

FINAL MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
JUNE 1, 2021

Anderson-Cottonwood Irrigation District

Brenda Haynes, President 2810 Silver Street, Anderson, CA 96007
Audie Butcher, Vice President (530) 365-7329 Fax (530) 365-7623
John Currey, General Manager www.andersoncottonwoodirrigationdistrict.org

Tiger Michiels, Director
Ray Eliante, Director
Rick Williams, Director

**MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 1, 2021**

President Haynes called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Directors present: Michiels, Butcher, Haynes, Eliante, Williams
Directors absent: none
Staff present: Currey, White, Loffmark
Staff present via phone: none

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

3. ACTION ITEMS

- 3.1** Receive staff report and consider adopting Resolution 2021-002 (1) directing staff to implement water conservation measures (2) recommending landowners implement water conservation measures, and (3) redoubling adherence to and enforcement of the District rules and regulations, including those requiring efficient water use.

GM Currey started the conversation stating he was looking for the Board to support staff in this particular situation.

He then took the Board through the Shasta Operations and Hydrology Update that he received from the Sacramento River Settlement Contractor (SRSC) meeting on May 27th. He spoke to the 2014-15 comparison chart which shows Shasta is currently 2000 cfs behind compared to previous years as well as hoping to end the season with 1.25-million-acre feet in storage.

President Haynes asked GM Currey if he sees ACID still irrigating much in September to which his reply was yes. A daily schedule is sent to the Bureau which shows ACID irrigating through September 30th but it could change dependent on drought variables.

GM Currey discussed the forecast of Shasta Operations which includes a temporary use change petition from the Feds requesting to allow more salinity intrusion into the Delta and upstream.

The next page of the update regards the MBK web portal which report weekly diversions as live as possible which allows for better decision making at the State level.

The bar shows SRSC is only taking 51% of their 75% diversion allowance. There are voluntary reductions which are for those who allow their wells to be used and are

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compensated. The next few charts are the forecast for Shasta operations flow pattern for the Sacramento River as well as water transfers for the year.

President Haynes inquired about San Luis & Delta Mendota receiving the full 4100 cfs to which GM Currey answered we will be closer to 3500 cfs as Barney is running a little less than before and using a little less energy. President Haynes also asked if we had SCADA for that to which the answer was no.

GM Currey explained the resolution was his idea and due to the uncertainty over the next few months he is asking for the Board to support staff in enforcing the rules and regulations of ACID and that this could be added to the June 10th meeting if there were questions or concerns.

Director Eliante inquired of the average irrigation time of a 10-acre parcel to which GM Currey answered it depended on the flow of water.

Director Eliante asked that with no snow pack or rainfall, he believed that the Feds had saved enough water for five-years for the particular instance we are having with the drought now. GM Currey stated that this is the second driest year on record since 1977 and we are now asked by the State to run districts with more obligations since that time period and we will be asked for more.

President Haynes asked if the temperature for fish was the biggest problem which the answer was yes. Director Eliante stated it was in regards to specific fish such as salmon so they don't die and currently there is a smelt issue in the Delta that is being dealt with regarding this topic.

Vice President Butcher is concerned about section 1(b) in the drought resolution. GM Currey ensured the proper way to measure is using weir sticks to hold ACID and customers accountable which addresses the inconsistency and lack of information about our flows.

President Haynes would like to see 'after flow of delivery' replaced with 'at the point of delivery'.

Director Eliante wanted to know if ditchtenders were being consistent with their areas as he knows many are too comfortable with going too long. GM Currey is aware that some ditchtenders avoid certain confrontations by giving more time. In the past ACID did not have the tools to defend why a customer was not getting more hours and why they were getting what they are. If we meet our rules and regulations and it still isn't working then we have to look to see what are the customers doing on their end.

Vice President Butcher assumed that a customer does not want to keep water long. GM Currey stated sometimes due to difference in the year and irrigation cycle it's hard to measure and would like to measure on major laterals which would indicate how things are changing in real time.

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Vice President Butcher knows there are variables but how can we ask a customer to not receive so much water? GM Currey discussed how improvements made on customer's properties could give them 100% flow then others and some improvements have to be made by ACID and we have many to improve.

Vice President Butcher stated that checks are to be put in by customers in the spring and ACID needs to encourage them too. President Haynes agreed and that enforcement needs to be maintained per our rules and regulations.

Director Eliante asked if this resolution was going to all customers to which the answer was yes. It would be emailed as well as posted on the ACID website.

President Haynes would like to see sections 2(b) and (c) changed to 'District Office' versus 'District Staff'.

Vice President Butcher moved to approve the drought resolution as submitted with changes, Director Michiels made the second with a 5-0 vote.

3.2 Receive staff report regarding goals and objectives of the proposed Assistant General Manager position.

Per President Haynes, to save time, requested to bring this item back to the June 10th meeting and the Board concurred that staff should continue to develop a job description.

3.3 Receive staff report and consider Department of Water Resources request to fund replacement data loggers in ACID groundwater monitoring wells.

GM Currey informed the Board that collectively, the data loggers are over 20 years old and funded by grant funds from the State and Department of Water Resources (DWR) which has reached out stating these data loggers were coming to their end of life.

He has reached out to MBK asking numerous questions. They answered with DWR staff doing replacement, and that at some point in time, the entire system needs to be replaced. This system is used both locally and State wide for data set.

Director Eliante asked if the information was digitally sent or manually read to which GM answered it was manually read weekly and for the last 10 years this information has been collected continuously by DWR.

Director Eliante also inquired into who receives the best benefits from the readings. GM Currey stated we do in regards to wells and water transfers.

Director Eliante questioned if there was a way to share the cost from other agencies. GM Currey indicated typically the agency with the boundaries is responsible. Director Eliante added what would DWR do if not done? GM Currey explained they would go silent and we would pay for the repair and in order to do our job this cost is appropriate. Director Eliante stated it wouldn't hurt to ask if others are willing to pay a percentage to which GM Currey stated he was not sure how he would start the conversation.

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President Haynes inquired if DWR was based in Willows with the answer being yes. She also asked if it would be worth a call to them regarding this issue? GM Currey specified MBK is in charge of collecting all data for ground water transfers. Without it, we cannot defend our ground water transfers. The wells support our forbearance agreement with the Bureau and would need their approval but if the Board would like GM to inquire other agencies he will, but believes that the price is not unreasonable.

GM Currey informed the Board he would contact Rich Roberson at DWR and would be interested in his thoughts and bring the item back to the Board on June 10th.

President Haynes announced the closed session. The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 3:05 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

President Haynes announced that the Board of Directors would recess to Closed Session to take the following actions:

C.S.1 CLOSED SESSION CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION. Significant Exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Government code section 54956.9. One Case.

The Board of Directors recessed to closed Session at 3:10 p.m.

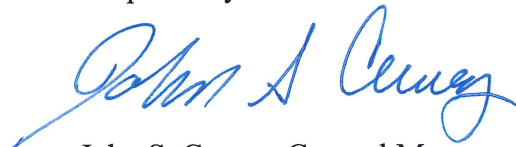
The Board of Directors returned from Closed Session and reconvened in Open Session with Directors Haynes, Butcher, Michiels, Eliante and Williams and General Manager John Currey present at 4:42 p.m.

REPORT OF CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

General Manager John Currey reported that the Board of Directors met in Closed Session to discuss anticipated litigation. There was no other reportable action.

The Board of Directors adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



John S. Currey, General Manager