

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE FRCD BOARD

Wednesday, September 25, 2013

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florin Resource Conservation District was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Barrie Lightfoot, Chair, at 9257 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove CA.

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance.

Directors Present: Barrie Lightfoot, Chuck Dawson, Tom Nelson, Elliot Mulberg, and Don Menasco
Directors Absent: None
Staff Present: Mark J. Madison, General Manager; Dennis Coleman, Finance Manager; Stefani Phillips, Secretary/Human Resource Specialist; Bruce Kamilos, Associate Civil Engineer; and Ellen Carlson, Management Analyst
Associate Directors Present: Mike Schmitz and Davies Ononiwu
Consultants Present: Ann Siprelle, General Counsel

Public Comment

No comments made.

1. Proclamations and Announcements

Management Analyst Ellen Carlson announced that the EGWD will be sponsoring a booth at the Harvest Festival on October 5th and 6th. Additionally, Ms. Carlson stated that the FRCD Board members have been invited to attend the CARCD Annual Meeting in Lake Tahoe on October 17, 2013. She requested any Board members who are interested to contact her for administering registration.

2. Consent Calendar

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of August 21, 2013
- b. FRCD Cash Flow Worksheet – August, 2013
- c. Warrants Paid – August, 2013
- d. Active Accounts – August, 2013
- e. Bond Covenant Status for FY 2013-2014 – August, 2013
- f. Revenues and Expenses – Actual vs Budget FY 2013-2014 – August, 2013
- g. Cash Accounts – August, 2013
- h. Consultants Expenses – August, 2013
- i. Conservation Activities – August, 2013

MSC (N/D) to approve the Consent Calendar a-i, 5/0: Ayes: Dawson, Menasco, Mulberg, Nelson and Lightfoot.

3. NRCS Activities Update

Dwane Coffey, District Conservationist, provided a quarterly update of the NRCS activities.

- No new farm bills – postponed sign-ups for financial help
- No NRCS money – until sequester is lifted for RCD proposals
- NRCS is moving in November or December – same building, different suite
- Secretary – there is enough money for part time until the end of 2013

4. Operations Report – August 2013

General Manager Mark Madison presented the highlights of the Operations Report for August 2013:

- 124 valves exercised
- 51 hydrants flushed (reinstated program and well underway)
- 2 hydrants serviced and repaired
- 55% wharf hydrants replaced to date
- A lot of shut-offs
- School Street Well 1D – production down
- Well 14D increased production – rotating wells
- Well 4D produced a lot of water – efficient
- Well 11D production down slightly
- Well 3 strong producer – efficient well
- Well 8 reduced production – sand in well
- Well 9 extremely stable well – efficient
- No purchased water from Sacramento County
- Water graph – total water production was down yet the temperatures were almost the same as last year. This seems to further indicate that we are saving water due to the closure of the interconnection.
- All samples taken
 - Extra samples taken for bacteria for new lines
 - Lead and copper – nothing excessive
Board recommended establishing a means to share the results with the customers who participated in the sampling.
- 1 mainline leak
- 3 service leaks
- Sacramento County low pressure seems to have improved
- IT – over 80,000 attacks on system
Associate Director Davies Ononiwu inquired if we have software in place to protect the network. General Manager Mark Madison stated that the system has protection and firewalls in place.
- Meter reading optimization is moving forward
A discussion occurred regarding determining how many flat-rate accounts there is.

Associate Director Davies Ononiwu inquired why the District did not know how many flat-rate customers there is. General Manager Mark Madison replied that the field crew is surveying the accounts currently and will report back in October.
- Backflow and Cross-Connection Program is underway for improvement and enhancement
- Backflow and cross-connection database needs to be migrated from XC2 to Truepoint (billing system)
- No discharge in August
- Safety Meetings 4 – program enhancement is underway
 - Management Analyst Ellen Carlson is heading the program and is doing a great job!
- 130 meters installed

5. Florin Resource Conservation District Activities Discussion

Chairman Barrie Lightfoot stated that the FRCD does not have a lot of funding for RCD activities. He stated that the FRCD is looking for potential project opportunities for limited funding.

Management Analyst Ellen Carlson introduced two individuals, Mike Dumpsey, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Services and Rob Burness, Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) and Habitat 2020, to speak on behalf of their organizations to provide information to the Board on possible project opportunities for the FRCD.

