

A meeting of the GFWD was opened at O'Neill Agri-Management Office on December 16, 2019 starting at 1:30 PM.

PRESENT: Paul Stewart, Diane Kirk, Ken Basila, Steve Emmert, Seth Kirk, Tom Campagne and Don Roberts

ABSENT: None

PUBLIC: Garth Pecchenino (by phone) - QK Consulting; Jerome Keene - QK Consulting; Michael Naito - Farmer; Roy Catania - O'Neill Agri-Management

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: On a motion by P Stewart and a second by K Basila, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 18, 2019 were unanimously approved as emailed

3. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: No potential conflicts were identified.

4. GSA/GSP (SGMA):

a) Proposition 218 Process

(i) (ii) & (iv) At 1:40 PM S Emmert opened the Public Hearing for the Proposition "218" Assessment. There were no landowners or landowner representatives in the audience. No one spoke for or against the Proposal. S Emmert called for any additional Ballots. None were presented.

Don reported one landowner sent an email stating his Ballots were "in the mail". Don advised he had not received these ballots as of 12:30 PM on December 16th when he left to come to the meeting.

The District received a letter from Madera Irrigation District's attorney stating their position on why they would be exempt from any assessments from this proposal. The letter also provided an option that would allow their vote to go from "No" to "Yes".

S Emmert declared the Public hearing closed.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the MID letter of protest, but no action was taken. J Keene of QK will make a review of the "218" Statutes and verify the current status of the MID parcel. Don provided a map showing the MID parcel within the Gravelly Ford Water District. Don also advised that when MID annexed their Madera Ranch lands into MID LAFCo left a 111 acre island essentially in the middle of the area. This property was owned by Grimmway at that time and is surrounded on three sides by MID and abuts up to GFWD on the south. The current owner has indicated a desire to annex to GFWD. T Campagne will send a letter of response to MID's attorney.

(iii) The "218" Election Ballots received by the District were given to Michael Naito and Roy Catania (designated "Neutral Observers") at 2:05 PM for an Official Ballot Count.

At 2:50 PM, M Naito and R Catania advised the Board that the results of the "218" Ballot Count for the 8,314.87 votes are as follows:

YES	NO	NOT VOTING (received or not returned)
4,937.89	1,092.89	2,283.74
59.38%	13.144%	27.466%

(v) Upon a motion by K Basila and a second by P Stewart, the Board voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 2019-08 certifying the Ballot results and authorizing the Proposition 218 Assessment Process. Don will send a letter to all landowners and grower representatives as well as the District correspondence email list.

b) Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan

(i) Don advised the District received two (2) comment letters regarding the District's draft GSP and copies of three (3) comment letters addressed to Stephanie Anagnoson, Director of Water and Natural Resources for Madera County, regarding the draft GSP for the Madera Subbasin. This correspondence is listed below:

FROM	Gravelly Ford Draft GSP ADDRESSED TO	DATED
Fresno Irrigation District.	GFWD	Dec 2, 2019
North Kings GSA	GFWD	Nov 27, 2019

FROM	Madera Subbasin Draft GSP ADDRESSED TO	DATED
North Kings GSA	Stephanie A, Madera County cc GFWD, et al	Nov 8, 2019
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration	Stephanie A, Madera County cc GFWD, et al	Rec Dec 2, 2019

G Pecchenino advised he is working with K Schmidt on a response to FID and North Kings comment letters to Gravelly Ford.

Don noted the concerns raised in the NOAA letter did not reference any specific sections of the Bureau of Reclamation's Environmental Analysis or Impact Report which seemed surprising. Don will work with G Pecchenino on draft remarks to forward to Madera County for a response to NOAA.

(ii) Discussion on Groundwater Sustainability Plan and action was deferred to January meeting.

c) T Campagne stated the November 28th version is acceptable to all parties except Newstone. There has been communication with DWR over the untenable position of Newstone not signing. DWR advised the Agreement should be submitted by the Subbasin signers. Upon a motion by P Stewart and a second by D Kirk, the Board voted unanimously to authorize Manager Don to sign the November 28th version of the Coordination Agreement subject to concurrence by T Campagne for any minor changes that may be added. T Campagne also requested the January meeting agenda include a Closed Session to discuss legal matters and possible litigation.

5. WATER SUPPLY: Water supply is 100% CI 1 and 0% CI 2. The Bureau feels there will be sufficient water in San Luis and Shasta so no need to call on Friant water for the Exchange Contractors.
6. SYSTEM MAINTENANCE: One of the Cottonwood Creek weirs below ave 7 has not had the uprights in place for at least 2 years. The uprights were dug out and raised to the catwalks. The upright in CWC at the Gravelly Ford Canal (GFC) was replaced. Will repair gate frame at north end of the district in the GFC. The meter on Toor's service will be replaced this week with the meter head being well above ground and level instead of the current below grade location. Will be servicing other meters as needed. It appears we will have to contract with a construction contractor to repair the leak between Naito and Gallo. Don would like to contract with Provost & Pritchard for recommendations on isolating the pipelines at Ave 4 ½ and Rd 21. The Board felt we could handle hiring someone to install a box with valves or install in-line valves to accomplish what is needed. The intake channel will be inspected to see if work is needed.

7. **MADERA REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT GROUP:** Don reported J Habben who is now the Assistant was this Group's Coordinator. Her services will no longer be available because of her workload with the County.
The Group has reduced the salary of the "note taker, et al" and they will pay the County the difference while Group decides what route to go for "staffing".
The initial proposal was to raise dues from \$1,500/year to \$4,500/year. Several of us indicated any substantial increase in "dues" will cause a loss of paying members. The chair suggested a proposal of \$2,500/year. This amount was acceptable to the majority.
8. **ANNEXATION:** All items are now acceptable to LAFCo Executive Officers. David B said he will try to get us on the January Agenda. It will depend on comments received from agencies that may be affected by the Annexation.
9. **FINANCIAL REPORT:** a) The Board was presented with a summary of the December 16, 2019 bills, the December 16, 2019 summary of the District's Temporary Investments and the December 2019 Income & Expenses for the year, along with the monthly totals of Temporary Investments for 2017, 2018, and 2019. On a motion by P Stewart and a second by D Kirk, the Board voted unanimously to approve payment of the December bills in the amount of \$12,273.91.
11. **CORRESPONDENCE & MANAGER'S REPORT:** The District received two letters from Doug Gosling ESQ requesting the following for year 2020:
a) Board Agenda and Packets and/or notices Re Meetings
b) Any and all notices regarding CEQA or NEPA
Don advised that Gosling is already on the email list of all notices.

Manager's Report: Don advised the Board the O'Neill Agri-Management Office will be closed on January 20th which is the next scheduled meeting date. Upon a motion by K Basila and a second by D Kirk, the Board voted unanimously to change the January meeting date to January 13, 2020 at 1:30 PM at the O'Neill Agri-Management Office.
Don will send out an immediate change of date notice.
12. **BOARD COMMENTS:** None
13. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting declared adjourned at 3:20 PM.

Next scheduled meeting is for Monday January 13, 2020 at 1:30 PM at the O'Neill Agri-Management Office.

Kenneth Basila, Secretary/Treasurer