

Reclamation District No. 1607

VAN SICKLE ISLAND-SOLANO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Minutes of Board of Trustees Reclamation District 1607 December 6, 2023 at 5pm At the District Office at 4301 Inverness Dr. Pittsburg, CA 94565

A Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by President Gerald Dinelli at 5:10pm. Other board members present were Robert Pinkston, Edmund Linscheid and with Kevin Confetti and Steve Thomas remotely. Others present were Secretary Chris Lanzafame, Nancy Lanzafame and Pillis Pinkston. Additional members present remotely were Andrew Cain, Matt Stretch, Todd Clark, and Steve Belcher. There may have been additional unrecognized phone numbers calling in during the meeting with no names or video.

Some items discussed out of Agenda order.

Mr. Lanzafame reviewed the current financial situation as presented by the reports that are attached to these minutes. Mr. Lanzafame emphasized that we were in a very tight cash flow position and that we were behind in many of our bills as shown on the secretary's notes attached to these minutes. Mr. Lanzafame went through the financial numbers which showed that we were facing a large deficit and that we have to put payables in "pay by priority" until cash flow can catch up. Mr. Lanzafame suggested that we talk through all of the agenda items before we made any decisions on the budget so a discussion ensued. Mr. Lanzafame pointed out that there were two proposals on the agenda that include sole source repairs of our two most needy levees. Even though money was tight, it was necessary to move the balance of the stockpiled dirt material into place on the Sacramento River and to repair the damaged levee in Honker Bay. Though cash flow was tight, Wetland Construction submitted a proposal that would allow the district to pay for the invoices over an extended time period. An hourly rate contract was submitted by Wetland Construction and proposal 1 and 2 on the agenda were discussed. At that point Mr. Lanzafame expressed concern that we should discuss whether we should stop pumping since the money used for pumping would be better served by investing in the levee repairs. A discussion ensued about the merits of pumping versus the merits of repairing and the group wavered between shutting down the pumps, keeping them going, contributing private funds to continue the pumping. It was also pointed out by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Confetti and Mr. Cain that we had previously approved the expenditure of \$30,000 for pumping and that we should fulfill that commitment. The discussion included the need to place plastic and sandbags on the recently repaired Sacramento Levee before winter which was estimated to be about \$10,000. Mr. Thomas moved that we approve \$60,000 to approve proposal 1 and 2 and Sandbagging. Mr. Lanzafame stated that sandbagging money was not included on the agenda and that we are asking for free CCC labor and materials. Knowing that we might not be able to afford all of the above a motion was made by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Linscheid that we approve Proposal 1 and 2 and to allocate funds for sandbags and labor. With a roll call vote the proposals were passed. Mr. Confetti suggested that we should try to sandbag with volunteer labor since money was so tight. Mr. Lanzafame said he would arrange that and also that there was a still chance we could get a CCC crew to help.

Item 10: Assessment Increase: Everyone at the meeting seemed to agree that we need to raise assessments and Mr. Thomas thought we should just go ahead and hire SCI consulting. Mr. Confetti stated that we may have to do public bidding to award a contract. Mr. Lanzafame suggested that two members of the board reach out and discuss the merits of engaging with SCI consulting to help us approve an assessment increase. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Confetti agreed to reach out to SCI and to invite them to our next meeting to make a presentation and to decide on whether we should hire them to help us increase assessments. In the meantime, Mr. Lanzafame would look into public bidding requirements for consulting work.

Item 8: Status of lower levee Concord/Spinner. Mr. Confetti stated that there was no response from his letter to Pat Drudge from Spinner Island in regards to communicating better and to encourage them to get their missing flood gate repaired.

Item 9 Changing the lock code. After discussion and consensus, it was agreed that we should change the gate lock on March 1, 2024 so that there would be less confusion during the duck season. Mr. Confetti had to leave at this point.

Item 2 approval of minutes: Mr. Dinelli asked to approve minutes of the minutes of October 14, 2023 and a motion was made by Linscheid and seconded by Steve Thomas and seconded and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Todd Clark of the Concord Club made a comment that when it comes to public agencies; we must always make sure that we do not bend the rules of spending public money. These comments came in response to some members who were trying to come up with a way to loan the district funds to continue pumping. Mr. Lanzafame agreed with Mr. Clark's comments but said he would look into various legal ways for private landowners to contribute to pumping costs if necessary.

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At 6:42 Mr. Dinelli called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Linscheid so moved and Mr. Thomas seconded and all board members approved the motion. Mr. Confetti had to leave the meeting before the unanimous roll call vote of the other board members.