

HILMAR COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
January 3, 2024

Members Present – Jim Jones, Frank Hilliard, Jim Gerdes, and Tony Salvador.

Members Absent – David Anderson.

Public in Attendance – None.

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Action Items

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by Frank Hilliard. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to approve Bills Payable: January 2024 was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by Frank Hilliard. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion to approve the continuation of the emergency order the Board approved at the July 31, 2023 Board meeting, based on the conditions continue as per Resolution 565, was made by Frank Hilliard and seconded by Tony Salvador. Motion passed 4-0.

Meeting – 01/04/24
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The meeting was called to order at 5:27 p.m. by President Jim Jones.

Consent Items – A motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Items.

Public Forum – None.

District Manager’s Report –

Curtis Jorritsma reported the amount of water pumped for December was 17.065MG and we billed for 15.838MG for a loss of 7.19%. TSS average result for December was 44.9mg/L and BOD was 35mg/L. BOD was within the limit. Total flow at the plant was 8.574MG and the max flow was .385MG putting the plant at 70% of plant capacity. Curtis provided a report of water and chlorine used in the last 5 years.

Year	Water Usage	Chlorine Usage
2023	306.99 MG	1,744 lbs
2022	330.48 MG	1,517 lbs
2021	340.00 MG	1,647 lbs
2020	335.92 MG	2,332 lbs
2019	318.54 MG	2,378 lbs

Curtis provided an update on the nitrate issue. Before Christmas, the nitrate results elevated. We have been testing twice a week since June. In the last two weeks we have taken samples to two testing labs. One being our regular lab, Geoanalytical and the second being J. L. Analytical. We have received different results from both laboratories on tests performed the same day. There's no consistency with our current nitrate results. Curtis notified the State of the high results after Christmas and performed additional testing that week. The response from the State on Friday, December 29th, was to retest or notify customers within 24 hours. We performed a rush test on Friday and the results were still above the 10ppm. Staff were notified that we would be distributing notices on Saturday, December 30th. Thank you to Jonathon, Zac and Wendy for assisting the district in distributing the notices. We need to find a resolution to the nitrate issue. We also need to determine what is the best way to notify our customers. We do have a call in to Valley Water Collaborative, as to options our customers may have in receiving free bottled water.

Director Reports – Mr. Jones inquired as to how the new shop location is going? Curtis stated it's working well.

Action Items –

- A) The bills that are due to be paid in January were presented. A motion was made and seconded to pay the bills presented.
- B) Curtis stated the Board approved Resolution 565 – Finding an Emergency and Authorizing Abbreviated Emergency Procedures for Construction of a New Well on July 31, 2023. As part of this process, the Board needs to analyze the situation and determine if the situation still constitutes an emergency. After a brief discussion, the Board determined the conditions warrant to continue with an emergency order. A motion was made and seconded to continue with the emergency order.

Discussion Items –

- A) This item as stated on the agenda was discussed in the District Managers report.
- B) Curtis presented the renewal of the District's Commercial, Business, Commercial Umbrella policy that is being renewed on January 22nd. The overall premium is 11% higher than last year. We continue to have a good relationship with Winton-Ireland, Strom and Green Insurance Agency. They provide the District with really good service.

The Directors Convened to Closed Session at 6:25 p.m. to conference with Real Property Negotiator per Government Code Section 5496.8. APN: 045-200-033.

Directors returned to Open Session at 6:45 p.m.

The board gave direction to District counsel to finish drawing up the purchase agreement as soon as possible.

During the closed session the question was asked about the progress of the water test hole. Curtis provided an update stating that the drill company received the permit from Merced County. The site is ready, and the drill company should be out onsite shortly.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tonia Borge

Approved by:

Jim Jones
Board Member

2-6-24
Date