# TRI-DAM PROJECT MINUTES OF THE JOINT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

March 20, 2025 Oakdale, California

The Joint Boards of Directors of the Oakdale Irrigation District and the South San Joaquin Irrigation District met in joint session at the office of Oakdale Irrigation District in Oakdale, California, on the above date for the purpose of conducting business of the Tri-Dam Project, pursuant to the resolution adopted by each of the respective Districts on July 29, 1955.

President Orvis called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

### **OID DIRECTORS**

### **SSJID DIRECTORS**

### **DIRECTORS PRESENT:**

BRAD DEBOER
JACOB DEBOER
HERMAN DOORNENBAL
TOM ORVIS
ED TOBIAS

JOHN HOLBROOK BILLY VAN RYN DAVID ROOS GLENN SPYKSMA MIKE WESTSTEYN

### Also Present:

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, Tri-Dam Project; Tanya Bruchacek, Executive Asst., Tri-Dam Project; Alex Brown, O&M Manager, Tri-Dam Project; Tracey McKnight, Compliance Coordinator, ScotMoody General Manager, OID; Sharon Cisneros, CFO, OID; Peter Rietkerk, General Manager, SSJID; Mia Brown, General Counsel, SSJID

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No Public Comment.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. Approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2025
- 2. Approve the Treasurer's report for the one month ending January 31, 2025
- 3. Approve the February 2025 Statement of Obligations

Director Brad DeBoer moved to approve items one, two, and three as presented. Director Roos seconded the motion.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

### **ACTION CALENDAR**

### ITEM #4 Discuss and Consider approval of the purchase of a 2025 GMC 1500 4x4 Truck

Alex Brown Operations and Maintenance Manager presented a proposal to purchase a 2025 GMC 1500 4 x 4 truck.

Directors provided questions and comments clarifying that the truck was replacing a vehicle from the fleet with the retired vehicle to be sold for salvage.

Director Holbrook moved to approve the purchase of the 2025 GMC 1500 4 x 4 Truck. Director Tobias seconded the motion.

No Public Comment.

The motion passed 10-2 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J. DeBoer, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: Spyksma, Doornenbal

ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

# ITEM #5 Discuss and consider approval of contract with Gannett Fleming for FERC Periodic Inspections at Beardsley and Donnells and Comprehensive Assessment at Tulloch

Alex Brown, Operations and Maintenance Manager, provided a report on the proposal from Gannett Fleming for the periodic FERC inspections including comprehensive assessment at Tulloch Reservoir.

Directors provided questions and comments regarding the cost variance, competitive bids, and the budget being cognizant of electric generation possibly being short in 2025 and mindful of possible shortage of power generation in 2026 due to winter rain and snowfall.

Alex Brown, Operations and Maintenance Manager, and Summer Nicotero, General Manager, responded that engineering resources across the country were impacted causing bids to be requested 2-3 years in advance due to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission guidelines and that a final answer from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to allow Tri-Dam a staggered inspection had not been received.

Director Spyksma moved to approve the contract with Gannet Fleming as presented. Director J. DeBoer seconded the motion.

No Public Comment.

The motion passed by 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

## ITEM #6 Discuss and consider approval of 2025-2026 Casualty Insurance Renewal - To be hand carried

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, introduced Gary Wagner from Alliant, who presented the proposal for the renewal of Casualty Insurance.

Directors provided questions and comments regarding the increase in rate and defining a qualifying event should it be covered under a federal disaster.

Director Holbrook moved to approve the renewal of Casualty Insurance as presented. Director B. DeBoer seconded the motion.

No Public Comment.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

ITEM #7 Discuss and consider approval of Lease Agreements with the United States Forest Service for Communication Tower Leases at Mount Elizabeth and Strawberry Peak

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, presented lease agreements with the United States Forest Service for communication towers at Mount Elizabeth and Strawberry Peak.

Directors provided comments regarding updating the lease fees.

