



Minutes

Carmichael Water District/Sacramento Suburban Water District Joint Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 10, 2023

Location:

3701 Marconi Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95821, and Audio Conference at 1-669-900-6833, and Video Conference using Zoom at Meeting Id #812 3045 6381

Call to Order – Videoconference/Audioconference Meeting

Carmichael Water District (CWD) Board President Ron Davis (Chair Davis) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Sacramento Suburban Water District (SSWD) Board President Jay Boatwright (SSWD Director Boatwright) called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

SSWD Directors

Present: Jay Boatwright, Dave Jones, Craig Locke, Kevin Thomas, and Robert Wichert.

SSWD Directors

Absent: None.

CWD Directors

Present: Ron Davis, Mark Emmerson, Ron Greenwood, Jeff Nelson, and Paul Selsky.

CWD Directors

Absent: None.

SSWD Staff Present: General Manager Dan York, Assistant General Manager Matt Underwood, Heather Hernandez-Fort, and Jeff Ott.

CWD Staff Present: General Manager Cathy Lee, Chris Nelson, and Debbie Martin.

Public Present: William Eubanks, Greg Zlotnick, Paul Helliker, Cody Brown, Carl Jones, Caryl Sheehan, Christine Kohn, Mike McRae, and Kyler Rayden.

Announcements

None.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Items

1. Minutes of the October 6, 2021, Carmichael Water District and Sacramento Suburban Water District Joint Board Meeting

SSWD Director Thomas moved to approve the Consent Item; CWD Director Nelson seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

SSWD Vote:

AYES:	Boatwright, Jones, Locke, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CWD Vote:

AYES:	Davis, Emmerson, Greenwood, Nelson, and Selsky	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Items for Discussion and/or Action

2. Combination Discussions - Communications Plan Update

SSWD General Manager Dan York (SSWD GM York) presented the staff report.

SSWD Director Wichert requested to review each of the attachments, starting with Attachment 1. He additionally expressed he was not interested in approving anything that was in draft form.

SSWD GM York informed the Boards that the attachments are presented in draft form until the Board votes to approve the final documents.

SSWD Director Locke commented that the intent was to approve the content in the documents and allow staff to prepare them for final version.

The Boards reviewed Attachments 2 and 3.

Regarding Attachment 3, SSWD Director Wichert expressed concern over the recently received letter from Fair Oaks Water District (FOWD) and Citrus Heights Water District (CHWD), concerning particular water rights.

Chair Davis expressed that the matter in question would need to be addressed by their legal counsel, who was not present at this meeting.

CWD Director Selsky pointed out that the water rights in question were pertaining to whether CWD was able to access a portion of the San Juan Water District's water rights, which, he pointed out, would not affect combination discussions between CWD and SSWD.

SSWD GM York presented Attachment 4.

SSWD Director Wichert expressed there were blank spaces in Attachment 4 that he felt should be removed.

The Boards agreed to remove the blank spaces in Attachment 4.

SSWD GM York presented Attachments 5 and 6.

William Eubanks (Mr. Eubanks) encouraged the Boards to decide if they wanted to proceed in combination discussions.

CWD Director Greenwood agreed with Mr. Eubanks, noting he was interested in moving forward with potential combination discussions and additionally expressed he was happy with the communications documents.

CWD Director Greenwood moved to approve the staff recommendation; SSWD Director Jones seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

SSWD Vote:

AYES:	Boatwright, Jones, Locke, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CWD Vote:

AYES:	Davis, Emmerson, Greenwood, Nelson, and Selsky	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

3. Further Analysis Report Update

Chair Davis introduced the item and requested public comment.

Caryl Sheehan (Ms. Sheehan), Board of Director with CHWD, encouraged the Boards to review the letters that CHWD and FOWD sent, noting that the water right was a very important issue, and she wanted the Boards to have a very good understanding of what the District’s resources actually were. She requested to have some specific language removed from the Business Case for a Potential Combination Report (Report) regarding the pre-1914 water rights.

Mike McRae, President of the FOWD Board, echoed Ms. Sheehan in expressing his opposition to specific language in the Report, which he felt was offensive. He additionally requested the Boards consider the requests from the letter from CHWD and FOWD, and requested for the letter to be included in the Report as a reference appendix. He continued with expressing he was concerned that CWD could potentially receive the same water rights that FOWD has, which would reduce FOWD’s access to the water. He additionally suggested that if there was a desire for pre-1914 water, there could be contracts created to provide it.

Mr. Eubanks pointed out that FOWD and CHWD were not interested in the combination taking place.

SSWD GM York presented the staff report and presented the Outline Report to the Boards.

SSWD Director Wichert requested legal counsel to provide an opinion if a combination between SSWD and CWD were to take place, would it terminate the fluoridation agreement SSWD has with First 5.

SSWD Director Locke requested for the CWD/SSWD 2x2 Committee to discuss the next steps in the combination process, at their next meeting.

4. Continuation of Combination Discussions between Carmichael Water District and Sacramento Suburban Water District

SSWD GM York presented the staff report.

Mr. Eubanks withdrew his comment.

SSWD Director Wichert moved to continue to analyze the proposed combination; CWD Director Emmerson seconded.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

SSWD Vote:

AYES:	Boatwright, Jones, Locke, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CWD Vote:

AYES:	Davis, Emmerson, Greenwood, Nelson, and Selsky	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

5. Consultant Services

SSWD GM York presented the staff report, and requested the Boards give authority to the CWD/SSWD 2x2 Committee to pursue consultant services, noting there were two qualified consultants that were well known in the industry to consider.

CWD Director Nelson moved to accept staff's recommendation to allow the CWD/SSWD 2x2 Committee to work with staff to put together a Request for Proposal to select a consultant to provide assistance in the Combination Discussion efforts, not to exceed the amount of \$75,000.

SSWD Director Locke requested to amend the motion, to include that it would be the final authorization, including contract approval.

CWD Director Nelson accepted the amendment.

CWD Director Emmerson seconded.

SSWD Director Wichert requested staff limit discussion to only the two consultants referenced, as he was happy with the two consultants that the Board members were familiar with.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

SSWD Vote:

AYES:	Boatwright, Jones, Locke, Thomas, and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

CWD Vote:

AYES:	Davis, Emmerson, Greenwood, Nelson, and Selsky	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Adjournment

Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Adjournment

SSWD Director Boatwright adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Dan York
General Manager/Secretary
Sacramento Suburban Water District