Amsterdam Water District Board Meeting Minutes November 8, 2022

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.

CALL TO ORDER

President Crane called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Gardner stated that all Directors were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Director Johnson and seconded by Director Couchman, the September 13, 2022, minutes were unanimously approved.

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

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

BOARD TO CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FY2023 BUDGET AND VOLUNTARY ASSESSMENT

Upon a motion by Director McNab and seconded by Director Couchman, the FY2023 budget (\$124,308) and voluntary assessment (irrigated \$29.96 & non- irrigated \$.54 per acre) were unanimously approved as presented by Mr. Gardner.

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. The Department of Water Resources (DWR), MID, and AWD have been working diligently on the draft grant agreement and Mr. Samuelson reported that the agreement has been officially signed. Staff will begin working with Summers Engineering to start the process of the geotechnical boring hole study for the three groundwater recharge projects. 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 AWD along with adjacent water districts applied for a flood water right application a few years ago. Until the flood water right application is awarded AWD had to submit a temporary flood water right application. Mr. Samuelson reported that due to the streamline process, AWD and La Paloma MWC will not be included in the application this year. Nothing new to report.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UPDATE

Mr. Samuelson reported Prop 218 passed a few months ago which will have a new \$24 GSA tax assessment fee on the next tax role. The GSA recently had a workshop on the Land Fallowing Program. Beginning in October, landowners can fill out an application to give a bid to the GSA to fallow their land. So far, only four applications have been received. 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.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Director Bert Crane Jr:

Director Couchman:

Director Benjamin Crane:

Director Johnson:

Director McNab:

No report

No report

No report

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing to report

NEXT BOARD MEETING DATE

December 13, 2022, at 1:00 pm.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Send out 2023 board meeting calendar invites to all board members

ADJOURNMENT

President Crane adjourned the meeting at 1:49 pm.

Secretary

Benjamin C. Crane