Director Spyksma moved to approve lease agreements with the United States Forest Service for Communication Tower Leases at Mount Elizabeth and Strawberry Peak. Director Doornenbal seconded the motion.

No Public Comment.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

ITEM #8 Discuss and consider approval of Resolution 2025-05, adopting the Aquatic Invasive Species Program:

- a) Discuss and consider approval of the Tulloch Reservoir Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Policy
- b) Discuss and consider approval of the Aquatic Invasive Species Agreement/Waiver between Tri-Dam and partnering agencies for designated boat launches and compliance requirements at Tulloch Reservoir

Tracey McKnight, Tri-Dam Compliance Coordinator, provided a presentation outlining the threat and impact of the Quagga and Zebra mussels to the Tulloch Reservoir and community; management of infrastructure, quarantine banding training, national interfaced database tracking, potential for future grant funding, consulting with neighboring reservoirs including Lake Tahoe, decontamination operations, and recommendations outlined in Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Policy and Program. Ms. McKnight went on to express appreciation to homeowners, businesses, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She shared that she understands the concerns of the community and has personally answered over 110 phone calls and over 67 emails and will continue to provide updated information on the Tri-Dam website at: <a href="https://www.tridamproject.com/tulloch-reservoir-closure">https://www.tridamproject.com/tulloch-reservoir-closure</a>

Directors provided comments, questions, and appreciation for Ms. McKnight's outstanding effort to bring this work forward.

Summer Nicotero, General Manager; provided comment on the remarkable efforts of Ms. McKnight's; which include but not limited to training, working with the community and preparing for the board meeting all happened in 19 days while completing other tasks such as dock inspections, water samplings and lengthy phone calls. She noted that this is phase one of the process. Phase two of the process will require input from partnering agencies, making the process as easy as possible while protecting people, the environment, and infrastructure.

Director Holbrook moved to approve resolution 2025-05 adopting Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention policy and approval of the aquatic invasive species agreement/waiver between Tri-Dam and partnering agencies for designated boat launches and compliance requirements at Tulloch Reservoir. Director Tobias seconded the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Jacob Varner operates an R.V. campground and marina on Tulloch Reservoir provided comment on the impact from the closure, maintenance of the reservoir, and agreement/waiver.

Damien Wyckoff, Calaveras County Water District provided comment on the impact of the invasive species to Copper Cove treatment plant, their appreciation and willingness to work with partners through the tough phases to ensure they can continue to supply safe water quality.

Bernadette Cattaneo, speaking on behalf of herself and representing All Saints Rehab properties, provided comment on the impact of the closure, policy/prevention/enforcement procedures, and communication to the homeowners.

Paul DeShear, property owner, provided comment suggesting self-certification and an honor system for residents that keep vessels exclusively at their Tulloch residence.

Steve Marks provided comment he certified in training that was referenced by Ms. McKnight, impact from the closure and requested that the item be tabled.

Paul, a Tulloch homeowner, provided comment on environmental concerns the impact from the closure, and suggested same day launch similar to Lake Tahoe.

Brian Dudley with Conner Estates provided comment on costs and the agreement/waiver.

Grant West, Copper Cove homeowner, provided a question: Will the red and green bands be accepted at Melones and vice versa, and to include the kayaks in the inspection process and is there any enforcement for kayaks at this time?

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, responded at this time if the boat has been red banded in the Watershed Inspection Decontamination (WID) system and can be validated as passing the 30 day quarantine we can accept it; once the 30-day banding is instituted, Tulloch Reservoir cannot co-operate or accept banding that takes place outside of our reservoir once the Tulloch banding process is put in place. There is currently no one enforcing hard-top launches in regards to the kayaks.

Tassa homeowner provided a question on the process to launch boats on the water and the preference for same-day launching.

John Martin, owner of Drifters Marina, provided comment that he certified in the training referenced by Ms. McKnight, impact of the inspection program including staffing, agreement/waiver, and support of an alternative inspection process for boats that reside at the lake including at the marina.

