

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
NORTH YUBA WATER DISTRICT  
Held at the District Office and Zoom  
8691 LaPorte Road, Brownsville  
Thursday, May 25, 2023**

**NOTICE:** This meeting will be physically open to the public at the District OFFICE located at 8691 La Porte Rd, Brownsville, Ca 95919. the meeting will also take place via zoom. Members of the public may attend and participate in the meeting via videoconference at:

*Join Zoom Meeting*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87410881466?pwd=bk9KR094WkZEQWIT09xdHFSak09xdHFSakOyUT09>

*Meeting ID: 874 1088 1466*

*Passcode: 030886*

*One tap mobile*

*+16699009128,,87410881466#,,,,\*030886# US (San Jose)*

*+16694449171,,87410881466#,,,,\* US*

*Dial by your location*

*+1 669 444 9471 US*

*+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)*

*Meeting ID: 87410881466*

*Passcode: 030886*

*Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kewd9SLFdw>.*

**COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in the meeting, please contact North Yuba Water district office staff at 530-675-2567 or fax 530-675-0462. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one-full day before the start of the meeting.

**A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 5:47 PM, at the District Office in Brownsville, CA.

<i>NAME</i>	<i>PRESENT</i>	<i>ABSENT</i>	<i>VISITORS INCLUDING:</i>
<i>PRESIDENT</i>	Marieke Furnee		Donna Corson, Charles
<i>VICE PRESIDENT</i>	Ann Plumb		Sharp, Kawanza Vinje,
<i>DIRECTORS:</i>	Gloria Bozza	Steve Ronneberg	Jeanie Caviler, Nancy
	Alton Wright		Casey, Dean Crumbo,
			Carolyn, Kara
<i>INTERIM GENERAL MGR</i>	Leona Harris		Dr. Rulik Perla, Rath
			Mosely
<i>ATTORNEY</i>	Paul Boylan		

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Director Wright.

**C. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON AGENDIZED ITEMS:**

The public has the opportunity to address the District Board of Directors about matters not on the agenda. Public comment is limited to no more than four (4) minutes per person, twenty (20) minutes total for all speakers. **NOTE: ALL PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS WILL BE MUTED UPON ENTRY INTO THE MEETING AND WILL ONLY BE UNMUTED TO ALLOW THEIR COMMENT. TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT BY TELECONFERENCE PRESS \*9.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Members of the public commented on the flow of irrigation, tired of fighting over water, empathy for annexed customers, proceed with caution when adding customers, a broader voice for irrigation customers and historians for the water. Woodleaf contract is ambiguous. Thank you to the board for water, good and timely answers. Why are we starting season at 10 gal per minute. Nice to see the ditch with water. South

Feather Water & Power has been very generous to reduce their use of water. Does not see the significance of the difference in minor inches, amazing work getting the water to flow. Happy to see what the board has done, and the honest effort being made.

President Furnee reminded the public that Interim General Manager Leona has put a frequently asked questions on the website regarding the miner's inch.

## DISCUSSION/OPEN SESSION ACTION CALENDAR

### **D. OPPRTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – Topics on the Agenda:**

Members of the public may address the Board concerning any item on the agenda. No other comments will be allowed. Any member of the public wishing to make comment shall identify the agenda item they intend to address, and they will be provided an opportunity to make comment on that item only. Public comment is limited to no more than two (4) minutes per person, twenty (20) minutes total for all speakers. **NOTE: ALL PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS WILL BE MUTED UPON ENTRY INTO THE MEETING AND WILL ONLY BE UNMUTED TO ALLOW THEIR COMMENT. TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT BY TELECONFERENCE PRESS \*9.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment.

### **E. CONSENT ITEMS**

1. Approval of Minutes for Regular Board Meeting of April 27, 2023
2. Approval of Payroll for the Month of April 2023: \$40,289.88
3. Approval of Bills for the Month of April 2023: \$380,162.72

Director Wright discussed with the board that he had asked for his comments to be attached to the minutes from the previous meeting. Director Wright requested that item 1 be amended to include his written comments from the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. General Counsel for the District instructed the board that to prevent a potential Brown Act, a short action item should be added on the next agenda regarding a possible action change to the agenda.

**Director Wright made a motion to approve consent item 1 as presented with an addendum to attach a copy of his comments from the April 27, 2023, meeting. Director Bozza seconded the motion.**

**The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.**

**Vice President Plumb made a motion to approve items 2 and 3 of the consent items. Director Wright seconded the motion.**

**The motion was approved with a unanimous vote.**

### **F. KATIE BURDICK: Will present to the Board an update-progress report on the Capital Improvement Plan**

Katie Burdick presented to the board the Capital Improvement Plan Overview. After meeting with staff, it was decided that the CIP will be divided in Source to Treatment Plant, Treatment Plant, Domestic Distribution System and Irrigation Distribution System. The components will then be put on a spreadsheet for review. Once complete the draft will be brought to the Board for critiquing.

