Voters.

3. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: On motion by Director Sharer and seconded by Director Adam, the agenda was approved as presented. Motion carried: 5-0-0-2.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR: On motion by Director Sharer and seconded by President Hadick, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 18, 2024 were approved as corrected. Motion carried 5-0-0-2.

6. FINANCIAL ACTION ITEMS AND REPORTS

a. Financial Reports: Ms. Carrie Troup, CPA, reviewed financial statements and accounts payable for April. On motion by Director Adam and seconded by Director Mahoney, the Financial Reports for April were received and filed. Motion carried 5-0-0-2.

b. Finance Committee/Treasurer Report: Directors Conrad reported that the committee discussed recommendations for investments. Director Sharer added that the committee reviewed a draft budget and assumptions for FY 2024-25. The budget will be revised and presented to the committee and to the board in June. President Hadick

requested that staff and the committee coordinate adding Vice President Sharer as a signer on the district's bank accounts.

7. APPROVAL OF INVESTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS WITH CALIFORNIA

CLASS AND SANTA MARIA COMMUNITY BANK: On motion made by Director Sharer and seconded by Director Mahoney, the Board approved the Financial Committee recommendation to invest \$1 million from the District's savings account into California CLASS investment pool, and \$500,000 from the District's checking account into a 6-month certificate of deposit with Santa Maria Community Bank. Motion carried 5-0-0-2.

8. DISCUSSION OF WEED ABATEMENT SERVICES: Ms. Thomas-Keefer reviewed the urgent need to retain services for mowing and weed abatement around Twitchell Dam. Following discussion, on motion made by Director Sharer and seconded by Director Conrad, the Interim General Manager was authorized to retain weed abatement services at an amount not to exceed \$25,000, and the procurement requirements were waived due to urgency. Motion carried 5-0-0-2.

9. REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Report on Operations at Twitchell Dam- President Hadick reported that, as of today, the elevation was 579.2 feet; storage was 31,897 acre-feet.

Twitchell Operations Committee (TOC): Director Conrad reported that the Committee prepared a project list at the Financial Committee's request and discussed the need for fencing. The committee also discussed a release schedule and determined that once the gate controls work is complete, water releases from the dam can begin.

Report from Horne: Mr. Sam Hurst reported that a FEMA site inspection was held at the dam on April 25 to review damages from last year's storm events. Also, District representatives met with Cal OES in Sacramento on May 15 to discuss its unfavorable decision regarding the district's appeal.

10. DIRECTOR AND STAFF REPORTS

Director Reports: Director Sharer requested that the Finance Committee report be added to the Reports and Information section of the agenda, and that the Treasurer's report could be removed. President Hadick reported that he had received a request from the County regarding the District's funding or participation in a cloud seeding program this year. President Hadick requested this item be placed on the June board agenda for discussion.

General Manager's Report: Ms. Thomas-Keefer reported that staff and counsel are still working on the access policy and will bring it to the board at a future meeting; she also reported that she is working with counsel's office on a Public Records Act response pertaining to the District's contract with Horne. She also noted that the contract with

Gaedeke Hydrologic Consulting, LLC, will expire at the end of May and would like the Board to consider extending it. It was agreed that the Board would hold a special meeting on June 6 to consider extending the contract for temporary dam monitoring services.

District Counsel Report: Attorney Keith Lemieux stated that it has been a year since the Santa Barbara County Grand Jury report was issued, and the Board should consider sending an update to the Grand Jury on the District's progress. The Board concurred and staff and counsel were directed to prepare an update.

11. NEXT MEETING: Special Meeting – June 6, 2024; Regular meeting - June 20, 2024

12. ADJOURNMENT: It was moved and seconded by Director Mahoney and Director Adam to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes approved on June 20, 2024.

Keith Hadick, President

Submitted by Carol Thomas-Keefer