Mr. Dunphy spoke about opportunities for conservation partnership programs.

Mr. Burness spoke about conservation activities, invasive species of concern at Stonelakes, and GIS database recognizing RCD conservation land use and efforts. Mr. Burness asked for the Districts support and sponsorship.

A question and answer period followed include:

- Is there a grant for GIS?
 - Potentially
- Is there an opportunity for private/public partnerships?
 - Potentially – FRCD is seen as an intermediate between land owners and other organizations

Management Analyst Ellen Carlson spoke about Rails-to-Trails, which sole purpose is to convert the railways to pedestrian/equestrian trail ways. Ms. Carlson stated that a Project Ride is hosting a fundraiser (TrailFest 2013) which is scheduled for October 12, 2013 to benefit Rails-to-Trails.

Ms. Carlson provided some background on Stonelakes. She stated that Stonelakes is looking for partners to help with a playscape for young children.

Chairman Barrie Lightfoot stated that the FRCD could provide conservation support to Caltrans.

Director Tom Nelson presented the Board with an idea for a project for the FRCD to undertake, water recharge. He stated that he would like to put water back in the ground. The location for the proposed project would be the canal at the corner of Sunrise Blvd. and Florin Rd. A lengthy discussion was held about the cone of depression, which is located under the boundaries of the EGWD subsidence of the ground. As the water continues to subside, the ground can lower. Mr. Nelson stated the project would be a heavy undertaking and a long-term project. Mr. Nelson stated that he would like the FRCD to be the lead agency for the project and that it would take many partnerships to carry it out.

A lengthy discussion occurred.

Director Elliot Mulberg inquired as to who would benefit by reducing the cone of depression. General Manager Mark Madison replied that all landowners would benefit.

Mr. Madison stated that this would be a long-term project with many challenges. He stated that a site assessment/feasibility study would cost approximately \$20,000-\$50,000. Director

Elliot Mulberg suggested that staff check with universities for studies that may have already been done.

Mr. Madison listed potential partners for the project:

- Sacramento County Water Agency
- Nature Conservancy
- Sacramento County Groundwater Authority
- Sacramento Regional Sanitation District
- Regional Water Association (RWA)
- Others:
 - Sacramento Municipal Utility Department (SMUD)
 - Folsom – South Canal
 - East Bay Mud
 - Developers
 - Farming Community
 - Freeport Water Authority – possibly
 - United States Geological Survey

Discussion continued...

The Board supported staff/Board to do more research and investigation to organize/structure the potential project in order to proceed.

6. Monthly Status Report on FY 2011-12 Audit Findings

Finance Manager Dennis Coleman presented the Monthly Status Report on FY 2011-12 Audit Findings. Mr. Coleman stated that the reconciliations are completed through June of 2013.

Director Tom Nelson inquired if a checklist for handling the deficiencies. Mr. Coleman replied, yes a checklist was created.

Director Tom Nelson inquired if all of the audit finding deficiencies would be resolved and reported to the Board at the October meeting. Mr. Coleman replied yes.

Director Don Menasco reiterated “you’re saying we are caught up from last year?” Mr. Coleman responded, in regard to the reconciliations, yes.

7. Legislative Update – August 2013

Management Analyst Ellen Carlson presented the Legislative Update.

- SB4 – Signed into law on September 20, 2013
 - AB227
 - AB1149
 - AB 1235
- } Ready for governor’s signature or veto

General Manager Mark Madison addressed the potential for a drinking water standard related to Chrom 6. California Department of Public Health has proposed a new standard for Chrom 6 at 10 parts per billion; however, this will not impact the District as we are already below the new proposed standard.

8. Conservation Committee Meeting Update

No comments were made.

9. Directors Comments and Information

Director Elliot Mulberg stated that he has been keeping track of the legislative measures through his participation with the California Special District Association (CSDA) Legislative Committee and offered his help to Management Analyst Ellen Carlson.

Director Elliot Mulberg inquired as to why the District had not brought forward the ballot for Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Special District Commissioner and Alternate Special District Commissioner. Ms. Carlson replied that it had been received in the mail after the agenda was posted and that staff would bring it to the Board at the October Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefani Phillips

Stefani Phillips, Secretary