



Board of Directors and Officials
Barbara Balen (TUD) – Secretary
Randy Fletcher (YWA) – Director
Jim Holmes (County of Placer) – Director
Mike Lee (PCWA) – President
Dan Miller (County of Nevada) – Director
Paul Molinelli Jr. (AWA) – Director
Brian Oneto (County of Amador) – Director
Scott Ratterman (CCWD) – Vice-President
Vacant – Director

Dave Breninger, retired (PCWA) – Governmental Affairs Official
Tom Cumpston, Legal Counsel

Jim Branham – Interim Executive Director

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2021

ITEM 1

Location:

El Dorado Water Agency, 4330 Golden Center Dr C, Placerville, CA 95667

❖ Call the Meeting to Order – Mike Lee, President at 10:00 a.m.

In Attendance: Barbara Balen, Randy Fletcher, Jim Holmes, Mike Lee, Dan Miller, Scott Ratterman,

Absent: Brian Oneto, Paul Molinelli, Jr.

Participants: Jim Branham, Tom Cumpston, Rayann La France

❖ Introductions, Announcements, Agenda Item Changes, Public Comment

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Consideration to approve the May 2021 Board Minutes

Motion: Jim Holmes

Second: Dan Miller

Motion passed unanimously.

Action: Approved May 14, 2021 Board Minutes

2. Discussion of Possible Creation of a 501(c)(3) Entity

Jim Branham and Tom Cumpston presented summary of meeting with Foundation Group and discussed the two-step process for becoming a 501(c)(3) organization.

Recommendation:

- The ED should conduct the additional research necessary to determine best estimates of cost and time commitments associated with pursuing 501(c)(3) status and report back to the Board at the next meeting.
- MCWRA should explore identification of an existing 501(c)3 organization to partner with MCWRA and serve as a fiscal agent (applicant) for grants benefitting member agencies. If there is no such suitable partner available, MCWRA should work collaboratively with member agencies and other eligible entities on a case-by-case basis.

Action:

- a) Recommendation approved.
- b) Jim Branham will reach out to Sierra Business Council regarding potential partnership.
- c) Randy Fletcher and Dan Miller will be in DC next week and will attempt to meet with IRS staff while there to discuss receiving tax exempt status.
- d) Jim Branham and Tom Cumpston will participate in additional consultation call with Foundation Group (open to Board members who want to participate).
- e) Tom Cumpston recommended moving forward with the State of California incorporation process as the first step.
- f) Discussion on topic to be continued during next Board meeting.

3. Review and Approval of 2021-22 Budget

Motion: Scott Ratterman

Second: Randy Fletcher

Action: Approve proposed budget with the exception to reallocate \$3,000 from Potential Realized Savings to Legal for initiating 501(c)(3) process.

4. Discussion of the Process for Recruitment and Selection of an Executive Director

Jim Branham presented the final draft recruitment flyer for the Board's review and feedback. Board members offered suggested changes to flyer prior to distribution.

Action:

- a) Jim Branham will coordinate conference call with Willie Whittlesey, Andy Feck, Ken Payne, and Jim Abercrombie to discuss recruitment process and potential leads for new Executive Director.
- b) Include the following changes to the recruitment flyer and proceed with the process as outlined:
 - Add 501(c)(3) experience to flyer under Ideal Candidate
 - Add PCWA's role in recruitment process
 - Add c/o Placer County Water Agency on address for submitting resumes
- c) Search Committee will meet prior to interviews to review resumes received (meeting scheduled for July 29, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.).
- d) Interviews are scheduled for August 4, 2021 and will be held at Placer County Water Agency office in Auburn.
- e) Search Committee will be responsible for bringing forth a recommendation to the full board at the August Board meeting.

5. Discussion of Recruitment Strategy for New Members

Jim Branham discussed strategy for recruiting new members and mentioned that invoices for membership dues were sent out on June 15, 2021. Scott Ratterman suggested reaching out to Associate members via email to find out what vendors they are using to open up dialogue related to benefits of membership with MCWRA.

Recommendation:

- Board members identify potential members that they plan to contact and provide the information to Rayann. If there is interest an invoice packet will be sent to the appropriate official.

Action: Recommendation approved. Additionally, the following actions were discussed:

- a) Jim Holmes will contact Laura Peters at Nevada Irrigation District should be contacted as invitation to return as MCWRA member.
- b) Mile Lee will coordinate a “2x2 meeting” with PCWA and NID, which will be discussed with Josh Alpine during the week of June 28, 2021.
- c) Jim Branham will reach out to General Managers of Executive members for additional leads for new members.
- d) Jim Branham will reach out to Dan Tomascheski at SPI to discuss benefits of membership.
- e) Scott Ratterman will reach out to Joel Metzger at Utica to discuss renewal of membership.
- f) Jim Branham will reach out to Tim Johnson at CA Rice Growers to discuss benefits of membership.

6. Discussion of an Issues Summit for Summer 2021

Jim Branham discussed, and Board members agreed, that there is strong interest in an in-person meeting between late September and early November. An in-person meeting would also give the new Executive Director an opportunity to be announced/introduced. The Board suggested panel discussions during the event consist of the future in developing water resources and forest health. The panels will be comprised of key partners from El Dorado Water Agency, Placer County Water Agency, Yuba Water Agency, and possibly Nevada Irrigation District. Other speakers will be invited to present as well.

Recommendation:

- Move forward with planning an event for late September or early October, based on availability of key participants. Authorize the ED to amend the existing contract with EN2 Resources to provide for support in the planning and execution of the event.
- ED will also follow up on the potential for a grant workshop to be held in late summer.

Action: Recommendation approved.

7. Board Member/Executive Director Comments

Action: No action taken.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for July 30, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom. A Board meeting in August is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on August 27, 2021, location TBD.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.