

KINGS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2020

As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, the public was able to participate through a conference call. Directors could choose to meet with Staff in the Board Room or participate through a conference call. President Taylor called the special meeting to order at 10 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Steven P. Dias, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor,
Joseph Freitas (phone)

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Michael Murray

OTHERS PRESENT: Dennis Mills, General Manager
Ray Carlson, Attorney (phone)
Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Assoc. (phone)

ESTABLISH QUORUM

It was determined that a quorum was present at the meeting.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

None.

GENERAL MANAGER

BRIEF UPDATE ON WEIDMAN BASIN EFFORTS

Manager Mills reported that cleanup efforts at Weidman Basin began on Tuesday December 15, after several days of notice. The efforts were coordinated with Kings County Sheriff's Department, who were very helpful in removing trespassers. Sunrise Labor contractor was on site with a crew of fifteen for two days helping to collect trash. Wood Bros Inc. began the vegetation clearing on Wednesday, Dec 16 and that work continued. Also Lakeside had helped with a side dump on moving debris on-site to consolidated locations. Manager Mills reported that the City of Hanford staff are scheduled to be on-site Monday, December 28, to transport unclaimed debris to the dump.

BRIEF UPDATE ON RIVERSIDE - LAST CHANCE CROSSING EFFORTS

Manager Mills reported that he had received a cost estimate for the Riverside – Last Chance Crossing from Mattos Underground for roughly the same amount that he had previously reported to the Board. Related to design issues, he was still investigating pipe coating options and specifications before the effort could be finalized.

SGM IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION

REASONING FOR DISTRICT BEING APPLICANT

Manager Mills reported that after more was learned about the Round 1 SGM Implementation Grant offering, it became clear that it was significant whether a project had previously been listed in a GSP for that area, as the Griswold Basin had. Also the way the Round 1 Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) scoring was structured, multiple project scores

would be averaged in an application, leading to lower scoring projects weighing down better scoring ones. These reasons were the primary drivers for the Tulare Lake Subbasin parties agreeing that only the Kings CWD project would be submitted by the Tulare Lake Subbasin in Round 1. As this view was developing, Manager Mills reached out to DWR staff and asked whether it mattered if a GSA was the applicant or if the District, who appeared to be an eligible agency, would be viewed as favorably. The response was that if the project was the District's then it made more sense for the District to make the application and show that the other GSAs in the subbasin supported the application.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT EFFORTS AND POTENTIAL COMMITMENT

Manager Mills reported that the project planned for the grant application would involve the development of the Griswold Basin as well as the improvement of diversion structures at the Lopez, Smith, Railsback and Cody facilities. At the Griswold site, the effort would be to excavate two new basin cells, develop new turnouts for both cells, rehabilitate an existing four bay weir in the Riverside Ditch, rehabilitate a canal crossing just upstream of the site on Riverside Ditch and develop a new clustered groundwater monitoring well for levels and quality. The improved diversion structures at the Lopez, Smith, Railsback and Cody facilities would be similar to previous efforts at the Everett Basin, but would address specific issues at each location to maximize recharge potential. Manager Mills relayed that efforts to develop the grant application would be underway until it was due on January 8, but that currently the effort appeared to be roughly a \$2.7 million effort that could require a maximum of 25% local cost share. Work was being done related to the potential ability to request a cost share waiver, but Manager Mills requested that the Board consider authorizing the proposed effort with a potential budget between \$2.7 – 3.2 million with a maximum District cost share of 25%.

RESOLUTION 2020-1, A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE KCWD AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE DWR FOR GRANT FUNDING UNDER THE 2019 SGM GRANT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 1 GRANT

Manager Mills read through Resolution 2021-1 which was the required language from the SGM Round 1 Implementation Grant Application from DWR for the 2021 Kings CWD Recharge Project. The Board asked several questions about the proposal package, what would qualify as the District cost share, and there was discussion about the opportunity. Manager Mills recommended that the District Board adopt the resolution, committing to filing the application, executing a grant agreement with DWR and authorizing the General Manager or designee to sign on behalf of the District. Vice-President Dias made the motion to approve Resolution 2020-1 and Director McCutcheon seconded the motion. President Taylor called for a vote and the vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Steven P. Dias, Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS TO DEVELOP THE ROUND 1 GRANT APPLICATION

Manager Mills conveyed that he had been working with Geosyntec Consultants on Round 1 SGM Implementation Grant application development. Geosyntec Consultants had developed a proposal related to the effort with a budget of \$30,000 on a time and materials, not to exceed,

basis. The Board asked several questions about the arrangement and there was discussion about the engagement. After the discussion, Manager Mills recommended that the Board authorize the proposal for consultant services related to the Round 1 SGM Implementation Grant application. Vice-President Dias made the motion to authorize the Geosyntec proposal and Director McCutcheon seconded the motion. President Taylor called for a vote and the vote for all Directors was as follows:

AYES: Joseph Freitas, Barry McCutcheon, Steven P. Dias, Ernest Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAINED: None

ABSENT: Michael Murray

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Mills

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