

# CAWELO WATER DISTRICT

## BOARD MEETING

*17207 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield CA 93308*

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20 NO PUBLIC ACCESS DUE TO COVID-19  
Public Participation via Zoom 1-(669)-900-6833 / Meeting ID: 979 1651 8490 / Password: 917932  
Or via Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97916518490?pwd=a2dzVksvNERtZFH0NTJBcE1YeGVGZz09>

*Thursday, August 12, 2021*

*9:00 a.m.*

### MINUTES

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Keith Watkins, Brian Blackwell, Mark Smith, John Gaugel, Spencer Birch  
**STAFF PRESENT:** Dave Halopoff, LeeAnn Giles, Celynn Lyman  
**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Robert Hartsock  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Jessica Bertao, Neeraj Datto, Tim Gobler, Lindsey McGuire, Andy Schweikart, Sam Schaefer

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Watkins at 9:00 a.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Minutes of the Board meeting for July 8, 2021 were presented for approval.

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Gaugel, seconded by Director Smith and carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that the minutes from July 8, 2021 be approved as presented.*

**AYES: 5 Watkins, Blackwell, Smith, Gaugel, Birch**  
**NOES: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**

**C. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2021 was presented by District Controller, Ms. Giles. Balances for July were as follows:

General Funds	7,970,607.80
Construction Funds	3,965,030.02
Reserved Funds	<u>3,459,997.54</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>15,395,635.36</b>
Receipts for July 2021	287,224.26
Manual Cash Disbursements	18,432.92
Net Revenue through July	17,655,896.83

Total Expenses through July	<u>10,983,804.98</u>
<b>NET REVENUE / &lt;LOSS&gt;</b>	<b>6,672,091.85</b>

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Blackwell and carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that the Treasurer's Report from July, 2021 be approved as presented.*

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Watkins, Blackwell, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**D. ACCEPT 2020 AUDIT**

Mr. Neeraj Datto, CPA, presented the 2020 Independent Audit findings of Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation and included a written report.

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Gaugel, seconded by Director Birch and carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that the 2020 Audit be accepted as presented.*

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Watkins, Blackwell, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**E. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

*The Accounts Payable presentation was temporarily deferred to follow Agenda Item F., the Public Hearing.*

District Controller, Ms. Giles, presented the Accounts Payable report for the month of July, 2021. The report covered checks 33251 through 33301 issued August 11, 2021 in the amount of \$1,365,294.06; Manual disbursements covered ACH debits and totaled \$18,423.92. Manual disbursements included \$14,500.00 of checks fraudulently deposited. Fraud claim, reimbursement and prevention were briefly discussed. Additionally, Ms. Giles reported that 2020-2021 Winter Water Refunds and 2020 Water Allocation Refunds were issued August 12, 2021 covering checks 33302 through 33366 in the amount of \$275,045.70.

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Blackwell and carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that the Accounts Payable from July, 2021 be approved as presented.*

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Watkins, Blackwell, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**F. PUBLIC HEARING at 9:15am**

**1) Consider 2020 Agricultural Management Plan Update**

The public hearing to consider the adoption of the 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan was opened at approximately 9:22 a.m. Mr. Halopoff gave a brief background summary about the plan and its necessity. No public comments were received and the public hearing was closed at approximately 9:24 a.m.

**2) Approve and Adopt Board Resolution 695**

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Blackwell, seconded by Director Smith and carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that Board Resolution Number 695, Resolution of the Board of Directors of Cawelo Water District Adopting 2020 Agricultural Water Management Plan Update, be approved as presented.*

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>Watkins, Blackwell, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**G. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – The floor was open for any public comments, at which time there were none.

**H. REPORTS**

**1) PROJECTS**

**a. North Kern Transportation Agreement**

i. **Status of Project:** No report.

**b. Famoso to Friant Pipeline Project**

i. **Status of Project:** Mr. Halopoff reported staff and the contractor have met regarding potential change orders. There are also punch list items remaining to complete the project.

**c. Well Construction Project**

i. **Status of Project:** Mr. Halopoff reported that Bakersfield Well & Pump started abandonment of Well F-2 August 11<sup>th</sup>. Kern County permits for the construction of Well #17 and the destruction of Well F-2 have been received. The well construction permit for Well #16 is anticipated soon. Bakersfield Well & Pump should begin drilling Well #17 in approximately 3 weeks, and begin drilling Well #16 in approximately 5 weeks.

**2) ILRP - Coalition Update** – In addition to providing a written report, Mr. Halopoff advised that the deadline for Coalition Members to pay 2021 fees and submit membership revisions was July 23<sup>rd</sup> and over 90% of members met the deadline.

August 12, 2021

The Crop Year 2020 Annual Membership Report was submitted to the Regional Board on July 29<sup>th</sup>. The total irrigated acreage reported to the Regional Board was 35,264.52 and is based on member enrolled irrigated acreage.

The 2020 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is due to be submitted to the Regional Board August 31, 2021. The deadline has been extended to the end of October, 2021 but District Staff should have the report completed and submitted by the original due date.

