

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mike Vereschagin, President  
Ernest Pieper, Vice President  
James A. Jones  
John Erickson  
Charles Schonauer

**SECRETARY-MANAGER**

Emil Cavagnolo



**ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT**

(A UNIT OF THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY CANALS)

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**MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
ORLAND-ARTOIS WATER DISTRICT**

**TUESDAY JULY 18, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

President of the Board Mike Vereschagin called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.

**Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.**

- Mike Vereschagin
- Ernie Pieper
- John Erickson
- Jim Jones
- Chuck Schonauer

Roll call was as above and a quorum was determined.

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

- Emil Cavagnolo, Manager.
- Angel Stephens, Administrative Assistant.
- Chris Drouillard, Water Superintendent.
- Marty Bailey, Assessor/Treasurer/Tax Collector.
- Jenny Scheer, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.
- Chase Hurley, Orland A Farmers Group & Water & Land Solutions.
- Josh Horowitz, District Counsel, on speaker phone.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

The minutes of the June 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting were reviewed. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Pieper) to approve the June 20<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes by the following vote:

- AYES: E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.
- NOES: None
- ABSTAIN: M. Vereschagin
- ABSENT: J. Erickson.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Manager Cavagnolo presented to the Directors a letter from Staci Buttermore. The letter addressed to the Board of Directors, requested the Directors to look into a conflict she found with the OAWD Bylaws and the California Water Law.

**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS AND APPROVAL OF CHECKS:**

The Directors reviewed the financial transaction summary for June and the check register. Manager Cavagnolo answered questions the Board had regarding the financials and the check register. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve the June Financial Report and checks#14201 thru # 14250 by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: J. Erickson

**THE BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2022 FINANCIAL REPORT.**

The Directors reviewed the 2022 Financial Report. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Pieper/Schonauer) to approve the 2022 Financial Report by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: J. Erickson

**WATER SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens gave the Water Superintendent’s report because Water Superintendent Chris Drouillard was in the field. Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens reported that field staff were working at the pumping plants and in the shop. The middle screen at plant 35.2 is being repaired by Lely Pump. 8,497 acre-feet of water was delivered in June and approximately 4,445 acre-feet has been delivered in July to date. Well Depths: DW1 is at 137.7 feet, down 1.7 feet from last month. The monitoring well is at 63 feet, up 16 feet from last month. DW2 is at 114 feet, up 1 foot from last month. Water quality is still poor.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Manager Cavagnolo reviewed with the Board his Manager’s Report, which was included in the Board packet, and answered any questions the Board had. Manager Cavagnolo reported to the Board 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter LAIF interest was \$37,625.44.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- A. **The Board to receive an update on Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Activities.**
  - a. Director Jones reported to the Board that the July TCCA Board meeting was cancelled.

**B. The Board to receive an update on Glenn Groundwater Authority.**

**a. Report on GGA Board Meeting.**

Director Schonauer reported to the Board on the GGA Board Meeting on 07/10/2023 and the Special GGA Board Meeting on 07/17/2023. Director Schonauer reported that after learning that there was a 35% error in the Prop 218 Land Charge mailing, the GGA Board decided to hold a special meeting to look at options for the land charge. After weighing options at the Special Board Meeting, the GGA Board voted to not continue with the Prop 218 process for a new land charge. The 2024 land charge will now be the same as in 2023.

**b. Report on pilot ground water recharge projects.**

Manager Cavagnolo reported to the Board that 2023 recharge well levels were in the Board Packet under General Business and that current well levels are still higher than at the start of the project.

**C. The Board to receive an update on annexations.**

**a. The Board will receive an update from Water and Lands Solutions on the Orland A Farmers Group annexation project.**

Jenny Scheer and Chase Hurley, Water & Land Solutions, updated the Board on the progress on the Orland A Farmers Group Annexation. 30% designs are done and work on 60% designs will begin soon. Water and Lands Solutions are hoping to have the LAFCO application ready for OAWD Board approval in November.

**b. The Board to consider the formation of an improvement district for the Orland A Farmers Group.**

Chase Hurley reported that Water and Lands Solutions will be working on the Improvement District in the near future.

