

MINUTES OF THE FRCD/EDC/EGWS BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, March 26, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florin Resource Conservation District/Economic Development Corporation/Elk Grove Water Service was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by Chair Russell at 8820 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, CA.

Call to Order; Roll Call

The United States Flag was not present to do the Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present: Barrie Lightfoot, Tom Nelson, Tony Perez, and Sandi Russell

Directors Absent:

Staff Present: Leo D. Havener, Jr., General Manager; Ann Siprelle, General Counsel; Tom Bartlett, Treasurer; Stefani Phillips, Secretary; John Ornellas, Operations Manager; Ellen Carlson, Conservation Coordinator; Donella Ouellette, Finance Specialist; Jason Mathews, Operations Superintendent; and Adam Coffing, Meter Reader

District Conservationist: Dan Taverner

Consultants Present: Richard Wilson

Public Present: Chuck Dawson, Associate Director; Roy Herburger, Elk Grove Citizen; and Trina Mathews

Public Comment

No comments

FLORIN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (FRCD)

1. Presentations/Announcements

FYI

No comments

2. Consent Calendar

Cash Flow Worksheet – FRCD

No comments

MSC (Nelson/Lightfoot) to approve the FRCD Consent Calendar by a unanimous vote.

3. FRCD

a. NRCS Agency Report – Update

Dan Taverner, District Conservationist, informed the Board that there is an RC and D (Resource Conservation and Development) is forming; it will be called the Delta RC&D. He stated it used to be the Bay Delta RC&D and they are splitting. He stated the Delta RC&D would be requesting the FRCD to be a signatory for their application as they were previously a signatory for the Bay Delta RC&D.

Mr. Taverner requested the Board members who had signed up to be Earth Team Volunteers, to fill out their pamphlets and to supply their hours so the USDA receives credit accordingly.

Mr. Taverner informed the Board the USDA was interested in sharing office space with the FRCD/EGWS in the event that EGWS builds a new building on the 8999 Elk Grove-Florin Rd. property.

A brief discussion occurred.

Leo D. Havener, Jr., stated when he has more information to provide regarding the property at 8999 Elk Grove-Florin Rd. he will update the Board.

b. Conservation Activity Update

Ellen Carlson informed the Board that the Regional CARCD meeting would be held April 10, 2008. She stated that the deadline to sign up for the meeting is April 1, 2008.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EDC)

1. Presentations/Announcements

FYI

No comments

2. Consent Calendar

Cash Flow Worksheet – EDC

No comments

MSC (Lightfoot/Perez) to approve the EDC Consent Calendar by a unanimous vote.

ELK GROVE WATER SERVICE (EGWS)

1. Presentations/Announcements

A presentation was made by Leo D. Havener, Jr., of the new meter reader vehicle. The newly purchased electric golf cart was driven by Adam Coffing, Meter Reader, who kindly drove it to the meeting location for the Board to view.

Consent Calendar

- a. Regular & Special meeting minutes for February 27, 2008
- b. Warrants paid – February, 2008
- c. Miscellaneous Revenues- February, 2008
- d. Revenues vs. Expense Graphs FY 07-08
- e. Revenues vs. Expenses – Actual to Budget
- f. Revision of Employee Manual

A discussion period followed regarding the minutes and the proposed rate increase for the meter retrofit program.

Tony Perez, Vice-Chair, requested that the minutes reflect “Sandi Russell requested that the topic be brought back to the March Board meeting for discussion. Leo D. Havener, Jr., replied a Meter Retrofit Committee meeting would be scheduled and he requested to bring it back to the full Board after information was gathered, the Board approved his request”.

A question and answer period occurred regarding the warrants.

A discussion followed regarding the revision to the employee manual, which was to eliminate the sentence “Short-term assignments will generally be for periods of six months or less” for the job classification Temporary Employee.

The Board approved the elimination and requested that the previous sentence “Temporary employees are regular employees who are employed by EGWS for short-term assignments” be revised to read “Temporary employees are regular employees who are employed by EGWS for a **limited assignment**”.

MSC (Lightfoot/Nelson) to approve the EGWS Consent Calendar with revisions made to the February minutes and employee manual, 3/1; ayes: Lightfoot, Nelson, Russell; abstain: Perez.

