

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
North Kern Water Storage District
Minutes of the Meeting of January 21, 2025

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of North Kern Water Storage District was in person - commencing at 7:00 a.m., on January 21, 2025.

Secretary Holtermann declared a quorum was present and called the meeting to order. The following Directors were present: Winn Glende, Kristen Camarena and Robert Holtermann. Others present: David Hampton (General Manager), Ram Venkatesan (Deputy General Manager) Marinelle Duarosan (Controller), Heather Williams (Operations Superintendent), Angel Ventura (Staff Engineer) of North Kern Water Storage District, Alan Doud, Scott Kuney, Brett Stroud and Mark Bateman (District Counsel - Young Wooldridge), Guests present: John Gaugel, Stephanie Hearn and Art Chianello.

Secretary Holtermann called the meeting to order at 7:03 am and opened the floor for Public Comments. At this time, there were none.

Board of Directors –

- (25-01) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes from December 13, 2024, Special Board Meeting.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)
- (25-02) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to approve the minutes from December 17, 2024, Regular Board Meeting.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

Consent Calendar –

Consent Calendar included the following:

- A. District Groundwater Levels
 - B. District Exchange Balances
 - C. Operations Report
 - D. Approve Task Order 25-01 for General Engineering Support, GEL Consultants
 - E. Approve Task Order 25-02 for General SGMA Support, GEI Consultants
- (25-03) Upon motion of Director Camarena, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Calendar.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

General Informational Items –

Watermaster Arthur Chianello reported that the most recent cloud seeding event occurred on December 27, 2024, and the last recorded precipitation in the Basin was on January 3, 2025, totaling 0.15 inches. Sierra Snow Surveys will conduct assessments of the 17 snow courses, which are situated at elevations ranging from 7,300 to 11,350 feet.

The natural inflow and outflow are both 300 cfs, and the lake storage is at 155,000 acre-ft. The outflow is being used for hydroelectric generation.

Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority/Kern Water Collaborative Update – Director Holtermann stated there was no meeting for the month. He stated that there was a recent Grower Education Meeting and that grower reporting is due March 1, 2025.

Financial Matters –

- (25-04) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the North Kern Water Storage District for the month of December as presented.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

- (RR25-05) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to receive and file the Treasurer's Report for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month of December as presented.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

The Financial Statements, Summary of Water Sales and the Accounts Receivable reports for the month of December were reviewed and accepted as presented.

- (25-06) Upon motion of Director Camarena, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the North Kern Water Storage District for the month of December as presented.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

- (RR25-07) Upon motion of Director Camarena, seconded by Director Glende and unanimously carried, to approve payment of the Accounts Payable balance for the Rosedale Ranch Improvement District for the month of December as presented.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

Consulting District Engineer – Ms. Hearn provided an update on the following:

Project Summary – Calloway Lining from Snow Road to 7th Standard Road – Construction began in December and is expected to be completed by April 2025. The work on NK622 & 623 -2018 and 2022 DRP projects work is mostly finished. The Contractor required an extension through January due to a delay in fabricating well discharges.

Status of Grants – GEI received the environmental notice to proceed for the Bureau of Reclamation for the 2022 DRP project. Additionally, a fully executed grant agreement is in place for the first component of the partnership project. The grant team has been monitoring the updates on Proposition 4 which was approved in the November Ballot. This measure allocates \$3.8 billion for various water projects, including \$386 million for groundwater banking and storage, \$200 million for multi-benefit land repurposing, \$75 million for regional conveyance, \$550 million for flood management, \$100 million for IRWMP Projects, and \$20 million for education.

IRWMP – The IRWMP and Ag Water Management Plans update are due in 2025.

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program/CV Salts – No significant activity to report at this time.

Budget & Personnel Committee – No report at this time.

Engineering Committee –

- (25-08) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with Pinnacle Surveying to perform Topographical Survey and with Krazan & Associates to perform Geotechnical Investigation for concrete lining the Calloway Canal (7th Standard Rd to 8-1 back up weir) for an amount not-to-exceed \$7,100, and \$4,800 respectively.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

Groundwater Committee –

General Manager Hampton reported that the final adopted Kern Subbasin GSP was submitted to the State Board on December 16th. The State Board Staff expressed concerns about the adopted plans and in response, the GSAs requested Staff provide their specific concerns in writing for review and resolution. Mr. Hampton also noted the Subbasin has not received the final Staff report but was expecting it by Thursday of this week. Additionally, preparations for the February 20 hearing, the timing of the panel request deadline of January 23, and timing of the panel presentation submission deadline of January 29 in the absence of a final Staff report were discussed.

(25-09) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to Approve the Kern Subbasin Cost Sharing Agreement for 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report, GEI Task Order and Todd Groundwater proposal to prepare and support the Annual GSP Report for Water Year 2024, and authorize the District to expend up to a 1/22nd share of \$112,940 equating to \$5,134
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

Produced Water Ad Hoc Committee – No report at this time.

Negotiating Committee – No report at this time.

Counsel of District –

(25-10) Upon motion of Director Glende, seconded by Director Camarena and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 25-10 for the Determination that No Election be held on March 4, 2025, for Divisions 1, 3, and 4 and Requesting Appointment of Directors.
(Ayes: Glende, Holtermann & Camarena: Noes: None, Absent: Andrew & Ackerknecht, Abstain: None)

Rosedale Ranch – No report at this time.

General Manager's Report – No report at this time.


The President publicly stated that the legal authorities for holding Closed Session at today's Board Meeting are the following sections of the California Government Code:

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL EXISTING LITIGATION
(Govt. Code Section 54956.9(a) and (d)(1))
 - (i) North Kern Water Storage District v. City of Bakersfield
(VCSC #56-2011-00408712-CU-CO-VTA)
 - (ii) Appeal of Regional Board General Order (R5-2013-0120) for Tulare Lake Basin to State Water Resources Control Board (re. Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program)
 - (iii) State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearing Office
Adjudicative Hearing on Pending Applications 31673, 31674, 31675, 31676, 31677, and 31819
 - (iv) North Kern Water Storage District v. Rosedale Estates
(BCV-24-101361)
 - (v) North Kern Water Storage District v. Crimson Resource Management
(BCV-23-101912)
 - (vi) Bring Back the Kern et al. v. City of Bakersfield (Defendant/Respondent) and Buena Vista Water Storage District et al. (Real Parties in Interest)
(BCV-22-1030220)
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL -ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: one case
- C. PERSONNEL MATTERS
(Govt. Code Section 54957)
- D. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
(Govt. Code Section 54956.8) – use of District and landowner facilities for various potential water management programs; negotiator, David Hampton

The above legal grounds were determined to exist based on advice of counsel, and discussion of such matters in an Open Session would cause prejudice to the District. The Board went into Closed Session at 8:05 a.m.

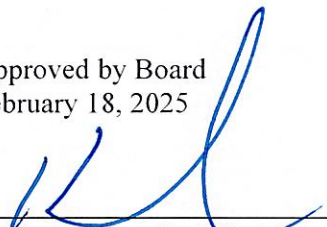
The Board reconvened back into open session at 11:00 a.m. There were no reportable actions.

Respectfully Submitted,



David Hampton, General Manager

Approved by Board
February 18, 2025



Kevin Andrew, President