



Minutes
Regular Board Meeting
June 15, 2023

1. A. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Bublak called the meeting to 12:00 p.m.

B. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

C. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Director Bret Silveira, Director Pam Franco, Vice Chair Javier Lopez, Chair Amy Bublak

ABSENT:

2. **RECOGNITION, APPOINTMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS:** None

3. A. **SPECIAL BRIEFINGS:** None

B. **STAFF UPDATES:**

1. General Manager Granberg provided a presentation on project updates, design build contract status, environmental clearance/permitting, status, operations agreement, Section 4.2-staffing and pre-acceptance duties, Cities readiness, funding/financing update, public outreach, and project photos.

The board decided to plan for the ribbon cutting ceremony for November 14, 2023, and a backup date for November 15, 2023, with a target time to 10 am.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one spoke from the public.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

2. City of Turlock Municipal Director Dale Goodman provided an update on the City of Turlock staff recruitment effort. The City of Turlock council approved hiring bonuses for nine positions including the senior positions with an intent to encourage candidates to apply and current employees can receive referral bonuses if candidates they refer fill those vacant positions. All positions but the five senior operators are filled.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

Joe, public participant through Zoom, asked if the plant operator and or supervisor will be part of the operations until the senior positions are filled and if SRWA will go back to the original plan of having the plant operates as its own entity.

City of Turlock Municipal Director Dale Goodman responded that they are looking into contracting for the senior operator positions to run the plant. They have requested legal opinion to make sure this contract will not go against SFR loan. Goodman indicated that the operations would stay with the City of Turlock.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

3. Finance Director Moreno provided an update on financial activities as of June 9, 2023. Revenue and expenses reviewed.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

C. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

4. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND DISQUALIFICATIONS:** None

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- A. **Action:** Motion by Director Franco seconded by Director Silveira, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of May 18, 2023. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

6. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None

7. **SCHEDULED MATTERS:**

- A. General Manager Granberg requested authorization to issue a change order in the amount of \$2,371,308.29 to CH2MHILL Engineers Inc. Regional Surface Water Supply Project Design-Build Contract for an Uncontrollable Circumstances Claim for Metals Materials.

Director Franco asked Finance Director Moreno if he had time to review all the documents. Finance Director Moreno said he completed analysis of all the documents. There was an audit, and the assessment was completed, and he was comfortable with the change order. Finance Director Moreno indicated with large change orders a forensic analysis to make sure all aspects of the change order are reviewed. Finance Director Moreno indicated the change order is in line with the contract.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion by Director Silveira, seconded by Vice Chair Lopez, to authorize General Manager to issue a change order in the amount of \$2,371,308.29 to CH2MHILL Engineers Inc. Regional Surface Water Supply Project Design-Build Contract for an Uncontrollable Circumstances Claim for Metals Materials. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- B. Finance Director Moreno presented the proposed annual budget and minimum cash reserve target for 2023-24 fiscal year.

Director Silveira asked what the minimum cash reserve percentage is and when was that percentage adopted. Finance Director Moreno said that was identified at a prior year and it is about \$7 million dollars which equated to about 20% of the overall budget.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion by Director Franco, seconded by Director Silveira, adopting the Annual Budget for the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority for the 2023-24 Fiscal Year and adopting a minimum cash reserve for 2023-24. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- C. General Manager presented Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan for ongoing legal services in Phase 3 of the Regional Surface Water Supply Project and Phase 4 Legal Services to the Board of Directors in the amount of \$124,200 and authorizing the General Manager to execute the Amendment.

Director Franco asked if this went out to bid. General Manager Granberg responded that it did not, as this is presented as an amendment to their existing contract, but the board can choose to open up for bid. Director Franco asked to only have the amendment for one year of service and then open up as an RFP. Vice Chair Lopez asked when Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan was initially contracted. General Manager said they have been on board for about 5 years.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion by Director Franco seconded by Director Silveira, to authorize General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with Bartkiewicz, Kronick & Shanahan for ongoing legal services in Phase 3 of the Regional Surface Water Supply Project and Phase 4 Legal Services to the Board of Directors for only one year. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- D. General Manager presented Amendment No. 1 to the Granberg & Associates, Inc. General Manager Special Services Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2023-24.

Director Silveira said this contract would be helpful for the new general manager to ease into the role. Director Silveira’s concern is the increase from \$250 to \$300 an hour. General Manager Granberg said he has not increased his rate since his initial contract in 2018. Chair Bublak indicated she would like to start the notice of termination process since Municipal Director Dale Goodman is ready to take on the General Manager role. Legal Counsel Buckman responded that due to the Brown Act and the timeline the new contract was presented it was not able to be put into this meeting. Compensation contracts cannot be included in special meetings. Vice Chair Lopez asked General Manager Granberg if he can stay on board until the new General Manager Contract is presented. General Manager Granberg said he can stay on board with his current contract until the board decides the permanent General Manager. Chair Bublak indicated she would have liked to have known this item was going to be on the agenda before it was posted, as a courtesy to the board. Vice Chair Lopez thanked General Manger Granberg for his services.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion to authorize Amendment No. 1 to the Granberg & Associates, Inc. General Manager Special Services Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for Fiscal Year 2023-24. *(Motion failed due to lack of votes.)*

- E. General Manager presented on Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Special Services with Montrose Environmental for Phase 3 CEQA/NEPA/Permitting Support for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion by Director Silveira seconded by Director Franco, approving Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement for Special Services with Montrose Environmental for Phase 3 CEQA/NEPA/Permitting Support for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- F. General Manager presented on Amendment No. 10 to the Agreement for Special Services with West Yost Associates for Phase 3 Program Management Services for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project.

Chair Bublak opened public participation.

No one from the public spoke.

Chair Bublak closed public participation.

Action: Motion by Director Franco, seconded Director Silveira, approving Amendment No. 10 to the Agreement for Special Services with West Yost Associates for Phase 3 Program Management Services for the Regional Surface Water Supply Project. Motion carried 4/0 by the following vote:

Director Franco	Director Silveira	Vice Chair Lopez	Chair Bublak
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

- 8. **MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA:** None
- 9. **BOARD ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION:** Chair Bublak asked to have the General Manager Contract included in the July agenda. Board Secretary Gonsalves commented on the items the City of Ceres is working on for the surface water integration outreach.
- 10. **BOARD COMMENTS:** None
- 11. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** July 20, 2023, in Turlock
- 12. **CLOSED SESSION:** None
- 13. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Bublak adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



 Angelica Gonsalves, Board Secretary