

MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
JANUARY 17, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Paradise Irrigation District (PID) was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Bob Matthews followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

OPENING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Directors Elliott Prest, Chris Rehmann, Vice President Shelby Boston, and President Bob Matthews

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Division 4 Director seat vacant following the resignation of Director Marc Sulik effective December 14, 2023.

STAFF PRESENT: District Manager Tom Lando, Assistant District Manager Mickey Rich, Finance Manager/Treasurer Brett Goodlin, Engineer Blaine Allen, and Secretary Georgeanna Borrayo

ALSO PRESENT: PID Legal Counsel Dustin Cooper, Consultant Colleen Boak with Water Works Engineers, and Nicole Maddox with APTIM Environmental & Infrastructure, and members of the public

No public comments were received.

PUBLIC COMMENT  
(Item 2)

President Matthews announced new business agenda item 9.b., a Resolution of Appreciation to Marc Sulik, will be moved to the beginning of the meeting.

MEETING AGENDA  
ORDER

The Board of Directors expressed appreciation to Marc Sulik for his contributions and leadership during his service as a Board of Director from February 2, 2017 to December 14, 2023 and presented a framed resolution for his service to the District and the public.

RESOLUTION NO.  
2024-01 ADOPTED

It was moved by Director Boston and seconded by Director Rehmann to adopt Resolution No. 2024-01, a resolution of appreciation to Marc Sulik by the Board of Directors of the Paradise Irrigation District. Directors' votes were polled as follows by roll call:

APPRECIATION  
PRESENTED TO  
MARC SULIK  
(Item 9.b.)

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews

NOES: None

ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

President Matthews announced the Board will adjourn to closed session to discuss agenda items 3.a. to 3.f. Following an opportunity for public comment, the Board adjourned to closed session at 5:36 p.m. regarding the following:

CLOSED SESSION  
(Item 3.a. – 3.f.)

3.a. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Paragraph 1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9): Bay-Delta proceedings, including the Delta Conveyance Project, the associated environmental document and change petition pending before the State Water Resources Control Board, and the planned update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan.

*Closed Session Announcement: Direction has been provided to Legal Counsel.*

CONTINUED –  
CLOSED SESSION

- 3.b. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (California Government Code section 54956.9 (d)(1)). Pacific Gas & Electric Company Bankruptcy Proceedings, including PID claim against Fire Victim Trust. Bankruptcy Case No. 19-30088 (DM).

*Closed Session Announcement: Board members considered execution of Fire Victim Trust Releases. A motion was made by Director Boston and seconded by Director Prest to authorize execution of Releases to finalize payments from the Fire Victim Trust. Motion was approved by unanimous vote 4-0.*

- 3.c. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One potential case.

*Closed Session Announcement: Direction has been provided to Legal Counsel.*

- 3.d. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957(b)). District Manager

*Closed Session Announcement: A performance evaluation discussion was held and direction provided.*

- 3.e. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957(b)). Assistant District Manager

*Closed Session Announcement: A performance evaluation discussion was held and direction provided.*

- 3.f. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION (Government Code Section 54957(b)). Finance & Accounting Manager

*Closed Session Announcement: A performance evaluation discussion was held and direction provided.*

CLOSED SESSION  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
(Item 4)

President Matthews reconvened the regular meeting at 6:24 p.m. and provided closed session announcement information as listed in italicized print under each closed session item above.

APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT  
CALENDAR  
(Item 5.a – 5.c.)

Board Members reviewed Consent Calendar items as follows:

- 5.a. Approval of Meeting Agenda Order
- 5.b. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of December 20, 2023
- 5.c. Approval of Equipment Purchase – Bare Blower for the Water Treatment Plant

It was moved by Director Boston and seconded by Director Prest to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews

NOES: None

ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**



ACCEPTANCE OF  
TREASURER'S  
REPORT FOR  
PERIOD ENDING  
DEC. 31, 2023  
(Item 6.a.)

Board members reviewed a written Treasurer's Report prepared by Finance & Accounting Manager Brett Goodlin for the period ending December 31, 2023, highlighting the District's cash position, debt service analysis, operational overview, investment income, and grant income and reimbursements.

It was moved by Director Prest and seconded by Director Rehmann to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for the period ending December 31, 2023.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews

NOES: None

ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

STATEMENT OF  
INVESTMENT  
POLICY  
(Item 6.b.)

Finance Manager Brett Goodlin reported the District's Investment Policy requires an annual review of the policy and states the Board shall "amend it as appropriate or otherwise ratify its continuance." No changes are recommended at this time.

It was moved by Director Boston, seconded by Director Rehmann to reaffirm continuance and delegation of investment functions as provided in PID Rules and Regulations Chapter 14, Investment Policy.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews

NOES: None

ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

EXPENSE  
APPROVAL  
REPORT FOR THE  
MONTH OF  
DECEMBER 2023  
APPROVED  
(Item 6.c.)

Board members reviewed accounts payable expense reports for the month of December 2023. It was moved by Director Prest and seconded by Director Boston to approve payments consisting of check numbers 58074 to 58096 in the amount of \$1,472,864.91, and electronic payments of \$553,112.00 by EFT for the month of December 2023 for total payments of \$2,025,997.91, and authorization of a similar amount allowing or adjusting for extraordinary budget or Board approved items during the month of January, 2024.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews

NOES: None

ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

MID-YEAR BUDGET  
REVIEW FOR  
2023-2024  
DIRECTION GIVEN  
FOR FURTHER  
REVIEW BY  
FINANCE  
COMMITTEE  
(Item 6.d.)

