

**Amsterdam Water District
Special Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2023**

ATTENDANCE:

DIRECTORS

Bert Crane Jr:	President
Mary Crane Couchman:	Vice President
Benjamin Crane:	Secretary
Karen Crane McNab:	Director-Zoom
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-Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

President Crane called the meeting to order at 10:34 am.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Gardner stated that all Directors were present and on Zoom call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Couchman and seconded by Director Johnson, the November 8, 2022, minutes were unanimously approved.

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

Upon a motion by Director Ben Crane and seconded by Director Johnson, the financial report and payment of bills were unanimously approved as presented by Mr. Gardner.

REVIEW OF GROUNDWATER ELEVATIONS:

Mr. Gardner presented 4 hydrographs that showed the groundwater levels have dropped an average of 28 feet since 2012.

PROJECTS: PROP 68 WATER PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported that Merced Subbasin received a total of 7.6 million dollars for 10 projects. Merced Irrigation District (MID) is the applicant for the Merced Subbasin. Amsterdam Water District (AWD) received \$100,000 from the Prop 68 grant for planning purposes.

Per the Governors orders, all recharge projects are exempt from CEQA. However, geotechnical borings require CEQA. The grant is set up for AWD to spend the money up front and then get reimbursed by DWR.

PROJECTS: TEMPORARY WATER RIGHTS APPLICATION

Mr. Samuelson reported the MID was granted a temporary water right on Mariposa Creek. A similar application will be filed next year on Bear Creek and Canal Creek.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported that a little over 7,000 AF of demand has signed up for the land fallowing program. The price ranged from \$350 to \$850 per acre per year for 3-5 years of fallowing. The GSA is trying to eliminate 15,000 af of demand which equates to approximately 3,300 acres that will need to be fallowed.

Mr. Samuelson also reported that groundwater allocations will begin in 2026. Several committees will be working out the details.

Lastly, Mr. Samuelson reported that the Merced County groundwater ordinance might be revised, and the County is talking about pushing those responsibilities to the local GSA's

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

Mr. Gardner reported that the 700 forms are due March 31, 2023, and also reported that Bert, Mary and Ben are up for re-election this year. Mr. Gardner will be working closely with them to get the paperwork filled out by the proper timelines.

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

March 14, 2023, at 1:00 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Send groundwater elevation graphs to all directors and landowners.
2. Send out invoices for the MID 10-year water transfer program.

ADJOURNMENT

President Crane adjourned the meeting at 11:31 am.


Secretary

Benjamin C. Crane