MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 15, 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.

ROLL CALL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directors</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Absent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randy Fletcher (Chair)</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brent Hastey (Vice Chair)</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Bradford</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mike Leahy</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug Lofton</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Mathews</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy Vasquez</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☐</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Staff in Attendance
Willie Whittlesey, General Manager          David Yang, Staff Accountant
Terri Daly, Administrative Manager          Bonnie Dickson, Sr. Public Information Officer
DeDe Cordell, Communications Manager        Creighton Avila, Project Manager
Jeff Mathews, Sr. Project Manager           Kurtis Crawford, Finance Manager
Alex Boesch, Public Information Specialist  Richard Shanahan, Agency Counsel
Creighton Avila, Project Manager
Nistar Sandher, Administrative Assistant    JoAnna Lessard, Project Manager
JoAnna Lessard, Project Manager            Nicole Hayden, Business Systems Analyst

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

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Item #3 was pulled from the Consent agenda for discussion.

A motion was made by Director Mathews, seconded by Director Hastey, to approve the Consent item shown on the agenda and duplicated below for reference purposes.

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

1. Approval of the Minutes the regular meeting of September 1, 2020

2. Consider approval of a Bill Shaw grant for up to $10,000 to the Yuba County Sheriff’s Office for the purchase of specialized rescue equipment. This matter was recommended for approval by the Project Operations and Development Committee on September 1, 2020.

(Continued next page)
DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. Consider approval of a grant for up to $500,000 to the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority to complete Phase 1 and begin Phase 2 of the Hallwood Training Wall flood risk reduction project in the Community of Hallwood. This matter was recommended for approval by the Project Operations and Development Committee on September 1, 2020.

Director Mathews iterated his desire for the Board to consider any grant for over $50,000 by way of a discussion item and not on the consent agenda.

A motion was made by Director Lofton, seconded by Director Vasquez, to approve a grant for up to $500,000 to the Three Rivers Levee Improvement Authority to complete Phase 1 and begin Phase 2 of the Hallwood Training Wall flood risk reduction project in the Community of Hallwood.

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

4. Consider approval of the scope of work for a nutrient management plan for Ellis Lake as recommended by the Ellis Lake Ad Hoc Committee.

Jeff Mathews provided a summary of the scope of work and iterated the ad hoc committee’s concurrence to proceed with development of a nutrient management plan for Ellis Lake.

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Mathews to approve the scope of work for the nutrient management plan for Ellis Lake.

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

5. Consider approval of a grant for up to $16,100 requested by the Olivehurst Public Utilities District (OPUD) on behalf of the Arboga community for a feasibility study to determine a solution to residential septic systems prone to failure. This matter was recommended for approval by the Project Operations and Development Committee on September 1, 2020.

John Tillotson, OPUD General Manager, gave the Board a brief summary of the request and Arboga community members Wyatt Paxton and Cholo (surname not provided) were present.

David Swartz of California Engineering Company provided the Board with details of their role in the process to date and iterated the high number of septic system failures. The community is seeking potential avenues for annexation into OPUD and/or establishing a community service district.
Director Fletcher inquired if the community members sought to self-fund the study, to which Mr. Paxton stated that Arboga is designated as a disadvantaged community with low and fixed incomes, making a self-funding model a hardship for many residents.

Mr. Swartz commented that the community would benefit from forming a community service district to be able to leverage USDA and CDBG grants in the long term.

Director Lofton commented that the feasibility study will further inform the community so they may, in turn, seek grant funding from other sources.

**A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Bradford, to approve a grant for up to $16,100 requested by the Olivehurst Public Utilities District (OPUD) on behalf of the Arboga community for a feasibility study to determine a solution to residential septic systems prone to failure.**

A motion to amend the main motion was made prior to the vote on the main motion.

**A motion was made by Director Mathews to approve a grant for up to 90% of the costs and direct the community members to fund the remaining 10%.**

Motion failed for lack of a second.

**A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Bradford, to approve a grant for up to $16,100 requested by the Olivehurst Public Utilities District (OPUD) on behalf of the Arboga community for a feasibility study to determine a solution to residential septic systems prone to failure.**

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

6. Consider approval of a grant for up to $500,000 to the Olivehurst Public Utilities District (OPUD) for funding for CEQA, Property Appraisal/Acquisition and Contingency for the Potable Water and Wastewater Infrastructure for the Sports, Entertainment and Industrial Zones in South Yuba County. The Project Operations and Development (POD) Committee voted 2-1 in favor of recommending approval at their meeting of September 1, 2020.

John Tillotson, OPUD General Manager, provided the Board with an overview of the grant request and stated that the design work proposals OPUD received were considerably higher than anticipated. In addition, OPUD expected to begin the CEQA process later in the project, however the design team determined that input on CEQA is necessary to proceed with design phases.