3. Administration Report - Elk Grove Water Service

Operations and Maintenance/Engineering Report

John Ornellas, Operations Manager, presented the Operations and Maintenance/Engineering Report and offered to take questions. Barrie Lightfoot, Director, inquired if the Polhemus South Water Main would be completed by August. Mr. Ornellas replied that EGWS is working toward that goal. He stated there have been some soil difficulties that have been unforeseen and in order to keep the crew's safe they are moving at a reasonable pace. Mr. Lightfoot inquired how many feet of pipe have been installed to date. Mr. Ornellas replied approximately 800-900 feet. Mr. Ornellas stated it is important to note that the job is extremely safe.

Jason Mathews, Operations Superintendent, stated that one of the trenches caved in today, bending a ladder. He stated there was no one in the trench when it collapsed. The excavator operator had dug the trench and before the crew was able to install the shoring it had collapsed.

Mr. Ornellas added that soil cave-in's account for 40 deaths a year in the United States.

Tom Nelson, Director, inquired if the EGWS was close to selling the portion of property at the School Street Well site.

4. Name and Logo Change for EGWS

Leo D. Havener, Jr., presented a name and logo change for EGWS in an effort to promote a positive future and obtain an independent identity. Mr. Havener presented several name and logos, but he made a recommendation to change the name to Valley Water District and to select logo number one. He informed the Board that all logos had been presented to staff and they overwhelmingly selected logo number one.

A discussion period followed.

Barrie Lightfoot, Director, inquired if the \$7500 estimate would cover the cost to change the name and logo. Mr. Havener stated it was just an estimate. Mr. Lightfoot stated he would like to see an accurate figure of cost.

Sandi Russell, Chair, read a statement to the Board and audience reflecting her disapproval of the name and logo change. She felt that the cost would be better spent on educating the customers on programs that would benefit them. Ms. Russell stated she would be voting no on the topic.

Tony Perez, Vice-Chair, inquired how the topic was brought about. Mr. Havener stated that the topic had been discussed with the Board for over a year. Tom Nelson, Director, stated he recalled discussing the logo change, but not the name change. Mr. Havener stated the name has also been mentioned in closed session.

Mr. Nelson stated he was not fond of change and did not feel there was a need for a name change. He likes the idea of being connected to Elk Grove. However, he did feel that there was a need for a logo change. He made a suggestion to put the logo change out to the graphic's department at the high schools. Mr. Havener stated he felt that because the District is a professional organization he was recommending the designs that were presented by professional designers.

Mr. Lightfoot stated the Board and staff has raised the bar considerably in the last year or so and he did not feel that any change be made until the next budget. He stated that he would like to know exactly what it is going to cost. Mr. Lightfoot stated the Board needs to realize that some tremendous mistakes have been made in governing the District in the past ten years or so. He stated it is time to move on and take the District to the next step, to the professional organization it has become. Mr. Nelson inquired if he would be supportive of a name change. Mr. Lightfoot replied he would be supportive of a name change and a logo change, but would like the cost provided.

Mr. Perez stated that he liked the EGWS insignia, because it is traditional and everyone recognizes it. He stated he felt that the historical society would frown upon changing the logo because it includes the water tower. Mr. Perez felt that the District was fortunate to have the name Elk Grove Water Service because it identifies the location of the service area.

Mr. Nelson moved to table the item until more complete information has been provided and it would not take effect until FY' 08-09 (July 1, 2008). The item died due to lack of a second.

MSC (Russell/Perez) moved to not change the name or logo, 2/1/1; ayes: Russell and Perez; nay: Lightfoot; abstain: Nelson

Rick Wilson, Sentium, stated that he has over thirty years of experience with graphics. He explained to the board that the current logo does not fit the business. Mr. Wilson stated there are issues graphically with how the logo was built. He stated the design would fit the FRCD, but not the water district. Mr. Wilson also suggested that with the name Elk Grove Water Service there may be built in confusion, indicating that the water service sells bottled water. He stated one other confusion with the name is that EGWS is often thought to be a part of the City of Elk Grove. Mr. Wilson stated it is definitely worth looking at improving the look and the image of the organization to match what the district has done organizationally.

Mr. Havener suggested changing the name to Elk Grove Water District, which would give more individuality to the District.

MSC (Nelson/Lightfoot) moved to approve changing the name from Elk Grove Water Service to Elk Grove Water District and selection of logo number one contingent on Board approval of cost estimate and budget adjustment, 3/1; ayes: Lightfoot, Nelson, Russell; nay: Perez.

5. Directors Comments/Suggestions & Subjects for Future Board Meetings

No comments

Respectfully submitted,

Stefani Phillips

Stefani Phillips, Secretary