



**ACTION ONLY MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

6425 Main Street,
Georgetown, California 95634

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 08, 2023
2:00 P.M.**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mitch MacDonald,
President

Donna Seaman, Vice President Mike Thornbrough, Treasurer
Michael Saunders, Director Robert Stovall, Director

MISSION STATEMENT

It is the purpose of the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District to:

- Provide reliable water supplies.
 - Ensure high-quality drinking water.
 - Promote stewardship to protect community resources, public health, and quality of life.
 - Provide excellent and responsive customer services through dedicated and valued staff.
 - Ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability are observed by balancing immediate and long-term needs.
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A record of the complete proceedings is available on the District's YouTube channel;
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CZMVdexNJ0>

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President MacDonald called the meeting to order at 2:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Director Seaman motioned to adopt the agenda pulling Item 8.C. Policy 5305 Environmental Compliance from the agenda for further review and discussion and recommended it go back to the Policy Committee. Director Thornbrough seconded the motion.

President MacDonald called for the vote.

Ayes: Director Seaman, Director Thornbrough, Director Saunders, Director Stovall, and President MacDonald

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion Passed **Unanimously**.

3. PUBLIC FORUM (Please review the below criteria before participating in the public forum.)

Morgan Galliano
Cherie Carlyon

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. Approval of Minutes

1. July 11th Regular Board Meeting

B. Adoption of Policy 2320 Harassment Discrimination and Retaliation

C. Adoption of Policy 2415 Social Media Use

D. Accepting Irrigation Committee Recommendation for removal of Eric Mead from the Irrigation Committee

E. Approve Update to GDPUD Organization Chart

Director Saunders requested Item 4. D. be pulled for discussion on principle. The removal of Committee members requires a discussion per policy and procedure.

Director Thornbrough motioned to approve the Consent Calendar with the exclusion of Item D. Director Seaman seconded the motion.

President MacDonald called for the vote.

Ayes: Director Seaman, Director Thornbrough, Director Saunders, Director Stovall, and President MacDonald

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion Passed **Unanimously.**

There was a Board discussion around the issue of item 4.D. The lack of attendance and communication from Mr. Mead was examined and deemed to meet removal requirements. District Policy states that after three absences a committee member may be removed.

Director Thornbrough motioned to accept Item 4. D. and remove Eric Mead from the Irrigation Committee. Director Seaman seconded the motion.

President MacDonald called for the vote.

Ayes: Director Seaman, Director Thornbrough, Director Saunders, Director Stovall, and President MacDonald

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion Passed **Unanimously.**

5. FINANCIAL REPORTS

The Office/Finance Manager Jessica Buckle fielded Board inquiries regarding the reports. Director Stovall shared that he appreciated the ability to look at percentages as opposed to amounts on the reports. The impacts of Irrigation sales revenue distribution across fiscal years given the later start of the season this year was examined. Director Saunders shared that the fund summary variants reflect negative amounts for fiscal activity. This issue is attributed to the Budget entry in the previous year and will be adjusted.

Public Comment:

Cherie Carlyon

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Board Reports

Director Saunders reported on the following items:

- The contract with the Regional Water Authority (RWA) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is now finalized. This means the projects for the Sacramento Regional Water Basin groundwater projects will be reimbursed for at least \$55,000,000.
- He attended the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Vice Presidential candidates events.
- There will be an ACWA webinar in September with General Manager Nicholas Schneider participating as a panelist.
- The Director participated in the National Night Out event.

Director Thornbrough reported on the following items:

- The Director attended the National Night Out event.

Director Seaman reported on the following items:

- Irrigation and Policy Committees
- The Director attended the National Night Out event.
- While training for animal evacuation she met and was able to thank Representative Kiley for his support to the District.

President MacDonald reported on the following items:

- Reported that he will be attending the CSDA Annual Conference and training.

B. Legislative Liaison Report

Director Saunders reported on the following:

- The legislative update was delivered. Two of the three water rights bills have been suspended. The bill moving forward has been amended and no longer poses the same risks to the water rights system.

C. Operation Manager's Report

Operation's Manager Adam Brown delivered the report which focused on the following items:

- Water use is higher than last year. Communicating best water use practices is a goal.
- Work done throughout the water system was reviewed.
- The Capital Improvements Projects (CIPs) for the year have begun. The water tank lining project is the first. The canal lining projects are a priority.
- The roads Up Country in the burn area need erosion mitigation and gravel in order to ensure infrastructure access during the upcoming wet season. This involves approximately six miles of area to address.

D. Water Resources Manager's Report

Water Resources Manager Alexis Elliot delivered the report which focused on the following items:

- Reports submitted the past month include the Zone report.
- The no-spill certification was received.
- Trees were removed from the Community Disposal System (CDS) field. The parameter fencing is older, and this is in preparation for replacement.
- Predicted winter rainfall to be high beginning in November.