Director Hastey commented that the primary concern at the POD committee was that the initial grant request from OPUD was for $3.5M rather than $4.0M.
Public Comment: Charles Sharp commented on the POD committee’s 2-1 vote on this matter. A motion was made by Director Vasquez, seconded by Director Fletcher to approve a loan in the amount of $500,000 to the Olivehurst Public Utilities District for funding for CEQA, Property Appraisal/Acquisition and Contingency for the Potable Water and Wastewater Infrastructure for the Sports, Entertainment and Industrial Zones in South Yuba County.

A motion to amend the main motion was made prior to the vote on the main motion.

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Bradford to amend the main motion to approve a grant in the amount of $500,000 as proposed.

Vote
YES: Directors Bradford, Lofton, Hastey
NO: Directors Fletcher, Leahy, Mathews, Vasquez
Motion failed 3-4.

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Mathews to amend the main motion to approve a $250,000 grant and a $250,000 loan.

Vote
YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews
NO: Vasquez
Motion passed 6-1.

The Board then considered the main motion as modified by the approved motion to amend (i.e., to approve a loan in the amount of $250,000 and a grant in the amount of $250,000 to the Olivehurst Public Utilities District for funding for CEQA, Property Appraisal/Acquisition and Contingency for the Potable Water and Wastewater Infrastructure for the Sports, Entertainment and Industrial Zones in South Yuba County).

Vote
YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez
Motion passed 7-0

Terri Daly explained that Agency staff would implement this action through an amendment to the existing grant/loan agreement between the Agency and OPUD.

7. Receive an update from the Wheatland City Manager on the progress on the regional wastewater connection planning and design effort.

Jim Goodwin, City of Wheatland City Manager, led a presentation reflecting considerations by the City to connect to wastewater services provided by the Linda County Water District (LCWD) as an alternative to the previously determined connection to wastewater services provided by the Olivehurst Public Utilities District.

Director Bradford iterated the economic development aspects throughout the county and shared that it appears there could be an advantage for the city to work with LCWD. Suggested the Chair may wish to form an ad hoc committee, comprised of himself and Directors Lofton and
Hastey, to work with the respective ad hoc committees for the city and Olivehurst Public Utilities District (OPUD) to discuss options.

John Tillotson, OPUD General Manager, replied that OPUD is prepared to participate in those discussions.

Mr. Goodwin replied that he would need to confirm this course of action with the City Council. Iterated that the City Council remains open to discussion, however they have been clear that they will not entertain discussions that do not involve joint/shared governance. The Council feels there is a significant advantage to evaluating the LCWD proposal.

Director Vasquez commented that he would support an ad hoc committee to explore options.

Director Hastey commented on his attendance at the LCWD Board meeting and iterated his perception was that LCWD would not support establishing a Joint Powers Authority. Shared his thoughts on the regional solution provided through the City’s connection to OPUD as supported by the Water Agency’s $2.6M grant/loan to the City for that purpose (in July of this year).

Director Lofton concurred with Director Hastey’s summary of the LCWD Board meeting. Iterated his perception that the presentation from Mr. Goodwin this morning does not paint the full picture of the total costs to expand the infrastructure.

**Director Fletcher agreed that additional discussions are warranted and appointed Directors Bradford, Hastey, and Lofton to the ad hoc committee with direction to work with the appropriate parties to determine the most reasonable solution.**

*No formal action taken.*

8. Consider approval of a letter of support for the proposed Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act of 2020, a bill to increase wildfire preparedness and response throughout the United States, and for other purposes.

Director Fletcher reflected on the current wildfire related air quality and forest management issues.

Willie Whittlesey provided a summary of the proposed bill.

*A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Lofton to approve a letter of support for the proposed Emergency Wildfire and Public Safety Act of 2020, a bill to increase wildfire preparedness and response throughout the United States, and for other purposes.*

**Vote:**

*YES: Bradford, Fletcher, Hastey, Leahy, Lofton, Mathews, Vasquez*
9. Receive an update on Phase 1 of the Hallwood Side Channel and Floodplain Restoration project and authorize the General Manager, or designee, to sign a contract with Triangle Properties in the amount of $90,080.00 for planting and related activities within Phase 1 of the construction area.

Jeff Mathews summarized the purpose of this agreement and the ongoing restoration efforts.

Director Fletcher requested staff arrange a tour of the habitat area in the near future.

Director Hastey commended staff on the recent video prepared by the agency pertaining to this project.

A motion was made by Director Hastey, seconded by Director Lofton to authorize the General Manager, or designee, to sign a contract with Triangle Properties in the amount of $90,080.00 for planting and related activities within Phase 1 of the construction area.

