

State of California, County of Siskiyou

Flood Control and Water Conservation District Minutes

May 18, 2021

The Honorable Directors of the Flood Control and Water Conservation District of Siskiyou County, California, met in regular session this 18th day of May 2021; there being present Directors Ray A. Haupt, Brandon Criss, Michael N. Kobseff, Nancy Ogren and Ed Valenzuela, County Administrator Angela Davis, County Counsel Edward J. Kiernan, and County Clerk and ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Directors Laura Bynum by Deputy County Clerk Wendy Winningham.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Haupt.

Closed Session - Flood Control District - Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), one case commenced at 8:52a.m., concluded at 9:00a.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

District Counsel Edward J. Kiernan announced that closed session concluded at 9:00a.m., with no reportable action taken.

Public Comment

There were no public comments received.

Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Discussion and possible direction re request to negotiate the current Lake Siskiyou Campground lease contract with Reynolds Resorts - Lake Siskiyou LLC representatives. No direction or action was taken to authorize negotiation of the current lease.

General Services Director Jason Ledbetter provided an overview of the request, advising that Lake Siskiyou Campground Concessionaire Tom Reynolds requested to negotiate the current lease for the campground property. Mr. Ledbetter further advised that Mr. Reynolds was in the audience and available to speak with the District Board regarding the request.

Following brief discussion between members of the District Board and District Counsel Edward J. Kiernan regarding the availability of Mr. Reynolds' packet of information for public review, the Chair opened the item to public comments.

Pursuant to California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, March 17, 2020, participation in presentations from the public by various members of the public was provided via teleconference phone.

County resident Nick Joslin shared concerns regarding difficulties during efforts to complete the Lake Siskiyou Trail through the campground property and suggested that the District consider operating the campground facilities rather than utilizing a concessionaire.

Mr. Reynolds presented and summarized a ten-page packet of information, including photos and details regarding anticipated capital improvements to be made at the campground facility in 2021. Mr. Reynolds spoke in support of the request to negotiate a lease extension in order to accomplish the anticipated improvements.

In response to Director Kobseff, Mr. Kiernan advised that the process to consider a new lease for the campground property would entail a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, which would be open to other interested parties.

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Flood Control and Water Conservation District – (continued)

Director Kobseff shared voiced concerns regarding public perception of the increased (from \$1/person to \$2/person) gate fee and the ongoing difficulties in completing the Lake Siskiyou Trail through the campground property. Director Kobseff voiced opposition to negotiating a lease addendum, and in support of a new lease process beginning once the current lease ends.

Director Valenzuela spoke in support of waiting to advertise and negotiate a new lease, versus negotiating a lease addendum.

Directors Criss and Ogren spoke in support of Directors Kobseff and Valenzuela's recommendations.

Following brief discussion between members of the District Board, Mr. Kiernan and Assistant District Counsel Natalie Reed regarding the direction and/or action the District Board could take, no formal action was taken with regard to the request to negotiate the current concessionaire lease.

Flood Control and Water Conservation District – Presentation of an update re current activities related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans for the Butte, Scott and Shasta Valley basins. Presentation and discussion only.

Pursuant to California Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, March 17, 2020, participation in this agenda item by various members of the public was provided via teleconference phone.

Natural Resource Policy Specialist Matt Parker provided an overview of the request, and presented a powerpoint presentation concerning the anticipated timeline associated with adoption of the District's Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for the Butte, Scott and Shasta Valley groundwater basins. Mr. Parker introduced Katie Duncan with Stantec Consulting and Dr. Laura Foglia with Larry Walker Associates, participating via ZOOM/teleconference phone and available for questions. Mr. Parker provided the powerpoint presentation, including a timeline related to various necessary actions to review/approve the GSPs. Mr. Parker summarized the composition of the GSPs for each groundwater basin, and provided an overview of the key topics specific to each GSP for each groundwater basin.

Continuing the powerpoint, Mr. Parker provided an overview of the anticipated process to provide stakeholder and public engagement opportunities, as well as the next steps in the process.

Discussion followed between members of the District Board and Mr. Parker regarding the upcoming process to study potential fees related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and implementation of the GSPs, the timeline associated with request for the District Board to take action and the need for review of the technical/legal terminology prior to District/Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) approval.

The Chair opened this item to public comments.

Derek Zurg commented regarding overdraft as related to the Butte Valley Groundwater Basin.

Local resident Theodora Johnson appeared before the Board and presented and summarized 14-page packet of comments related to the Scott Valley Groundwater Basin GSP, sharing concerns regarding the need to improve public outreach regarding the process to develop GSPs for each groundwater basin, including the potential associated fees.

County resident Ginger Sammito shared concerns regarding the need to include/consider all groundwater wells (domestic and community wells), in the GSPs.

Brief discussion followed between District Board members regarding the potential that implementation fees based at the District/County to be lower than fees would have been had the State become the GSA for the three groundwater basins.

Closed Session - Flood Control District - Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9, significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(d)(2), one case commenced at 11:51a.m., concluded at 12:00p.m., with no action taken.

Report On Closed Session

District Counsel Edward J. Kiernan announced that closed session concluded at 12:00p.m., with no reportable action taken.

Adjournment - There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:
Laura Bynum, County Clerk

Ray A. Haupt, Chair

By: _____
Deputy