MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APRIL 7, 2020

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Yuba County Water Agency was held on the above date, commencing at 9:01 A.M. This meeting was conducted by Zoom Video Conference and Audio Teleconference Only.

The Yuba County Water Agency supports the orders and directives from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor’s Office in the effort to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 enables meetings of legislative bodies to be conducted by way of a teleconference.

Governor's Executive Order N-33-20 directs all individuals in the state to stay at home or their place of residence except those individuals designated as essential by the Federal Government or the Office of the Governor.

ROLL CALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directors</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randy Fletcher (Chair)</td>
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<td>Brent Hastey (Vice Chair)</td>
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<td>Gary Bradford</td>
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<td>Mike Leahy</td>
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<td>Doug Lofton</td>
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<td>Charlie Mathews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Vasquez</td>
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Staff in Attendance
Curt Aikens, General Manager
Willie Whittlesey, Assistant General Manager
Terri Daly, Administrative Manager
DeDe Cordell, Communications Manager
Kurtis Crawford, Finance Manager
Jeff Mathews, Sr. Project Manager
John James, Water Operations Project Manager
Alex Boesch, Public Information Specialist
Jackie Sillman, Community Impact Specialist

Richard Shanahan, Agency Counsel

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Fletcher.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**
Charles Sharp commented on issues pertaining to the North Yuba Water District.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**
A motion was made by Director Vasquez, seconded by Director Bradford, to approve all Consent items shown on the agenda and duplicated below for reference purposes.

1. Approval of the Minutes the regular meeting of March 17, 2020.

Vote:
*YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez*

(Continued next page)
DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. Consider approval of a Power Systems budget adjustment to address certain capital expenditures resulting in an overall reduction of approximately $2.2 million.

The Board had a brief discussion following an overview of the item by staff.

A motion was made by Director Mathews, seconded by Director Vasquez, to approve this matter as presented.

Vote:
YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez

3. Receive an update from staff on Phase 2 of the Hallwood floodplain restoration project and consider approving the Agency as the applicant for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Fisheries Restoration Grant Program in relation to Phase 2 of the Hallwood floodplain restoration project. (Cont. 3/17/20 Item 6)

Jeff Mathews provided a briefing on this item.

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Bradford, to approve the Agency as the applicant for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife Fisheries Restoration Grant Program as indicated.

Vote:
YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez

4. Receive two presentations, one from Anna Newman, educational consultant regarding water education curriculum development, and one from the DLR Group regarding the Watershed Experience Center Master Plan. Consider approval as follows pertaining to the Yuba Watershed Experience Center and curriculum; 1) Fund a project for the development of curriculum by local teachers for approximately $400,000 over a 2-year period ($63,000 of that amount is already budgeted under an existing task order); and 2) Fund a master plan process led by the DLR Group for approximately $450,000. (Cont. 3/17/20 Item 6)

DeDe Cordell provided a general overview of this item. Anna Newman presented information regarding development of the water education curriculum. Mark Covington of the DLR Group provided the Board with a detailed presentation pertaining to the Watershed Experience Center Master Plan process.

Public Comment was received by: Charles Sharp, Francisco Reveles, Gary Cena, Richard Teagarden, Melinda Booth, Rachel Lubitz, and Amy Nore.
(Agenda Item 4)

Action item #1 (Education curriculum development)

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Lofton, to fund a project for the development of curriculum by local teachers for approximately $400,000 over a 2-year period.

The Board Chair appointed Directors Vasquez, Mathews, and Hastey to serve as an ad hoc committee to work with the curriculum development team, attend their meetings and report back to the Board. The Board will be able to provide the ad hoc committee with information and support to the extent possible.

Vote:
**YES:** Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews
**NO:** Vasquez

Action item #2 (Watershed Experience Center Master Plan)

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Bradford, to fund a master plan process for approximately $450,000 for a Watershed Experience Center to be led by the DLR Group.