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

Project Operations: The project continues to operate within regulatory requirements.

Start Date: 00:00 09/14/2020 Printed on: 09/15/2020
End Date: 00:00 09/15/2020

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Bullards Bar Reservoir</th>
<th>Englebright Reservoir</th>
<th>Stream Flows</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elevation (Ft): 1,881.66</td>
<td>Flood Space Req'd (AF): 0</td>
<td>Flood Space Req'd (AF): 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage (AF): 650,753</td>
<td>Flood Space Avail (AF): 315,350</td>
<td>Critical Storage Line (AF): 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Total Capacity: 67</td>
<td>Flood Space Req'd (%): 0</td>
<td>Target Storage Line (AF): 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Usable Capacity: 57</td>
<td>Excess Flood Space (AF): 315,350</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NERC / WECC: The agency continues to operate in compliance with NERC/WECC Electricity Reliability Standards.

Maintenance Update:

Recreation
All 24 log booms were replaced in front of the New Bullard’s Bar Dam. Routine boat inspections were completed, and they are still floating. The water supply piping for spillway gate lubrication was inspected and new insulation and clamps were added as needed. Small improvements to the Cottage Creek Parking lot continue.

Electrical / Communications
Ojo security swap was completed at Narrows 2 Power Plant (N2) as part of the ongoing upgrade. Final commissioning of the N2 stop log hoists were completed successfully. Outage at N2 is underway with the new excitation cabinet install / swap over. Electrical and Comm supported the new meter install at Narrows 1 as well as the SCADA tuning and functional testing of the Lerner Johnson bypass valve. Colgate 1 brush outage was completed.

Mechanical / Utility
Completed the Narrows 1 Lerner Johnson valve testing with no issues, valve is now available to back up river flows during N2 outage. Narrows 2 outage started with work focused on runner weld repair, unit Generator Guide Bearing adjustments and Draft Tube Drain Valve replacement.
Power Systems Revenue Monthly Highlights:
Power Systems revenue for August totaled $11.7 million, the highest month on record, and $4.2 million more than August of 2019. We generated ~141 thousand MWhs during the month. Average day ahead energy price was $48/MWh, double the average in July of $24/MWh. The largest single hour energy price was August 19th hour ending 19 - $921/MWh.

California experienced two events in August that caused energy prices to spike.
• 1) On August 14th and 15th, the California ISO (CAISO) issued a Stage 3 Emergency instructing power shutoffs in various areas of California in a “rolling blackout” fashion. Although these steps were necessary to avoid a possible complete grid failure, they resulted in price spikes in the peak demand hours on both days. Excessive heat and loss of energy reserve margin (difference between supply and demand) lead to the decision.

• 2) August gave us some record-breaking temperatures in California resulting in high energy demand, particularly during the period of August 16th and August 23rd. Prices spiked again in the peak demand hours in excess $100 and as high as $900/MWh. Excessive heat throughout the western states also resulted in lower than forecasted imports from neighboring states. In addition, there were forced outages reducing supply even further. Per the request of CAISO, we were able to increase our generation at the Narrows facility by 20 MW every hour for several days and we offered our Colgate units at capacity for several days as well. As a result, we increased our revenue by approximately $639,000 above what normal operations would have provided.

Power Systems revenue year to date totals $18.8 million, $4 million more than the same two-month period last year.

The California ISO has not posted an updated market analysis of Covid-19 impacts since the last report dated July 31 which was included in the board report of August 18th.

HR Update:
Recruitments: Applications are currently being accepted for the full-time Operator position through 9/14/2020. The screening and interviewing process is underway for the Heavy Equipment Mechanic, Hydrologist, Utility Worker, Health & Safety Officer and Supervising Communication Technician positions.

Fire Evacuations: Last week, 14 Yuba Water Agency employees were evacuated due to local fires. All employees and their family members are safe. Many are staying with friends and family members; some are in their 5th wheels at campgrounds and some are sheltering in place.

