

# MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PIXLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

The Board of Directors of the Pixley Irrigation District, sitting as the GSA governing board, convened a meeting on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2024, at 9:00 am. The meeting was called to order by President JUNIO. It was determined the following Directors were present:

Director Div.3

Director Div.2

Director Div.5

Director Div. 1

Director Div. 4

Randy Parreira

Bill DeGroot

Frank Junio

Neal Westbrook

Rusty Schott

### District Staff present:

Eric Limas, General Manager
Mike Battles, Assistant Manager
John Michael Domondon, Engineer
Mark Greenall, Controller
Kirk Masters, Water Resources Superintendent
Allison Tristao, Resources Coordinator

### Others Present:

Alex Peltzer, General Counsel Alyssa Tartaglia, Intern to General Counsel

# Farmers/landowners/public:

Travis Milwee, Seth Merrit, Steve Jackson, Emily Lopez, Rachelle Williams, Christina Saldivar, Freddie Cavasos, Leeana Barnes, Ashley Vega, Tequita Jefferson, Emma De La Rosa, Steve Jackson, Ernie Lugo, Jordan Martinez, Craig McPhetridge

# **BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

The Board reviewed the agenda. On motion by Director PARREIRA, second by Director DEGROOT, and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved.

On motion by Director WESTBROOK, second by Director SCHOTT and unanimously approved, the minutes of the October 10, 2024 meeting were approved as presented.

President JUNIO asked if there were public comment. Christina Saldivar, Tequita Jefferson, Leeana Barnes, Feddie Cavasos, and Ashley Vega spoke on the community of Pixley and Teviston's behalf commenting on water quality and quantity issues within the community as well as the need for more surface water. Concerns about the community being involved in the Subsidence Management Plan and High-Risk Zones were also expressed and clarification was given that domestic wells are not included in the Subsidence Management Plan.

General Manager LIMAS updated the Board on groundwater usage through September and gave an update on coordinating with neighboring subbasins on subsidence measurable objectives and minimum thresholds. LIMAS also discussed new Land IQ technology that splits precipitation and applied water readings from ET measurements. LIMAS discussed finding a consultant to analyze subsidence and provide technical support in the GSA. The Board gave staff direction to get a subsidence consultant hired. No action was taken.

LIMAS updated the Board on the Tule Subbasin Probation process. State Board staff are in the process of reviewing the GSP to possibly recommend PIXID GSA landowners be excluded from fees and reporting to the SWRCB. It is expected that they will have feedback on the GSPs within the next few weeks. No action was taken.

LIMAS presented a draft of the Early Action Plan for the designated High-Risk Subsidence Zones. On motion by Director PARRERIA, second by Director DEGROOT, and unanimously approved, the Early Action Plan was approved to send to landowners for a 45-day public review period. The Board will consider action on the plan at their January Board meeting.

LIMAS presented a Critical Impacts Analysis Proposal for an Aquifer Storage and Recovery from Provost and Pritchard. On motion by Director DEGROOT, second by Director WESTBROOK, and unanimously approved, the proposal was approved.

ALLISON TRISTAO gave an update on MLRP activities. Also discussed were activities related to Proposition 68 and District wide Metering Improvement grants. No action was taken.

TRISTAO presented budget revisions in the MLRP budgeted taska. On motion by Director WESTBROOK, second by Director SCHOTT, and unanimously approved the budget revision was approved.

LIMAS reviewed efforts on developing a land conservation easement program and a consulting proposal with Kari Cohen for consulting on NRCS RCCP funding programs to create a land easement program. On motion by Director SCHOTT, second by Director DEGROOT, and unanimously approved, the consulting proposal was approved and is not to exceed \$25,000.

LIMAS reviewed the fallowing applications that were accepted for the GSA and Tule Trust's program. The Board also discussed and directed staff to go out to the landowners in the High-Risk zones with the opportunity to enter the fallowing program and/or selling transitional credits back to the GSA. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed an updated draft Fallowing Policy adding the option to purchase groundwater credits from landowners that will be brought to the Groundwater Planning Commission for recommendation consideration. No action was taken.

# OTHER MATTERS

The Board then went into closed session. Upon reconvening into open session, it was reported that no action was taken during closed session.

There being no further business to be brought to the Board attention, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Limas

General Manager