

HILMAR COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 7, 2025

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

Members Absent – None.

Public in Attendance – Mr. Rick Ellington and Mr. John Williams.

.....  
**Action Items**

A motion to approve the Consent Items was made by Jim Gerdes and seconded by Frank Hilliard. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion to approve Bills Payable: January 2025 was made by David Anderson and seconded by Frank Hilliard. Motion passed 5-0.

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 Jim Gerdes. Motion passed 5-0.

**Meeting – 01/07/25**  
.....

The meeting was called to order at 5:26 p.m. by President Jim Jones.

**Directors Organizational Proceedings Conducted by District Secretary –**

Curtis presented the procedure for selection of officers. Nominations were made and duly approved, and Jim Jones will serve as President and Frank Hilliard as Vice-President and Curtis Jorritsma will serve as Board Secretary.

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

**Public Forum –** Mr. John Williams would like an update on the well project as he has submitted plans and specs for his next development project on American Avenue. Curtis stated he will provide an update on the new well in his District Managers Report.

**District Manager’s Report –**

Curtis Jorritsma reported that the water loss for the month of December was 11.08%. Water pumped for the month was 16.228 MG and we billed for 14.430 MG. He also reported that the TSS average for December was 87.1mg/L and BOD was 117.30mg/L. Curtis stated BOD has been spiking for a while and TSS really shot up for the month of December. Weather could possibly be the cause. Jonathon is working to see what maybe causing the high spikes.

Curtis provided a handout regarding two legislature bills that affect the Ralph M. Brown Act in 2025. One bill concerns the Act’s requirements for remote participation, and the other expanding a ground for

closed session. Mr. Stuart Spencer stated the one new rule limits the allowed number of remote appearances for members of the Brown Act bodies to two times per year, if the body regularly meets once per month.

Curtis informed the Board we are working on updating the employee handbook to reflect on any 2025 new laws that affect employees.

Curtis provided an update on the new Well #8 project. Bids are due by January 16<sup>th</sup>. The bid asked contractors to include a project schedule as this project is under the emergency resolution authorizing abbreviated emergency procedures for the construction of the new well the District will take into account the project time schedule from the contractor.

Curtis stated regarding the property for Mr. Williams, the property will go through the annexation process once we know for sure the new well will provide sufficient water. The hope is that the new well will satisfy our water quality.

Mr. Jim Gerdes inquired into the status of the tank project. Curtis stated he is continuing to work with the State Water Resources Control Board regarding financing. Funding is not looking promising.

Curtis provided a Nitrate update. There have been a couple of elevated test results at the TID yard. When we received the first higher result, we went and tested the four corners of town, and those results were below the standard of 10 mg/L.

Mr. John Williams made a comment regarding fees for water, sewer, and storm drains which could bring a significant amount of funds for future district projects.

**Director Reports – None**

**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) Curtis presented the renewal of the District’s Commercial, Business, Commercial Umbrella Policy that is being renewed on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Rates continue to rise with insurance policies. Curtis provided the Coverage & Premium Summary Comparison between two carriers. One of the options is the Joint Powers Risk & Insurance Management Authority (JPRIMA) managed by Allied Public Risk. The annual contribution is about \$2,800.00 less than the second quote provided by Munich Specialty, also managed by Allied Public Risk. JPRIMA does require an annual

membership fee, currently \$500.00 and a three year commitment. The membership fee is waived for the first year. Staff was directed to proceed with the JPRIMA option.

The Directors Convened to Closed Session at 6:02 p.m. to update the real property negotiations per Government Code Section 54956.8. Location:045-200-033.


Directors returned to the open session at 6:46 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Approved by:



Board Member

2-4-25

Date