Thermalito Water and Sewer District Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting January 17, 2023 – 2:00 pm

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Wristen at 2:00 pm

# 1.1 Flag Salute

Director Koch led the flag salute.

#### 1.2 Roll Call

Present were President Wristen, Vice President Taggart and Directors Hatley, Koch and Clark. Also present were Attorney Carter, Office Manager Padilla, Engineer Heindell and Manager Boucher.

### 1.3 Opening Ceremony

President Wristen passed the gavel to the newly elected President Taggart.

### 2. PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Brenda Rightmyer, Ruby Harris and Michelle Bechtel from the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council was present to speak on Agenda Item 5.1

Glen Sturdevant from SC-OR was present to speak on Agenda Item 8.2

#### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 13, 2022
- **3.2** Financial Statement November 2022
- 3.3 Water Warrants Check Number 19936-20005 Total \$409,766.59

Water LAIF Deposit - \$8,824.32

Withdraw from LAIF Depreciation - \$25,000.00

Sewer Warrants - Check Number 7383-7389 Total \$207,823.76

Sewer LAIF Deposit - \$20,175.68

Withdraw from LAIF Depreciation - \$25,000.00

Secretary Revolving Account – Check Number 2668 Total \$7.72

Health Reimb Account – Check Number 2924-2930 Total \$2,200.73

3.4 Superintendent's Monthly Report of Maintenance and Operations and Solar Power Generation for December 2022

It was moved by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Wristen to approve Consent Agenda Items 3.1 - 3.4. Motion carried.

## 4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

None

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#### 5. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS

#### 5.1 Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council

Brenda Rightmyer of the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council reviewed over the items that were covered from the 2018 grants. She mentioned that the Camp Fire had a large impacted on the grants as well as the projects. She mentioned that they had a goal to reduce 407 acres of hazardous fuels along the roads and around structures. The project reduced the fuel load along sections of Concow Road from Jordan Hill to Jeffrey Pine along Crain Ridge Road. Only 250 acres was completed. She mentioned that they had a goal to provide assistance for 15 low income, elderly and/or disabled residents to achieve defensible space within the project area. They were able to accomplish 18 homes. Also, they treated a 20-acre parcel across from Concow School along Concow Road.

She mentioned that they have been awarded three grants from the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. Their goal is to reduce the fuel load within and around seven Staging Areas, it will allow them to continue work along the ridge line of Crain Ridge and Rim Road and to work the lower section along Concow Road between Jordan Hill Road and Jeffrey Pine Lane. They will be able to reduce the fuel load across 593 areas, conduct educational workshops, update the community evacuation plan, and impact sections of key road systems that are main evacuation routes used at the time of an emergency. The Districts parcels are within the project footprint of all three grants and that any work done would be at no cost should the District wish to participate. She mentioned that all work must be completed by March 15, 2026. She stated that included in the Board packet is a Landowner Permission/Agreement form along with a copy of the map outlining the location of where the work is to be performed. She asked that should the District consider participating to please fill out the form and return it to her as soon as possible. Motion made by Director Hatley; seconded by Director Wristen and unanimously carried to approve the Landowner Permission/Agreement Form for the three grants, projects called "Concow/Yankee Hill – Staging Areas (030)", "Staging Areas - Maintenance and Enhancements (0222)" and "Crain Ridge Fuel Break - Maintenance and Enhancements (0223) and to authorize the General Manager to execute signing of the Agreement.

Motion made by Director Wristen; seconded by Director Koch and unanimously carried to authorize Manager Boucher to work with the Yankee Hill Fire Safe Council to explore planning of the workshops and to authorize the General Manager to execute signing the Letters of Support.

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At this point, it was suggested by President Taggart to move Item 8.2 forward in the agenda to accommodate Glen Sturdevant from SC-OR.

## 8.2 New Ruddy Creek Lift Station

Glen Sturdevant from SC-OR mentioned that he and Manager Boucher met with the property owner of 1551 Oro Dam Blvd West to inquire about purchasing ½ acre of the property to construct a new Ruddy Creek Lift Station. He mentioned that in purchasing the land, some of the benefits would be:

- The new lift station can be built while the current station is still in operation; this would remove the need and risk of bypass pumping.
- Would remove SC-OR facility from the Cal Trans right-of way.
- If there is need in the future for a new pump station, there would be room to build it on the remaining property.
- The access to the lift station would be greatly improved by gaining access with equipment and vehicles to 360 degrees rather that just one point of entry.
- Would relocate the Ruddy Creek Pump Station well away from the road, which would reduce the risk of an auto accident impacting the facility and also lessen the risk of human intervention.

He mentioned that the ¼ acre property has been appraised by J White Appraisals & Consulting and that the piece of property appraised at \$17,300.00. During a meeting with the property owner, there were discussions of trading the value of two EDU Connections (connection fee only) which is roughly worth \$20,600. Also added would be a 6" stub out to the influent manhole that serves the station. This would be used in the future by the landowner of the property at 1551 Oro Dam Blvd West and will ensure that the station and the manhole is protected from any possible problems with a future tie in. He mentioned that the City of Oroville would be paying for the construction of Ruddy Creek, SC-OR would be paying for the design, the property cost would be split between SC-OR and TWSD, the appraisal and lot line adjustment. Consensus of the Board is to move forward with the project that was presented to the Board today.