Finance Manager Brett Goodlin provided a mid-year budget update for fiscal year 2024, noting regular, cash revenue budget is recommended to increase \$873,000, and regular, operating expense revenue is recommended to increase \$1,303,000, which leaves a year-end operating budget deficit of \$195,768. Treasurer Goodlin added he anticipates further savings to be identified that will decrease the budgeted operating deficit.

Following discussion, direction was provided to staff to defer to the Finance Committee for additional review to detail the adjustments that need to be made and report back at the February Board meeting.

PID STAFF &  
CONSULTANT  
REPORT UPDATES  
(Item 7.a. – 7.g.)

Board members reviewed written staff and consultant reports presented in the agenda packet. District Manager Tom Lando further reported the following: 1) Concerns reported from U.S. security officials about cyber threats and security measures the District has taken to protect against cyberattack; 2) A public workshop was held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. to provide an overview of the Draft Municipal Services Review for PID; and 3) The Environmental review process for the Water Rights extension is anticipated to be completed in July 2024.

Assistant District Manager Mickey Rich reported the Customer Assistance Program (CAP) was created for low-income households in 2016 and provides a monthly \$10.00 service charge subsidy to the active rate for qualified applicants paid from the District's property tax revenue.

UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS:

PROPOSED  
AMENDMENTS TO  
CUSTOMER  
ASSISTANCE  
PROGRAM (CAP)  
(Item 8.a.)

The Board has requested a proposal for extending CAP to ready-to-serve rate customers. Many of the lots in question are investment properties. Because there are many instances where customers are preparing to rebuild the property, staff recommends the Customer Assistance Program for vacant lots be limited to a single lot per owner with an active building permit application.

Board members discussed extending the current Customer Assistance Program to vacant parcel accounts and not requiring an active building permit to qualify. Eligibility recommendations would be applied for active residential customers and one water service account for vacant land property owners with proof of income.

It was moved by Director Boston and seconded by Director Rehmann to authorize amendments to the Customer Assistance Program to approve a monthly \$10.00 service charge subsidy for eligible active residential customers and up to one water service account for vacant land property owners.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

Staff will prepare an amendment to PID Rules and Regulations, Chapter 7.10 Customer Assistance Program, to present for approval at the February Board of Directors meeting.

Staff confirmed the funding allotted to Paradise Irrigation District (PID) under the Intergovernmental Subrecipient Agreement with the Town of Paradise is \$3.6 million. PID submitted a set of projects accepted by the California Department of Housing and Community Development, which included rehabilitation of the water storage tanks. The grant funding will be allocated toward this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
BLOCK GRANT –  
DISASTER  
RECOVERY  
SUBRECIPIENT  
AGREEMENT  
(Item 9.a.)

It was moved by Director Rehmann and seconded by Director Prest to authorize approval of the Intergovernmental Subrecipient Agreement between the Town of Paradise and the Paradise Irrigation District to receive Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery funds and authorize the District Manager to execute the Agreement on behalf of the District.

AYES: Directors Boston, Prest, Rehmann, and President Matthews  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Division 4 Director Seat Vacant

**Motion passes 4-0**

Directors discussed potential consolidation of committees and appointment of Board Members to committees for 2024, as well as a letter of interest submitted by Marc Sulik to serve as a public member on the Community Relations Committee. The following committee assignments for 2024 were confirmed as follows:

2024 COMMITTEES  
OF THE DISTRICT  
(Item 9.c.)

**Standing Committees:**

**Administration & Personnel:** Directors Bob Matthews and Shelby Boston (Chairperson)



CONTINUED –  
2024 COMMITTEES  
OF THE DISTRICT

**Finance:** Directors Chris Rehmann & Bob Matthews (Chairperson)  
Addition of Marc Sulik as public member

**Community Relations:** Director Elliott Prest (Chairperson). Additional board member representation will remain vacant for new board member appointment.  
Addition of Marc Sulik as public member

**Town of Paradise / PID Liaison:** Directors Shelby Boston and Bob Matthews

**Ad Hoc Committees / Delegate Appointments:**

**Ad Hoc Demonstration Garden Committee:** Consolidated under the Community Relations Committee.

**Ad Hoc Customer Recovery Support Committee discontinued.** (Moving forward, matters relating to the recovery and rebuild process will be reviewed under the Community Relations Committee).

**Ad Hoc District Manager Recruitment Committee:** Directors Bob Matthews and Shelby Boston (Co-chairpersons)

**ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority Director Representative & Alternate:**  
Director Chris Rehmann- JPIA Director Representative  
Brett Goodlin – JPID Alternate

MEETINGS OF THE  
BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS –  
REGULAR  
MEETINGS  
(Item 9.d.)

Board Members discussed the meeting time for regular meetings of the Board of Directors. Currently, the scheduled monthly meetings during the months of June and December are held during daytime hours at 8:30 a.m. and the time of all other regular meetings of the Board are conducted at 5:30 p.m. Directors expressed interest in moving all regular meetings to the evening time of 5:30 p.m. and provided direction to staff to prepare the necessary resolution and policy amendment to present at the February Board of Directors meeting.

DIRECTORS'  
COMMENTS

There were no Board of Director comments.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was moved by President Matthews to adjourn the meeting. The regular meeting of the PID Board of Directors was adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

  
Georgeanna Borrayo, Secretary

  
Bob Matthews, President