

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DELTA FARMS RECLAMATION DISTRICT NO. 2030**

**January 25, 2023**

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Pursuant to written notice, a regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District No. 2030 was held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. at the Clavius Club, Stockton, California.

**1. Call to Order and Resolution Regarding Virtual Meeting Under Amended Brown Act**

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:15 a.m. at the Clavius Club in Stockton, California. Trustees Dennis Gardemeyer, Jim Paroli and Dan Tank were present. Also present were George V. Hartmann, Steve Sinnock, Ed Zuckerman, Justin Roberts and Mark Croce.

All attendants appeared in person, so a resolution regarding holding a virtual meeting was not necessary.

**4. Habitat Mitigation Site Assessment and Report**

This item was taken out of order. It was reported by Justin Roberts that he is waiting for the final report from Diane Moore.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the November 30, 2022, regular meeting were previously distributed to the Trustees for their review prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved upon motion by Trustee Gardemeyer, seconded by Trustee Tank, with all Trustees voting in favor.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

**6. Discussion Regarding Lease with Zuckerman Heritage, Inc. for District Real Property Related to Obtaining Solar Energy**

This item was taken out of order.

There was a re-hash of the December meeting discussion regarding leasing all parcels needed in order to get PG&E approval for the solar project. The lease has to be by a single entity, so that one entity owns, controls or leases all contiguous property to be served. Zuckerman Heritage, Zuckerman Mandeville, and Heritage Land Co. own all of the land to be served, except for the Camp 12 meters which are on District land, and the District is the third or fourth largest user and thus has to be part of the aggregation for solar service. There are also a couple of other meters located near the Camp 12 meters on District property. As discussed at the prior telephonic meeting in December, the Trustees had then considered a form of lease to insure that the solar project could move forward, and concluded that it should be discussed at the next in-person meeting. Thus, this is the second discussion of the proposed lease. The former telephonic discussion occurred on December 28, 2022. On motion by Trustee Tank, seconded by Trustee Paroli, with all Trustees voting in favor, the proposal for the District to lease the former John Zuckerman levee parcel encompassing all electric meters for Camp 12 and the like to complete aggregation for PG&E solar approval, to implement solar development and to protect against cost increases per kilowatt hour, which have already occurred this year and are likely to occur in future years. In addition, the cost for electricity from the solar project, once in service, could provide considerable savings over the amounts currently being paid by the District, which approximate one million dollars per year being paid to PG&E. Considering the benefit to the District and the minimal area involved, the lease rent would be \$1/year and would non-exclusive such that the District would retain to use and access the land. The parcel involved is APN 129-080-55-000.

#### **7. District Counsel Report**

District Counsel's report was taken out of order. District Counsel reported on general subjects of legal interest, as well as the Watermaster's farewell speech to the state, and deeply upsetting remarks concerning the Watermaster's belief that California's system of water rights is systemically racist. The District Engineer then discussed threats and attempts to divert levee subvention funding to the Delta Stewardship Council, but the fight was on to prevent same.

#### **5. Monthly Financial Review and Warrant Approval**

The seepage loan matures soon and needs to be extended or paid off. District Counsel was directed to send an email to the Bank of Stockton, thanking them for the loan, which has been paid down over the last twelve months by \$472,893. The note is due September 30<sup>th</sup>, and an extension should be requested under the same terms as are currently in force. The District's hope is to receive subvention reimbursement in time to pay off the remainder of the loan, but the date of receipt is unknown. The Trustees suggested that a six month extension be requested, or until the subvention reimbursement is received, which would leave a current balance of \$155,688.66 with an interest rate of 4% under present terms. The Trustees requested that a copy of the correspondence be sent to them, and the Trustees approved going forward with same. It was also discussed that Zuckerman Heritage is now passing through PG&E electricity charges to the District with no mark-up or handling charges in order to simplify the administration of total power costs for McDonald Island.

Mr. Croce reported that the current warrant debt of the District is \$1.65 million.

The checks and warrants were approved on motion by Trustee Paroli, seconded by Trustee Gardemeyer, with all Trustees voting in favor.

**8. Discussion of MCD L-57B**

Tabled.

**9. Engineer's Report**

The first item discussed was climate change and levee profiles. The PG&E threat analysis is ongoing, involving levee geometry and structure. The subject of the reduced clearances of the bridge was discussed and Trustee Gardemeyer requested that the District Engineer get set up with a contractor to discuss same. Trustee Gardemeyer also requested a status update on the emergency dock and the District Engineer stated he will follow-up with MidCal Construction. The storm emergency and power loss situation was discussed and it was noted that one diesel pump failed, generators were moved and it was very helpful that Dan Tank was able to get a very large generator to the island from PG&E which has a 500 kilowatt capacity. Mr. Tank stated that there is a planned outage for ten to twenty days, which the District will have to deal with. It was also discussed that the District's generators do not meet current CARB standards and thus emergency use fees have to be paid. The cost for diesel pumps is extremely high, with typical costs for an older 365kw being \$79,000 and a newer 340kw being \$290,000 to \$320,000. The new diesel pumps are similar to the cost to achieve CARB compliance with existing generators. Ed Zuckerman will look into CARB programs to replace the non-compliant District generators with financial assistance or cost reduction.

It was observed that the north side of the island is where high spots exist that interfere with drainage.

The District Engineer reported that a disaster declaration should be made within a week, and that he is starting the collection of damages to seek reimbursement through disaster payments. The District Engineer stated that if the costs are under \$50,000 it is better to go through the subventions fund due to the number of limitations that FEMA has. OES has the crop damage information from McDonald, also the increased costs for levee patrol, road repairs and the like.

The next item discussed was the bridge tender policy manual, which needs attention and potential revision.

Mark Croce then presented the Report of Special Districts to the State of California and the same was reviewed and approved for signature by Trustee Gardemeyer on motion by Trustee Tank, seconded by Trustee Paroli.

**10. Water Diversion Measurement Progress**

Tabled.

**11. Lost Isle**

Tabled.

**12. New/Old Business**

None.

**13. Adjournment**

The next meeting was then scheduled for **Wednesday, February 22, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. (and subsequently changed to Thursday, February 23, 2022)** to take place at the Clavius Club in Stockton, California and telephonically.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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GEORGE V. HARTMANN, Secretary