



District Attendees

Michael McRae	Board President
Chris Petersen	Board Vice President
Randy Marx	Board Member
Mark Dolby	Board Member
Misha Sarkovich	Board Member
Shawn Huckaby	Operations Manager
Chi Ha-Ly	Finance Manager
Rebecca Simon	Human Resource Administrator
John Gospodnetich	Water Supply Operator

Other Attendees

Absent

AGENDA ITEMS

I. CALL TO ORDER

- President McRae called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following consent calendar items were considered and acted upon as follows:

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Regular Board Meeting of September 18, 2023
 - President McRae inquired if the meeting with Sacramento County regarding paving expenses has taken place yet.
 - General Manager Gray stated the meeting has not taken place.
2. Accept and File Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2023
 - Vice President Petersen inquired about the software implementation expenses.

- General Manager Gray explained that expenses pertain to meter-reading software, proprietary to Neptune Technology Group.
 - Operations Manager Huckaby explained it is a maintenance annual subscription.
3. Accept and File Investment Report for the month of August 2023
 4. Accept and File Financial Expense Report for the month of September 2023
 5. Approval of Warrants
 6. Approval of Cal-Card Statements for the month of September 2023
 7. Approval of Board Expense Report for the month of September 2023

Director Marx moved to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Director Sarkovich seconded the motion.

Motion carried with the following votes: Dolby – aye, Marx – aye, McRae – aye, Petersen – aye, and Sarkovich – aye.

IV. PRESENTATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. Correspondence from the County of Sacramento Voter Registration and Elections dated October 5, 2023, regarding Election Fee Cost Increase
 - Information only, no staff recommendation. Cost increase will be estimated in the 2024 FOWD budget.
2. Correspondence from ACWA JPIA regarding 2023-2024 Expanded Cyber Risk Management Services
 - Information only. General Manager Gray provided an overview. No additional expenses will be accrued.

V. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS: OLD BUSINESS

1. Update and discussion on FOWD Groundwater Well Projects

- Water Supply Operator Gospodnetich provided an update and overview on Skyway Well. There have been a few hiccups with the electrical implementation and testing; However, a second attempt will take place in late October. FOWD is currently waiting for the operation permit.
- Board President McRae inquired if KASL, FOWD’s engineering consultant, remains involved in this process.
- General Manager Gray responded that they are and will remain involved throughout the process.
- Director Sarkovich inquired about the status of the New York Well.
- General Manager Gray responded that FOWD is trying to get resources to work on this project. Well plans have been received and FOWD has a few markups, but it is

not ready for bidding yet. FOWD is looking into purchasing the pump and motor materials, given that the lead times are so far out.

- Director Sarkovich commented that his neighbor asked if FOWD abandoned the New York Well Project; given that it's been about two-three years since it was initiated.
- General Manager Gray stated that FOWD will clean up the New York Well site before the next meeting takes place.
- Vice President Petersen inquired if the broken valve is associated with the Skyway Well Project.
- General Manager Gray responded that it is not. It's associated with an existing-independent tank.

2. Update and discussion on the Sacramento Regional Water Bank

- General Manager Gray noted an updated report is included in the Board Packet.
- Board President McRae inquired about the benefits of having a federally recognized water bank.
- Director Sarkovich stated he asked the same question at the last Board meeting.
- General Manager Gray responded that he could ask RWA to give a presentation on this topic. The Sacramento Regional Water Bank will give FOWD an opportunity to bring stranded groundwater supply assets into play for a return on investment.
- Board President McRae questioned if he understood correctly that SJWD may encourage FOWD to go into a water bank partnership with them that is not federally recognized.
- General Manager Gray stated his understanding was correct. FOWD is in support of the RWA Water Bank.

3. Update and discussion on the recruitment to fill open positions at the FOWD

- General Manager Gray noted that he will provide an update on the AGM position in the future.
- Human Resource Administrator Simon stated that FOWD made an offer to an Engineering position candidate. He verbally accepted but then declined the offer a week later. However, a DSO position has been filled and he is a Fair Oaks local who will be starting on October 23, 2023. FOWD will be posting a recruitment this week for the Maintenance Supervisor position and will be reposting the Engineering position.
- Board President McRae inquired if there are any more qualified candidates that FOWD can pursue.
- General Manager Gray stated that a higher positioned candidate, who declined a job offer, will provide FOWD with a potential engineering candidate to see if it meets the needs of the District.

4. Update and discussion on the 2024 FOWD Annual Budget

- A full 2024 Board Approved Budget Schedule was provided in the Board Packet.
- Director Sarkovich stated that he will be out on October 29, 2023.
- A Budget Committee to be scheduled in late October at 10:00 a.m. The Regular Board Meeting will take place in November.

VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS: NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on FOWD Water Supply for the month of August 2023

- General Manager Gray provided a summary of the water supply report.
- Board President McRae stated he hopes to have the Skyway Well included in the report soon.

2. Discussion and possible action on the FOWD RWA Voluntary Agreement Early Implementation – Priority One Project

- General Manager Gray presented staff recommendation and asked for direction from the Board.
- The Board of Directors asked questions. General Manager Gray addressed and answered those questions.

Board President McRae moved to approve staff proceeding with the project and securing outside resources as necessary to complete the project as presented in the staff recommendation.

Director Marx emphasized that FOWD should get enough resources to meet the December 2025 deadline for the grant.

Director Petersen commented that engineering firms will be busy during this time of year. He suggested waiting until the beginning of the year to reach out to firms. He encouraged staff to do some outreach to engineering firms and provide them with an opportunity to ask questions.

Director Sarkovich seconded the motion.

The Board did not vote on the motion and ended up providing direction to staff versus voting on the motion.

3. Discussion and possible action on additional funding for 2023 expenses

- Finance Manager Ha-Ly recommended the Board to authorize General Manager Gray to transfer \$3,300.00 from reserves to cover the remaining 2023 expenses. She provided a summary for each project and reasoning for the requested amount.

Board President McRae moved to approve additional funding for the remaining 2023 expenses as presented.

Director Sarkovich seconded the motion.

Motion carried with the following votes: Dolby – aye, Marx – aye, McRae – aye, Petersen – aye, and Sarkovich – aye.

VII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1. SJWD Finance Committee Meeting / October 17 / SJWD Office**
 - Information Only.
- 2. SJWD Board Meeting / October 25 / SJWD Office**
 - Information Only.
- 3. S2023 ACWA Fall Conference / November 28-30 / Indian Wells**
 - Information Only.

VIII. REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- 1. Sacramento Groundwater Authority (SGA)**
 - Information Only. Director Marx provided a brief overview.
- 2. Regional Water Authority (RWA)**
 - There was no meeting.
- 3. Sacramento Water Forum**
 - None.
- 4. Other**
 - None.

IX. DIRECTORS' REPORTS & COMMENTS

- 1. Budget Committee – (Sarkovich, Dolby)**
 - None.
- 2. Technical Advisory Committee – (Marx, Petersen)**
 - None.
- 3. Capital Improvement Committee – (Sarkovich, Dolby)**
 - None.
- 4. Personnel Committee – (McRae, Petersen)**
 - None.
- 5. Public Relations Committee – (McRae, Dolby)**
 - None.

6. FOWD and SJWD 2x2 Ad-Hoc Committee – (McRae, Petersen)

- Board President McRae, Director Petersen and General Manager Gray attended this meeting and discussed groundwater storage.
- Board President McRae commented that Director Petersen did a phenomenal job in getting everyone back on track.
- Director Petersen stated that he believes there is still interest in a regional ASR Project, where SJWD, FOWD, CHWD and Orange Vale Water Company can come together as a group and go after a single permit. An interagency agreement may be needed.
- Director Marx commented that he ran into some of Carmichael Water District (CWD) Board Members and they would like to reenact the 2x2 committee.
- Board President McRae stated that CWD will be added to next year’s committee, taking place in January 2024.

X. GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

1. Maintenance Work Report

- Report provided.

2. Capital Projects Status Report

- Report provided.

3. Authorizations of Additional Funding

- Report provided.

4. Water Transfer Status Report

- None.

5. Claims Against District

- Report provided.

6. Employee Update

- None.

7. Water Issues – Update on Regional Involvement

- None.

8. Other

- Board President McRae commented on Technical Services Manager Siebensohn’s hardship and appreciated any reasonable accommodation FOWD can provide him and his family during this difficult time.

XI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

Board President McRae closed the open session meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Board President McRae opened the closed session meeting at 7:46 p.m.

XII. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956

1. Conference with legal counsel on existing litigation; Government Code sections 54954.5 and 54956.9; Citrus Heights Water District & Fair Oaks Water District v. San Juan Water District; Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 23WM000080.

2. Conference on Anticipated Litigation (Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9) – two cases

Board President McRae closed the closed session meeting at 9:56 p.m.

Board President McRae reopened the meeting to the public at 9:56 p.m.

XIII. REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION

- None.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

- None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Board President McRae adjourned the meeting at 9:56 p.m.

The Board approved the preceding minutes on November 20, 2023



Tom R. Gray
General Manager/Board Secretary

11-22-2023

Date