Mike Keefe provided a question on how to get banded right now.

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, provided comment that this is phase one; once the agreement passes then phase two will be reaching out to individuals that have been certified in training to start that process.

A 30-day band from Melones will be accepted. Once Tri-Dam program is launched, Tri-Dam will no longer accept Melones 30-day band as we do not want to unduly burden other agencies.

Rebecca Perez from Copper Cove Association provided comment on the agreement/waiver.

Brian Dudley provided comment on the agreement/waiver.

John Webber provided comment requesting that a decision not be delayed.

Directors provided comments and requested input on motion language.

Mia Brown, Legal Counsel provided comments on the amended language for resolution 2025-05, suggesting that the reference to adoption of the waiver could be removed so that the Board may adopt the policy pending further development of the waiver language.

Directors provided comments on collaboration and expediency while working on the waiver/agreement language.

The initial motion was withdrawn in consideration of amending the language of the Resolution.

Director Brad DeBoer moved to approve amending Resolution 2025-05 as follows: Section three is stricken in its entirety referencing the adoption of the waiver, the language in section 4 stating "to execute the waiver, release, and indemnity agreement" is stricken, and Exhibit C is removed. Director Holbrook seconded the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Various representatives from the community, homeowners associations, and property owners had objections to the waiver and indicated they would not be signing as is.

Grant West provided comment on the urgency to implement the banding process.

Summer Nicotero, General Manager, clarified that the program is paused as the agreement/waiver is in progress.

Directors provided comment on expediency needed, noting that the corrections may take time and associated costs.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None

ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

Director Holbrook moved to adopt Resolution No. 2025-05, as amended, adopting the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Policy and Procedures, and direct Staff to work with parties concerned about the waiver and to develop an acceptable waiver that is acceptable to Tri-Dam joint legal counsel. Seconded by Director Tobias.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

ITEM #9 Discuss and consider approval of Resolution 2025-06 authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways

Tracey McKnight, Compliance Coordinator, presented Resolution 2025-06 for the execution of a grant agreement with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways. Director Brad DeBoer moved to approve Resolution 2025-06 authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Division of Boating and Waterways. Director Roos seconded the motion.

Jacob Varner provided comment opposing the grant funding.

Paul. Tulloch homeowner, provided comment on funding resources.

Summer Nicotero provided clarification that the grant application is not specific to the golden mussel. It will state zebra, quagga, and other invasive species.

The motion passed 10-0 by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holbrook, Roos, Spyksma, Van Ryn, Weststeyn, B.DeBoer, J.DeBoer, Doornenbal, Orvis, Tobias

NOES: None ABSTAINING: None ABSENT: None

Director Orvis recessed the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

Director Orvis reconvened the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

### ITEM #10 Staff Reports

- a. General Manager Report Summer Nicotero, General Manager, welcomed Tanya Bruchacek to the Tri-dam project team. She also mentioned a potential meeting change for May as it will conflict with the ACWA conference, suggesting the idea of a director's tour of the facility that month.
- b. Operations and Maintenance Report none
- c. Compliance Report
  Tracey McKnight reported on cultural monitoring for Beardsley, and Tulloch was completed.

### **ITEM #11 Generation Report**

No discussion on item

### ITEM #12 Fisheries studies on the lower Stanislaus River

No discussion on item

### ITEM #13 Directors' Comments

None

President Orvis recessed to the Tri-Dam Power Authority Board of Commissioners meeting at 12:06 p.m.

The Tri-Dam Project meeting resumed at 12:08 p.m. after the Tri-Dam Authority meeting adjourned.

The Board convened into closed session at 12:08 p.m.

The Board reconvened to open session at 1:07 p.m.

Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1: There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The next regular board meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2025, at the offices of South San Joaquin Irrigation District, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Director Orvis adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

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Summer Nicotero, Secretary

Tri-Dam Project

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