The Central Valley Coalitions submitted updates to the Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plans (CGQMP) incorporating the GWP Values to the Regional Board on July 19<sup>th</sup>. The Regional Board has provided the document for public comments through September 1, 2021.

The GWP Values process performed the modeling and generated values that were detailed in the GWP Targets Report that was conditionally approved by the Regional Board in January 2021. In general, the GWP Formula consists of three (3) key steps:

- Compile and use daily climatic, detailed soil, parcel, Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan (INMP) data as reported by growers to the Coalitions in their INMP Summary Reports;
- Evaluate detailed data using robust, scientifically valid equations and methods encompassed in the Central Valley Soil & Water Assessment Tool (CV-SWAT) to estimate percolation and nitrate fate and transport within the root-zone; and,
- Aggregate the parcel results to the township scale to provide root-zone based GWP Values for high-priority townships (townships with greater than or equal to 10-percent ( $\geq 10\%$ ) high vulnerability irrigate acreage).

The GWP Values quantify the nitrate that may be available for leaching at the bottom of the root-zone. It does not take into consideration post root-zone processes (e.g., regional recharge, vadose zone processes, etc.). The post root-zone process will be captured in the GWP Targets process.

The Central Valley Coalitions continue to make progress on the Technical Workplan 5-Year Update which will also serve as the Groundwater Quality Assessment Report (GAR) 5-Year Update. The Draft Report is expected to be completed for review in September 2021 with submittal to the Regional Board by November 30, 2021.

The four Kern County Coalitions continue to discuss and develop options for organizing and creating required management zones under the CV-SALTS Nitrate Control Program. It is anticipated that waste dischargers within the Priority 2 subbasins will receive a Notice to Comply (NTC) from the Regional Board for the Nitrate Control Program mid-2022.

The South San Joaquin Valley Management Practices Evaluation Program (SSJV MPEP) and the North San Joaquin Valley Management Practices Evaluation Program (NSJV MPEP) submitted the grant application for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) Program on July 19, 2021. The tentative grant award date is late 2021 – if awarded, work is to begin March 2022.

The current technical consultant lead John Dickey, with Plan Tierra, is planning to semi-retire beginning in 2022. He will then transition to a part time consultant with Formation Environmental. The SSJV MPEP group discussed possible options to retain a new technical consultant. The group is recommending solicitation of a proposal from Ken Miller with Formation Environmental. The group has worked with Ken Miller extensively, most recently during the GWP Formulas and Values development.

**3) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update**

No update was provided because the matter was discussed at the Cawelo GSA Special Board Meeting.

**4) Financial and Personnel**

a) **Employee Compensation** – No discussion.

**5) SWP**

a) **Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) – (Previously Cal Water Fix)** – No discussion.

b) **KCWA and Related SWP Matters** – No discussion.

**I. ATTORNEY’S REPORT** - Mr. Hartsock had no report for open session.

**J. ENGINEER’S REPORT**

**K. MANAGER’S REPORT**

**1) Water Deliveries/Supplies** into the District for July 2021 were as follows:

	<u>Ac-Ft Delivered</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Supplies Received	8,043	37,332
Landowner Deliveries	7,294	30,906
East Poso Basin Recharge	0	836
Famoso Basin Recharge	0	1,092
System Loss/Operational Recharge	- 373	- 1,827
Diversion from Poso Creek		
To Famoso Basin Banking	0	0
Percolation losses Creek Channel	0	0
Poso Creek Water Passed Trenton Weir	0	0

**Produced Water Deliveries** for the month of July 2021 were as follows:

Chevron	36.2 cfs per day (2,156 ac-ft.)
CRC/Bell Aire	7.6 cfs per day (455 ac-ft.)

**2) System Operations & Maintenance:**

Copper sulfate applications to the distribution canal and reservoirs continue as needed and meter repairs are still being conducted throughout the District.

**ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:52 a.m. to Closed Session.

**L. Closed Session:**

- 1) **To confer with legal counsel regarding pending litigation under authority of Government Code Section 54956.9 (a) California Department of Water Resources v All Persons Interested, Sac. Sup. Ct. No. 34-2020-00283112; Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District v KCWA, KCSC BCV-21-100418; (d)(2) (one matter) and (d)(4) (one matter):**
- 2) **Conference with real property negotiators and/or properties under authority of Government Code Section 54956.8**
  - a) **City Water Purchase**
  - b) **North Kern Canal Facility Use**
  - c) **Miscellaneous Water Supplies**
  - d) **Real Property Purposes; Storage/Well Sites**
- 3) **Wages/salary/other terms and conditions of employment under authority of Government Code Section 54957.6**

**M. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION** – The Board returned to Open Session at approximately 10:41 a.m. It was announced that no action was taken in Closed Session that would require disclosure under the Brown Act at this time.

**N. ADJOURNMENT** – The Board meeting adjourned at 10:41 a.m. The next regular CWD Board Meeting is set for Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

*Brian Blackwell*

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Brian Blackwell, Board Secretary