Vote:
**YES:** Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez
**MANAGER’S REPORT**

**Project Operations:** The project continues to operate within compliance. The storm over the past 72 hours could be called a mini Amazing April producing 3 – 5 inches of water content mostly in snow above 4,000 feet elevation. The lower Yuba River flow at Marysville increased to nearly 5,000 cfs with a rapid rise and decrease. Flow is being reduced to a target flow 1,000 cfs to provide a fish friendly transition to irrigation flows which are starting up. The storm increased the year to date precipitation at Colgate from 60% to 67% of average. This precipitation results in more runoff eliminating any concern for irrigation season or flood up deficiencies. New Bullards Bar end of September storage level will be below the target of 650,000 acre-feet with a likely level of about of 550,000 acre-feet. Water operations will continue to be in full conservation mode operating to minimum instream flow requirements plus irrigation diversion needs for the rest of the year. The weather pattern has turned dry.

Start Date: 00:00 04/06/2020  
End Date: 00:00 04/07/2020  
Printed on: 04/07/2020

Storage data are instantaneous values at the end of the period; flow data are average values for the period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>New Bullards Bar Reservoir</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elevation (Ft): 1,895.57</td>
<td>Flood Space Reqd (AF): 150,000</td>
<td>Critical Storage Line (AF): 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage (AF): 703,707</td>
<td>Flood Space Avail (AF): 262,396</td>
<td>Target Storage Line (AF): 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Total Capacity: 73</td>
<td>Flood Space Reqd (%): 175</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Usable Capacity: 64</td>
<td>Excess Flood Space (AF): 112,396</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Englebright Reservoir</strong></th>
<th><strong>Stream Flows</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Englebright Outflow: 3,042</td>
<td>Marysville: 4,321</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrows 1 Gen\Bypass Flow: 0</td>
<td>North Irrig. Diversion: 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narrows 2 Gen\Bypass Flow: 3,096</td>
<td>South Irrig. Total Flow: 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spill: 0</td>
<td>Total Diversion: 24</td>
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**NERC / WECC:** The agency continues to operate in compliance with NERC/WECC Electricity Reliability Standards.

**Cottage Creek Additional Parking:** As a follow-up, construction began Monday, April 6th, as expected.

**Narrows 1 Transfer:** The Agency officially owns Narrows 1 as of March 31st! IT has successfully connected N1 to our internal network and the crew has access necessary for work.
We are continuing to take the steps needed to be able to operate the facility remotely from Colgate Powerhouse and expect the facility to be operational by the end of May. 

**Power Sales Monthly Highlights:** February Power Systems revenue totaled $4.1 million and we generated ~47 thousand MWhs during the month. The average day ahead hourly price was $28/MWh which is down $5 from January’s average price. 

For the fiscal year through February Power Systems revenue totals $40 million which is below budget by ~$2 million. The variance is due primarily to lower than anticipated energy prices and to a 3% reduction in generation below forecast. Net CAISO revenue is $5 million below budget to date, however offsetting is a $3 million increase in other power revenue sources, such as resource adequacy and carbon free energy.

For March, Power Systems revenue is $2.7 million thru March 29th including monthly resource adequacy. March’s average day ahead hourly price is $29/MWh, slightly higher than February. However, generation is low due to water storage conservation measures. A full report on March power sales will be provided at the first board meeting in May.

**COVID-19:** We continue to take a proactive approach in this fluid situation to limit the risk of exposure and spread of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). IT is continuing to provide remote access for staff to work from home and is working with departments to research additional remote tools. The latest health order does not prohibit recreation as long as the safety guidelines are practiced. At New Bullards Bar the campgrounds are closed.

**Forecast Update:** Two systems impacted the area over the weekend and like the system in mid-March brought much needed rain and snow to the Yuba Watershed. 3-5 inches of precipitation has likely fallen in the past 72 hours (most as snow above 4000’) See plot of storm totals at Skyline Scripps/CW3E Meteorological Station (4.4 inches ) and Snow Water Content at Robinson Cow Camp snow course (5.2 inches SWC):

**Hallwood Ecosystem Project:** Teichert has started this season’s construction on phase 1 of the Hallwood project. The plan is to complete the rough grading of the project this year with fine grading and the project to be complete next year. We have submitted a preliminary grant request for Prop 68 funding of $2,250,000 as an early implementation Voluntary Agreement project. This results in a Yuba Water share of $150,000 for Phase 1.
Upper low-pressure system responsible for funneling the late season moderate Atmospheric River lingers over SoCal through early Wednesday before moving out into the Desert Southwest and leaving behind seasonal dry conditions for the remainder of the week.

