

# **CAWELO WATER DISTRICT**

## **BOARD MEETING**

*17207 Industrial Farm Road, Bakersfield CA 93308*

**Public Participation Possible via Zoom 1-(669)-900-6833**

**Meeting ID: 842 0469 5224 / Passcode: 472816**

**Or via Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84204695224?pwd=Z29wdmJYWWEJiWjJ2ekIrb2YvK3NWQT09>

*Thursday, January 13, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.*

### **MINUTES**

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Keith Watkins, Mark Smith, John Gaugel, Spencer Birch

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:** David Ansolabehere, Dave Halopoff, LeeAnn Giles, Celynn Lyman

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Robert Hartsock

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Molly Thurman

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#### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Watkins at approximately 9:03 a.m.

Legal counsel reported that pursuant to California Government Code section 54954.2 (b), an issue arose subsequent to the posting of the meeting agenda that required immediate consideration and action, and recommended an addition to the agenda. Legal counsel stated that due to the newly confirmed cases of Covid among Cawelo Board Members and consultants, and the current risk of COVID-19 and variants, the Board should consider the adoption of a resolution authorizing virtual meetings in accordance with AB 361.

After review and discussion **it was motioned by Director Smith seconded by Director Gaugel and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, that Agenda Item B - Consideration and Adoption of CWD Resolution No. 702 – A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Cawelo Water District to Implement Teleconferencing Requirements During a Proclaimed State of Emergency**, be added as an additional agenda item:

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

#### **B. CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF CWD RESOLUTION NO. 702 – A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Cawelo Water District to Implement Teleconferencing Requirements During a Proclaimed State of Emergency.**

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Gaugel seconded by Director Smith and unanimously carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that CWD Resolution No. 702 - A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Cawelo Water District to Implement**

*Teleconferencing Requirements During a Proclaimed State of Emergency*, be approved as presented.

**AYES: 4**      **Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch**  
**NOES: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**

**C. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES**

Minutes of the Board meeting for December 9, 2021 were presented for approval.

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Gaugel and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, *that the minutes from December 9, 2021*** be approved as presented.

**AYES: 4**      **Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch**  
**NOES: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**

**D. RESOLUTION IN APPRECIATION OF BRIAN BLACKWELL'S SERVICE TO CAWELO WATER DISTRICT**

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Smith seconded by Director Birch and unanimously carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that CWD Resolution No. 701 – *Resolution in Appreciation of Brian Blackwell's Service to Cawelo Water District***, be approved as presented.

**AYES: 4**      **Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch**  
**NOES: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**

**E. APPOINTMENT TO FILL BOARD DIRECTOR VACANCY**

Mr. Ansolabehere reported that notices have been posted throughout District and to date, no applications or letters of interest have been received. The matter is deferred to February 10, 2022.

**F. ELECTION TO FILL BOARD SECRETARY VACANCY**

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Smith seconded by Director Birch and unanimously carried by the following Roll Call Vote, that *John Gaugel's appointment as CWD Board Secretary***, be approved.

**AYES: 4**      **Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch**  
**NOES: 0**  
**ABSTAIN: 0**  
**ABSENT: 0**

**G. TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

General Funds	4,072,460.85
Construction Funds	2,968,377.10
Reserved Funds	<u>3,713,545.35</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<b>10,754,383.30</b>
Receipts for December 2021	276,567.87
Manual Cash Disbursements	4,124.92
Net Revenue through December	17,910,338.28
Total Expenses through December	<u>14,457,987.78</u>
<b>NET REVENUE / &lt;LOSS&gt;</b>	<b>3,452,350.50</b>

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Birch, seconded by Director Gaugel, and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, that the Treasurer's Report from December, 2021** be approved as presented.

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**H. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

District Controller, Ms. Giles, presented the Accounts Payable report for the month of December, 2021. The report covered checks 33539 through 33588 issued December 12, 2021 in the amount of \$1,355,349.09; Manual disbursements covered ACH debits and check numbers 33536 through 33597 totaling \$4,124.92.

After review and discussion, **it was motioned by Director Smith, seconded by Director Birch and unanimously carried by the following roll call vote, that the Accounts Payable from December, 2021** be approved as presented.

