

**Amsterdam Water District
Special Board Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2022
ZOOM MEETING**

ATTENDANCE:

DIRECTORS

Bert Crane Jr:	President
Mary Crane Couchman:	Vice President
Benjamin Crane:	Secretary
Karen Crane McNab:	Director
Craig Johnson:	Director

OTHERS

Brad Samuelson:	Water & Land Solutions, LLC
Mike Gardner:	Water & Land Solutions, LLC
Art Godwin:	Robbins, Godwin, et al.
Mark Couchman	The Silverado Group

CALL TO ORDER

President Crane called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Gardner stated that all Directors were on the Zoom call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 22-2 RELATING TO COVID RESTRICTIONS, MEETINGS, ETC.

Upon a motion by Director Benjamin Crane and seconded by Director Johnson, Resolution 22-2 was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Benjamin Crane and seconded by Director Johnson, the January 11, 2022, minutes were unanimously approved.

BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon a motion by Director Benjamin Crane and seconded by Director Couchman, the financial report and payment of bills were unanimously approved as presented.

MERCED IRRIGATION DISTRICT (MID) 10-YEAR WATER TRANSFER: UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported that MID allocated 1.1 acre foot per acre to their in-district growers and said that it is very unlikely that MID was going to have out of district water to sell to Amsterdam Water District this year. The normal allocation for in-district growers is over 4 acre feet per acre.

PROJECTS: PROP 68 UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported that the District submitted 4 projects for the Prop 68 round 2 grant funding for a total of \$2,015,175. The projects include 3 recharge ponds and 1, one mile 21" pipeline.

Because the District doesn't have a in-place water right yet and not located in a high priority groundwater basin, Mr. Samuelson reported that the District only received \$100,000 for a planning grant which includes engineering, geotech, and design.

The Board decided to give Water and Land Solutions direction to get proposals from experienced engineering firms to prepare a plan for recharge and surface water projects.

Upon a motion by Director Benjamin Crane and seconded by Director Johnson, the direction to get proposals was unanimously approved.

AIRBORNE ELECTROMAGNETIC SURVEYS (AEM): UPDATE

Mr. Gardner gave a brief presentation on Airborne Electromagnetic Surveys. He explained that the purpose of the surveys is to understand the aquifer structures and it also helps in the development of identifying areas for groundwater recharge. DWR is conducting these surveys in high and medium priority groundwater basins and specifically conducting a survey around the Merced El Nido area.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported that GSA has started the process to have a prop 218 election which is a requirement to assess landowners, but they must elect to assess themselves. The 218 election will raise money to fund a land fallowing program. A rate study must be completed to determine the cost and the benefits associated with the fee. The elections will be held in May and there hoping in goes to the county in July and then show up on the tax bill in October-November. 50% plus one must oppose the rate increase then the public agency can increase the rates for 6 months.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Bert Crane Jr:	No report
Director Couchman:	No report
Director Benjamin Crane:	No report
Director Johnson:	No report
Director McNab:	No report

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items to report.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

April 12, 2022, at 1:00 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

Get engineering estimates for the 4-surface water and recharge projects

ADJOURNMENT

President Crane adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am.



Secretary

Benjamin C. Crane