**c. The Board to discuss the ownership of the new infrastructure to be built by the Orland A Farmers Group.**

Jenny Scheer gave the Board a presentation on the different infrastructure elements and discussed with the Board each element and whether they should be private or public projects. The consensus of the Board are as follows:

- The 35.2 0.6 Booster Pump on Road M will increase pipeline capacity from 17 CFS to 30 CFS to serve 1,783 more acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The 35.2 2.6 Booster Pump will be built “if needed” in Phase 2 of construction to serve 284 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The 33.6N pipeline tie-in along Road P to serve 111 acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The Knight 27 tie-in on Road QQ to serve 123 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The Knight 33 tie-in on Road 33 to serve 225 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.

- The Hart 342 tie-in to serve 254 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- Hart Farms HQ extension to serve 312 new acres. This element could be public or private. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.
- The 33.6 extension on Road 24 to serve 164 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The Road 28 pipeline to serve 840 new acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project with a service agreement with the District.
- The 99W pipeline to serve 880 new acres. This element will be a phase 2 project and will most likely need grant funding to complete. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a public project.
- The Patton pipeline to serve 520 acres. This element will be a phase 2 project. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.
- The Big W pipeline to serve 661 acres. This element will be a phase 2 project. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.
- Hart 330 canal-side pump to serve 1,117 acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.
- Lassen Land canal-side pump to serve McDaniel/Ross land to free up capacity. This will be a phase 2 project. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.
- Sanford canal-side pump to serve 57 acres. The consensus of the Board was that this should be a private project.

**d. The Board to discuss and consider Orland A Farmers Group Annexation and Class II Water Supply Agreement.**

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

**e. The Board to discuss and consider Updated OAWD Annexation Policy and Criteria.**

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

**f. The Board to discuss and consider OAWD Easement Deed.**

The Directors reviewed the OAWD Easement Deed. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Jones/Schonauer) to approve the OAWD Easement Deed by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None.  
 ABSENT: J. Erickson

**g. The Board to discuss and consider Resolution 2023-03 Rescinding Resolution No. 2003-5 and Amending District Policy on Agricultural Water Service to Newly Created Parcels Within the District.**

The Directors reviewed Resolution 2023-03. After Board discussion it was m/s/c (Schonauer/Jones) to approve Resolution 2023-03 by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: J. Erickson

**D. The Board to discuss 2023 elections for Directors.**

**a. The Board will receive an update on the 2023 Election process.**

Administrative Assistant Angel Stephens reported to the Board that the 2023 OAWD Voter Roll was completed and submitted to the Glenn County Elections Office on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Angel was informed that the voter roll would be sent to the printer that day. Angel reported that the window for write-in candidacy is July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup> and that we have had one request for paperwork from Brian Mori, Crain Orchards. Angel also reported that the ballots were scheduled to be mailed by July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**E. The Board to discuss General Manager Search.**

Manager Cavagnolo provided the Directors with the draft documents including a flyer, job description, and application. These documents were reviewed and edited by District counsel Josh Horowitz. Manager Cavagnolo requested a salary range and advertising start date. The Consensus of the Board was a salary range of \$70,000 to \$120,000 annually and to start advertising September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**F. The Board to consider replacement of District Vehicle.**

Manager Cavagnolo told the Board that the Water Superintendent's 2014 Ford F150 has over 180,000 miles and is due to be replaced. There is \$39,990 in the vehicle replacement reserve. After Board discussion, it was m/s/c (Jones/Pieper) to approve the purchase of a new pickup using the vehicle replacement reserve by the following vote:

AYES: M. Vereschagin, E. Pieper, C. Schonauer, J. Jones.  
NOES: None  
ABSTAIN: None.  
ABSENT: J. Erickson

**G. The Board to review and discuss the District's Investment Policy and investment options.**

Manager Cavagnolo presented the District's investment policy, which was in the Board Packet. The Board reviewed the policy and consensus was that the policy was out dated and needs to be updated. District Counsel said that he had newer sample policies and would work with Manager Cavagnolo to bring a draft policy to the Board at the next meeting.

**H. CLOSED SESSION: Existing Litigation [Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)]:  
A discussion on litigation resulting from the WIIN Act Loan Conversion.**

Being there was nothing new to discuss on the WIIN Act Loan Conversion litigation, the Board did not go into closed session.

**I. Report from Closed Session.**

There was no report from closed session.

2. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Being there was no further District business, Board President Vereschagin adjourned the meeting at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emil Cavagnolo', written in a cursive style.

Emil Cavagnolo  
Manager

**APPROVED BY THE OAWD BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT THE August 15, 2023  
MEETING OF THE BOARD**