E. General Manager's Report

The General Manager delivered his report which included the following items:

- FEMA meetings regarding flooding and the fire have been occurring.
- Union Official meetings have occurred.
- Work on the Voluntary Agreements (VAs) has been intensive.
- Representative Kevin Kiley has placed the District on his list for federal appropriations funding. The Sweetwater Treatment Plant Tank which is planned for the funds was discussed.
- Advertisement of Irrigation and Finance Committee vacancies will begin.
- The ACWA Conference will be in November. The General Manager and Operations Manager will both be attending.
- David Bilby CEO of Optimized Investment Partners delivered a presentation regarding District investments.

Public Comment:

Stephen Dowd

7. COMMITTEES

A. Irrigation Committee – Ray Griffiths, Chairman – Next Meeting Date August 17, 2023

The Committee continues to work on the Irrigation Ordinance to approve staff contributions.

B. Finance Committee – Andy Fisher, Chairman - Next Meeting Date August 24, 2023

The Committee received an Investment fund report. The reserve fund recommendation of changing from a 180-day fund to 120 days was discussed and approved by the Committee for referral to the Board of Directors. Member Miller was recognized for his years of distinguished service to the community on the Committee.

C. Ad Hoc Committee for Policy Manual – Next Meeting Date August 17, 2023

The Committee has three policies on the agenda for approval. Asset management, the Personnel, and Board of Directors policies are next on the docket for Committee focus. There will be a six-month update of the Committee work presented to the Board in October.

D. Grant Writing Committee – Next Meeting Date October 4, 2023

Morgan Galliano from Forest Resource Collective was congratulated and thanked for her work and assistance in procuring the \$1,92,220 in Cal FIRE grant funds for the FIRE Safe on the Divide Project. Pilot Hill Grange was thanked for their letter of support in providing an area of historical and cultural significance to the District. Work with FEMA for reimbursements of the work done under the Emergency Declaration continues. The Biden administration has made \$200,000,000 available for draught and climate resilience projects as part of the Investing in America Agenda. This is being reviewed by the grant writers as a potential opportunity for the District.

Public Comment:

No comments were received.

8. ACTION ITEMS

A. Review and Accept the Annual Financial Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2022.

No action was taken on this item as the final draught is still pending with the auditors.

B. Operating Reserve Transfer for FY 2021-22 and Reserve Fund Analysis

This item was tabled to revisit during the next meeting.

C. Approve Policy 5305 Environmental Compliance

This item was pulled for further review by the Policy Committee.

Public Comment:

Cherie Carlyon

9. PUBLIC HEARING

Open: President MacDonald opened the Public Hearing at 3:58 PM.

A. Direct Charges Ordinance 2023-03 Certification of Annual Direct Charges, Fees, and Assessments

Public Comment:

Cherie Carlyon

Closed: President MacDonald closed the Public Hearing at 4:02 PM.

Director Stoval motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-03 Certification of Annual Direct Charges. Direct Thornbrough seconded the motion.

President MacDonald called for the vote.

Ayes: Director Seaman, Director Thornbrough, Director Saunders, Director Stovall, and President MacDonald

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

The motion Passed **Unanimously**.

ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION AND ADJOURN OPEN SESSION TO CLOSED SESSION

President MacDonald adjourned the meeting to Closed Session at 4:02 PM.

10. CLOSED SESSION

A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov. Code, § 54956.9)

Name of Case: GDPUD v. PG&E

B. Conference with Labor Negotiators (Gov. Code § 54957.6)

Agency Designated Representatives: Nicholas Schneider, General Manager

Employee Organizations: Local 1 and Local 39

C. Report out of Closed Session

ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION AND OPEN REGULAR SESSION

President MacDonald opened the meeting to open session at 4:48 PM.

REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION- There was no report out of the Closed Session to deliver.

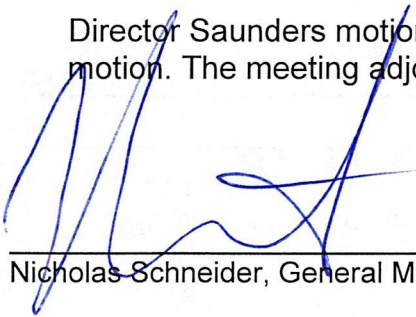
11. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONS TO FUTURE MEETING AGENDAS

Director Thornbrough requested that an item for support of the Forest Resource Collaborative grant initiative be included on the next agenda.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

- D. The next Regular Meeting will be September 12, 2023, at 2:00 PM., at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District, 6425 Main Street, Georgetown, California 95634.

Director Saunders motioned to adjourn the meeting. Director Thornbrough seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM.



Nicholas Schneider, General Manager

9-19-23

Date