Runoff flows will likely be on the higher side for the next 10 days as low elevation snow melts off quickly with warmer temperatures and longer daylight hours. Thanks to the two above average late season storm systems (March 17/18, April 4/5), April–July CNRFC forecast of runoff into NBB and Englebright have nearly doubled since last month from a forecast of around 30-40% average runoff to around 60-70% of average runoff.

**Communications:** The communications team has been mostly focused on internal communications regarding the COVID-19 crisis and investigating ways to keep our employees better informed and engaged, since it appears this will last for several weeks. We have also provided the local radio stations a new spot that should start airing this week, which is about our focus during the COVID-19 crisis and providing some hope for a brighter future on the other side of all this.

**Media Relations:** Our purchase of Narrows 1 has received a good amount of coverage in the Appeal Democrat, as well as many niche media that focus on the hydropower industry. There was also a great article in the Appeal Democrat at the end of March about our partnership with Marysville in restoring Ellis Lake.

**Community Relations:** All community relations events have been postponed or cancelled. We are, however, sponsoring the Yuba-Sutter Food Bank, and they will be including information about the agency in the boxes they deliver to Yuba County residents.

**Upcoming Meetings:** Tuesday, April 21, 2020
DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Director Bradford reported on the following:
Extended his thanks to staff for their continuing dedication.

Director Lofton reported on the following:
Extended his thanks to staff for their continuing dedication.

Director Mathews reported on the following:
Groundwater Substitution program and related issues. See written report on the next page provided by Director Mathews via email to the Clerk after today’s meeting.

Director Leahy reported on the following:
Thanked staff for their continued focus and expressed his appreciation of the educators and other participants in today’s meeting.

Director Vasquez reported on the following:
Thanked Agency staff and Yuba County staff for their dedication in the midst of the Coronavirus outbreak.

Director Hastey reported on the following:
Expressed his appreciation in being a member of the Board.
Thanked Agency and County staff for their efforts and shared his appreciation of the County Board of Supervisors for their dedication.

Director Fletcher reported on the following:
Shared his appreciation for the Zoom meeting technology and thanked Jim Mitrisin, Clerk of the Board, for his support of today’s meeting.

ADJOURNED AT: 12:39 P.M.

Board approved on 5/5/2020
Chair to sign at next available opportunity

Minutes Approved: Randy Fletcher, Chair
Date signed:_______________

ATTEST: James Mitrisin
Clerk of the Board of Directors
In a few days, we, the Board of Yuba Water Agency will be implementing a ground water substitution program. This program will be selling approximately $29,000,000.00 worth of Yuba River substitution water to buyers and contracting with the 8 Member Units of Yuba County pumping entities to provide the water.

The Agency, in the past, has allowed the 8 Member units to set the rules that allocate the pumping quantities among themselves by a simple vote. This has led to gross inequities. Among these will be the distribution of 53,000 acre feet of pumping to the 4 Member Units south of the Yuba River and 30,000 acre feet of pumping to the 4 Member Units north of the Yuba River.

In dollars, this will mean $18,550,000.00 to the Member Units south of the Yuba River and $10,500,000.00 to the Member Units north of the Yuba River.

According to the Agency’s figures, the south serves 29,593 acres while the north serves 27,819 acres. This means that those numbers should be approximately $15,000,000.00 to the south and $14,000,000.00 to the north.

The time has come for the Agency to set, with their fiduciary responsibility to Yuba County in mind, a policy for the equitable distribution of the pumping rights among the Member Units based on the individual acres served by each of the Member Units and not an arbitrary vote among a faction of the pumpers.