**STAFF REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: The Board will possibly hear reports by District staff and receive their recommendations for future Board action.**

### **G. FINANCIAL MANAGERS REPORT:**

Financial Manger Heidi Naether reviewed Cash on Hand and Income Statements for the period ending April 30,2023. Total cash on hand in all accounts including reserves was \$4,717,368.89. Total income for the fiscal year to date (July 01, 2022 – April 30,2023) was \$4,721,568.84. Total expenses were \$2,007,528.25, leaving a net revenue over expenses of \$2,714,040.59. Expenses out of Reserves/Savings year to date totaled \$1,698,847.42.

### **H. INTERIM GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT/REQUESTS**

1. Report

Interim General Manager Leona Harris read a very sweet thank you note received in the mail. Leona also thanked Rath Mosely from South Feather for attending the meeting and for all the help that was received in getting the irrigation going

2. Requesting approval to work with RCAC to complete a Median Household Income study for the State Water Resource Control Boards, Department of Financial Assistance. This could insure 100% grant funding if we are reinstated as a disadvantaged community.

Leona asked the board for approval to work with RCAC to complete a Median Household Income study to re-instate NYWD as a disadvantaged community. The cost would be around \$20,000 . Director Wright spoke about obtaining solid data. There would be a good return on the investment.

**Director Bozza made a motion to give Interim General Manager: Leona Harris permission to contract with RCAC. President Furnee seconded the motion.**

**The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

3. Requesting approval to execute the grants that were awarded from Yuba Water Agency at their May 16<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting.

Leona reported that over one million dollars in grants were received from Yuba Water Agency for meter replacement project for \$240,000, share of cost with storage tanks for \$374,785, analysis for flume to turn into syphon for \$400,000 and storm damage for \$7,000.

**Director Wright made a motion for Leona to execute the grants received from Yuba Water Agency. Director Bozza seconded the motion.**

**The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

4. Requesting approval to interview and hire 2 fulltime employees for operations.

Leona reported that the district currently has 5 full time employees including Robert who does a lot of the paperwork and Kyle is working on water reads. One employee had 30 hours of overtime. Leona explained that they currently only have enough employees to maintain, not to fix anything.

**Director Bozza made a motion to give Leona approval to hire two full time employees. Vice President Plumb seconded the motion.**

**The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

5. Report on Irrigation Billing to accommodate for the delayed start date.

Leona discussed with the board the delay in the start of the irrigation season. Due to the season starting on May 15, 2023, billing will reflect the start date.

6. Report on the ACWA Conference

Leona discussed the conference and reported on the classes that were attended by her and President Furnee. She thanked the board for the opportunity to attend.

7. Operations Memorandum

Leona presented the Operations Memorandum. President Furnee asked about the main line break. Leona explained that it took about 5 to 6 hours to repair after it was necked down. There were a lot of

customers out of water and there was also an issue with notifications. They are working on ways to get the information out, including more social media.

**I. DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL, Paul Boylan:**

Mr. Boylan reported to the board that there are still a lot of legal issues and activity, good progress is being made. There is a lot of new issues which will be brought up in a future board meeting in a closed session. Mr. Boylan welcomed Director Bozza to her first regular meeting. Mr. Boylan also touched on some concerns that were brought up by the public which included the division map and the miners inch. He assured the public that the current board is working on them, and it will take time. Mr. Boylan stated that these are issues important to the board and they are addressing them.

**J. DIRECTORS REPORTS:**

Some of the highlights of Director Wright's report included a thank you to the public; we are at a much better place than we have been. He also gave a big shout out to Robert Sullivan and the field staff in their rapid response to the recent Challenge water line break. He thanked Interim Leona Harris for implementing his recommendation of alerting directors as soon as its conveniently possible about major infrastructure incidents. Director Wright's report also included reference to the rapid expansion at NYWD and suggested that professional customer service training, tools, communication strategies and standards in customer interaction and service be provided to new employees. Director Wright also spoke about the recent appointment meeting and the absence of board discussion, in his opinion, prior to nomination.

President Furnee, in response to Director Wrights comment regarding discussion, responded that when asked for discussion, no one spoke. President Furnee's report to the board included information on the recent conference hosted by the Association of California Water Agencies that she and Leona attended. While in the exhibition hall she was able to talk to a vendor executive regarding communicating productivity with the attorney that is reviewing our permits, the problem was resolved. Lectures attended included Paradise Irrigation District and Wildfire Preparedness, information on water quality tests at the point of sale, value of establishing and documenting baseline values to assist homeowners to make insurance claims, participating in a roundtable discussion about methods for communications to the public about water conservation and she also met with the director of Santa Clarita who installed a new residential water treatment system that removes the "forever chemicals". It was a very good and useful experience.

**FINAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Board allows the public an additional opportunity to address the District Board of Directors about matters on the agenda, including closed session agenda items. Closing public comment is limited to no more than five(5) minutes total, shared equally by members of the public who wish to speak.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Members of the public commented on a workshop for irrigation customers, tools for using water better, tapping into Yuba County to do training, the integrated plan is not functioning, and a solicitation grant.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Catherine L. Fonseca, Recording Secretary