

STRATFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT
877 W. Iona Avenue, Lemoore, CA 93245
September 19, 2024

The regular meeting of the Stratford Irrigation District Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President C. Meyer. Directors present were T. Azevedo, M. Newton, S. Stanton and B. Newton. Others present were Manager R. Silva, Secretary W. Areias, B. Osborne, D. Kahn & C. Andrew.

A motion was made by Dir. T. Azevedo seconded by Dir. M. Newton and carried to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2024.

AUDIENCE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE – N/A

FINANCIAL MATTERS - Secretary, W. Areias presented the current financial report for the Board's consideration. A motion was made by Dir. T. Azevedo, seconded by Dir. B. Newton and carried to approve payment of the bills as listed and make any transfers needed.

BUDGET UPDATE - Copies of a Budget Update report for the period ending August 31, 2024 were distributed and reviewed by the Board.

AUDIENCE UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCE – N/A

CORRESPONDENCE – Manager Silva reported that he received a letter from the State of California about a rodent (Nutria) that has been invading and destroying natural habitat. The Board decided to sign the letter for the state to put traps on their property.

MANAGERS REPORT - Manager Silva reported that Pine Flat storage is 399,752 a/f, total 527,530 storage is 8,600 a/f. The natural flow is 248 c.f.s. Stratford's storage is approximately a/f. The coordinated run went off on September 15th. Our water season will end on September 30th and the last day to order is September 27th. Mr. Silva is projecting to be able to sell an additional 1,000 a/f and not have to purchase Lemoore Canal "B" water to replace it.

LEMOORE CANAL MEETING – Nothing new to report.

KRWA:

WATER RIGHTS FEES – Mr. Silva reported that the Water Rights fees are up 10% (\$650,000).

PINE FLAT O & M – Manager Silva reported that the Pine Flat Operation and Maintenance billing will have a new 5 year plan. The new budget for the next 5 years is \$2,453,000 it was \$1,480,000. This is up 40% because of under paid estimate for the last 5 years and significant repairs concerning the dam. The 2024 year was never billed, this year's payment will be approximately \$45,000 for both years.

JAMES ID – Nothing new to report.

RAISING OF PINE FLAT DAM – Manager Silva reported that there is still no funding for EIR study for the raising of Pine Flat Dam.

KINGS RIVER WATER COALITY COALITION – Nothing new to report.

HYDRO TURBINE – Mr. Silva reported that the small Hydro Turbine project is progressing well.

ASO FLIGHTS – Mr. Silva reported that the ASO Flights for 2026-27 year had it's funding cut by \$400,000.

SOUTH FORK KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY – Director M. Newton reported that there is a meeting tonight and a growers advisory meeting next week. The Farm Breau has an injunction and the hearing date will be set next year. They are trying to get two more people on the Southfork Kings board.

OLD BUSINESS – POSSIBLE WATER SALE – Manager Silva reported that the Howe's would be interested in purchasing 1,000 a/f of water after the water season.

NEW BUSINESS – BOARD OF EQUALIZATION – A motion was made by Dir. B. Newton, seconded by Dir. S. Stanton and carried to approve Resolution 24-03, Resolution to Sit as a Board of Equalization on October 17, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

LEVY ASSESSMENT 2024-2025 – A motion was made by Dir. B. Newton, seconded by Dir. S. Stanton and carried to levy an assessment of \$30.00 per acre for the 2024-2025 year.

M. GREEN & CO. – AUDIT – Mrs. Areias presented a proposal from M. Green & Co. to perform an audit of the District's books for the period ending 8/31/2024 for \$8,745. The Board instructed Mrs. Areias to shop around to see what other companies charge and to accept the less expensive quote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to closed session at 11:00 a.m.

Closed session 11:03 a.m.

Open session 11:25 a.m., no reportable action was taken in closed session.

Respectfully submitted,


Wendee Areias, Secretary