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

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

**J. 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. Ansolabehere reported that the project is complete. A Notice of Completion has been filed and the District is awaiting receipt of the recorded document.

**c. Well Construction Project**

- i. **Status of Project:** Mr. Ansolabehere reported that construction and development is complete and the contractor is completing final clean-up. District staff is reviewing project specifications for equipping of the wells and will provide comments to consultant by next week. Staff has been reviewing the procurement schedule for motors and starters to ensure that the District has necessary components prior to the summer irrigation season.

2) **ILRP**

- a. **Coalition Update** – In addition to providing a written report, Mr. Halopoff advised that the four (4) Kern County Coalitions have attended workshops with other Kern County discharger stakeholders 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 late 2022.

The South San Joaquin Valley Management Practices Evaluation Program (SSJV MPEP) transitioned to Formation Environmental as the technical consultant lead beginning January 3, 2022. John Dickey, the previous technical consultant lead, is still involved in the group.

The SSJV MPEP is beginning to discuss the General Order requirements for nitrogen applied and removed (A/R) metrics. The General Order requires the coalitions to develop a range of acceptable A/R or A-R metrics to assist in grower education and outreach. The group is developing a scope to develop the A/R metrics, which is planned to involve commodity groups and the UC Extension. It is anticipated that this work product will have overlap with the GWP Targets process.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) notified the SSJV MPEP that the Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) Program application was unsuccessful in receiving funding. The unsuccessful grant application will have no affect on the approved SSJV MPEP 2021-2022 approved budget.

The Kern County Coalitions held the January 2022 winter grower outreach meetings for the ILRP members. There was one (1) Zoom meeting option and one (1) in-person meeting option. The Zoom meeting was recorded and is available on the internet for members that were unable to attend the live or in-person meetings.

### 3) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update

- a) **Local SGMA Activities** – Mr. Halopoff reported that the District, in accordance with Board approval, executed a contract with Land IQ for the remote ET work. In preliminary discussions with LandIQ, it is anticipated that three (3) stations will need to be constructed within the district. December 2021 data should be available by the end of January with the caveat that the District has no remote sensing for ground truthing. KGA has an existing remote sensing grant that will cover 60% of the remote sensing equipment and installation with a 40% cost match to be paid for by the District.

### 4) Financial and Personnel

- a) **Employee Compensation** – This item was deferred until after Closed Session.

### 5) SWP

- a) **Delta Conveyance Project (DCP)** – No discussion.
- b) **KCWA and Related SWP Matters** – Mr. Ansolabehere reported that even after recent precipitation the current State Water Project Allocation for 2022 remains at 0%.

**K. ATTORNEY’S REPORT** – No report at this time.

**L. ENGINEER’S REPORT** – No report at this time.

### **M. MANAGER’S REPORT**

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

	<u>Ac-Ft Delivered</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Supplies Received	2,501	62,070
Landowner Deliveries	573	49,233
East Poso Basin Recharge	471	1,307
Famoso Basin Recharge	1,252	3,267
System Loss/Operational Recharge	- 125	- 2,911
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 December 2021 were as follows:

Chevron	33.9 cfs per day (2,015 ac-ft.)
CRC/Bell Aire	8.2 cfs per day (486 ac-ft.)

**2) System Operations & Maintenance:**

Copper sulfate applications to the distribution canal and reservoirs continue as needed. Maintenance at Reservoir "C" levees and embankments is getting underway and the consultant should begin surveying soon. Meter repairs are still being conducted throughout the District.

**ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:41 a.m. to Closed Session.

**N. 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**

**O. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION** – The Board returned to Open Session at approximately 10:21 a.m. It was announced that no action was taken in Closed Session that would require disclosure under the Brown Act at this time.

The Board then considered agenda item J.4 (a), Employee Compensation/Benefits.

After review and discussion, *it was motioned by Director Birch, seconded by Director Smith and carried by the following roll call vote, that employee wages be increased in accordance with Staff's recommendations, and that the General Manager's wage be increased by 5%.*

<b>AYES:</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Watkins, Smith, Gaugel, Birch</b>
<b>NOES:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>0</b>	

**P. ADJOURNMENT** – The Board meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m. The next regular CWD Board Meeting is set for Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

  
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John Gaugel, CWD Board Secretary