Weather Forecast Update: As of September 15, 2020
Current:
Continued smoke, slightly below temperatures and unfortunately no significant precipitation forecast rest of this week, potential for a warmup next week. Extremely poor air quality due to the unprecedented outbreak of fires in the region, California, Oregon and the West Coast of the United States. Smoke from the fires has circulated all the way to Europe more than 5000 miles away. [https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/09/11/california-wildfires-cause-orange-glow-uk-sky/](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/09/11/california-wildfires-cause-orange-glow-uk-sky/)
6 of the top 15 largest fires in recorded California history are actively burning at this time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRE NAME (CAUSE)</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>ACRES</th>
<th>STRUCTURES</th>
<th>DEATHS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 AUGUST COMPLEX (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Tehama</td>
<td>471,185</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 MENDEOCINO COMPLEX (Under Investigation)</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>Colusa County, Lake County, Mendocino County &amp; Glenn County</td>
<td>459,123</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 SCU LIGHTNING COMPLEX (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Stanislaus, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin</td>
<td>396,624</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 LNU LIGHTNING COMPLEX (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Sonoma, Lake, Napa, Yolo &amp; Solano</td>
<td>363,220</td>
<td>1,491</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 THOMAS (Powerlines)</td>
<td>December 2017</td>
<td>Ventura &amp; Santa Barbara</td>
<td>281,692</td>
<td>1,063</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 CEDAR (Human Related)</td>
<td>October 2008</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>273,246</td>
<td>2,620</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 RUSH (Lightning)</td>
<td>August 2012</td>
<td>Lassen</td>
<td>271,911 CA / 43,699 NV</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 EDM (Human Related)</td>
<td>August 2013</td>
<td>Tuolumne</td>
<td>257,814</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 ELKHORN (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Trinity County, Tehama County, Humboldt County</td>
<td>255,909</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 NORTH COMPLEX (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>August 2020</td>
<td>Plumas</td>
<td>252,163</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 ZACA (Human Related)</td>
<td>July 2007</td>
<td>Santa Barbara</td>
<td>219,207</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 CARR (Human Related)</td>
<td>July 2018</td>
<td>Shasta County, Trinity County</td>
<td>229,651</td>
<td>1,614</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 MATILDA (Undetermined)</td>
<td>September 1992</td>
<td>Yuba County</td>
<td>220,090</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 WITCH (Powerlines)</td>
<td>October 2007</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>197,090</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 KLAMATH THEATER COMPLEX (Lightning)</td>
<td>June 2008</td>
<td>Siskiyou</td>
<td>192,028</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 MARBLE CONE (Lightning)</td>
<td>July 1977</td>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>177,066</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 CREAS FIRE (Under Investigation)*</td>
<td>September 2010</td>
<td>Fresno County, Modoc County</td>
<td>176,693</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 LAGUNA (Powerlines)</td>
<td>September 1970</td>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>170,425</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 BASIN COMPLEX (Lightning)</td>
<td>June 2006</td>
<td>Monterey</td>
<td>162,818</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 DAY FIRE (Human Related)</td>
<td>September 2006</td>
<td>Yuba County</td>
<td>162,792</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is no doubt that these were fires with significant acreage burned in years prior to 1982, but these records are less reliable, and this list is meant to give an overview of the huge fires in more recent times.

This list does not include fire jurisdiction. These are the Top 20 regardless of whether they were state, federal, or local responsibility.

*Numbers not final.
Yuba County is now entirely in D2 (moderate/severe) drought conditions per the U.S. Drought Monitor.

**U.S. Drought Monitor**

**California**

September 8, 2020
(Released Thursday, Sep. 10, 2020)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

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**Short-term Forecast:**
Upper Low-pressure system weakening and entering the Pacific Northwest with light/moderate precipitation but will only brush by extreme Northern California and cool down temperatures locally for our area through Friday. Warmer temperatures forecast next week. **Fire weather risk remains elevated and is now forecast to remain elevated until first significant rains of the wet season.** Additionally, PSPS season is now here and monitoring of the [PG&E PSPS site](https://www.pge.com) is recommended.

**Medium Range Forecast:**
1-3 month climate outlooks continue to show an above average temps and below average precipitation in fall especially in October/early November. Significant fire weather risk is forecast during this timeframe.

**Long Range Forecast:**
No change to forecast of moderate La Nina conditions peaking in early Winter 20/21. Some climate models starting to indicate possibly very dry Dec-Jan-Feb. However “Weak La Nina” water years (as is forecast for 2020/21) can vary greatly as per the graphics below.
Bonus:
In hoping this upcoming “weak La Nina” winds up closer to the 2016/17 pattern vs. the 2017/2018 pattern here is a link to a new video describing Atmospheric Rivers from Scripps Institute of Oceanography. Atmospheric Rivers video

Communications:
Last week, we unveiled the fish habitat mission video, which has had incredible engagement on social media and more than 1,200 views. We also landed great coverage on the front page of the Appeal Democrat for the potential use of Hammon Grove for the water education center.

Upcoming Meetings:
Special Board meeting – September 29, 2020 10:00 AM (Update on Grants Program)
Regular Board meeting – October 6 at 9:00 AM.
DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Director Hastey reported on the following:
  - ACWA fall conference coming up in December will be virtual.

No other reports were provided.

ADJOURNED AT: 10:21 A.M

__________________________________
Minutes Approved: Randy Fletcher, Chair
Date signed: ______________

__________________________________
ATTEST: James Mitrisin
Clerk of the Board of Directors