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# 5.2 <u>President will Appoint the Administration Committee for the Calendar Year</u> 2023

President Taggart appointed the following Administration Committee for the Calendar Year 2023.

## **COMMITTEE**

# **DIRECTORS**

Administration/Inter-departmental/
Personnel

Taggart and Hatley

## 5.3 Current Board Committees

President Taggart asked the Board if they would like to make any changes to the committees for the Calendar Year 2023. The following changes were made:

Concow Committee Koch & Clark
SC-OR Committee (July 1, 2023) Taggart & Koch
GSA Committee Wristen
GSA Committee Alternate Koch

## 5.4 2023 LAIF Annual Information Update – Resolution 01-23

Manager Boucher submitted for Board review Resolution 01-23, Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund. He stated that this Resolution is done annually indicating who is authorized to make monthly deposits and withdrawals authorized by the Board from the LAIF accounts. Motion was made by Director Hatley, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously carried to adopt Resolution 01-23, "Authorizing Investment of Monies in the Local Agency Investment Fund". Roll call taken.

#### 5.5 Legal Services

Attorney Carter mentioned to the Board that he will be joining SacValley Law Firm as an association. He mentioned that SacValley Law does business planning, estate planning and civil litigation. They do not have much of a background in government law in representing governmental agencies. He mentioned that he prefers to work as an association so that any legal matters that he is working on could be handled by the firm should anything happen. SacValley Law has four attorneys who could be integrated into his cliental. He mentioned that this is a firm he would like to introduce to the District. He also mentioned that Peters, Fuller & Rush would also be another candidate as well as Marsha Burch who is a sole practitioner out of Grass Valley. He suggested that the Chair, General Manager and himself meet with a representative of the firm. If the interview process were to start this month, the District would probably have a successor somewhere around mid-March to not take over immediately but to begin being introduced to the

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District. President Taggart suggested to hold two interviews in the month of February. SacValley Law and Minasian, Meith, Soares, Sexton & Cooper, LLP will be contacted.

# 5.6 Water & Sewer Rate Discussion

Engineer Heindell reported that included in the Board packet is a draft rate study for the water and sewer rates. Engineer Heindell pointed out the "Monthly Single Family Residential Water Bills" from various water districts and the proposed rate structure which includes the results from the compensation study as well as a five percent inflation across the board. In Table 8–Water Rate Projections which includes water usage and monthly service charge, shows a proposed increase of 6% each year for the next five years. The Multi Unit Charge of \$22.66 will be eliminated as the cost will be based upon the meter size using the AWWA standards. The wastewater rate projections show a proposed increase of 14% each year for the next five years.

# 6. WATER BUSINESS

## 6.1 Urban Water Management Plan

Engineer Heindell reported that in using a different methodology that is supported by DWR, the population in Thermalito increased significantly from the previous report that was used by NorthStar Engineering. He mentioned that part of the increase is due to the Camp Fire and Development. To implement the revisions into the UWMP, public notification has been sent out and a public hearing will be held in March to adopt the revised UWMP which will then be submitted to the State.

#### 7. ATTORNEY REPORT

None

#### 8. SEWER BUSINESS

## 8.1 SC-OR Report

Commissioner Taggart reviewed over the December 2022 Regular Meeting of the Sewerage Commission – Oroville Region.

## 8.2 New Ruddy Creek Lift Station

This item was moved forward in the agenda and has already been discussed.

#### 9. WYANDOTTE CREEK GSA

## 9.1 Wyandotte Creek GSA Report

- Grant Application has been submitted for the Treatment Plant
- DWR is still reviewing over the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

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#### 10. MANAGER REPORT

<u>Winter Party:</u> Just a reminder that the Winter Party will be held on Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00pm. The event will be held at Feather Falls Casino.

<u>Smoke Testing and Manhole Repair for I&I</u>: Utility crew started smoke testing on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The crew started at Linkside and worked their way down Oro Dam Blvd. A few problems were detected at Linkside and Ridgeview Subdivision which the crew was able to repair the same day. The pumps at Likeside now come on every 10-13 hours as where before the smoke testing, during major storm events, they were running every 5-6 hours. Staff has also been capping cleanouts and redoing plugs that were missing or broken. Unfortunately, the smoke machine broke down and staff had to order parts. Once the parts arrive, the machine will be repaired, and the crew can start back up again. Since staff is waiting on parts, they have been pulling manholes throughout the District. So far, they have made three repairs on I&I issues.

<u>Meter Reader Jeep</u>: Staff has been trying to sell the 2008 Jeep for the past few months and it finally happened on January 11<sup>th</sup>. District sold the Jeep for \$4,500.

<u>Treatment Plant Expansion Update</u>: Engineer Heindell reported that everything is ready to ship to us the beginning of March and hopefully it will be in place by the end of May and completed before the summer.

# 11. HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

#### 12. BOARD COMMENTS

None

#### 13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 pm.

Secretary of the Board

President of the Board