

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

February 20, 2025  
Manteca, 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 South San Joaquin Irrigation District in Manteca, 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 Spyksma called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**OID DIRECTORS**

BRAD DeBOER  
JACOB DeBOER  
HERMAN DOORNENBAL  
TOM ORVIS  
ED TOBIAS

**SSJID DIRECTORS**

JOHN HOLBROOK  
DAVID ROOS  
GLENN SPYKSMA  
BILLY VAN RYN  
MIKE WESTSTEYN

***DIRECTORS PRESENT:***

***DIRECTORS ABSENT:***

NONE

**Also Present:**

Tri-Dam Project General Manager Summer Nicotero, Tri-Dam O&M Manager Alex Brown, Tri-Dam Project Compliance Coordinator Tracey McKnight, OID Chief Financial Officer Sharon Cisneros, SSJID General Manager Peter Rietkerk, SSJID General Counsel Mia Brown, SSJID Finance and Administration Manager Sonya Williams, and SSJID Clerk of the Board Danielle Barney.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Jonathan Cloward, Lake Tulloch homeowner and SSJID customer, addressed the Board regarding the Golden Mussel issue, and Tri-Dam's subsequent boating ban, on Lake Tulloch. He noted the recreational impact that the boating ban will have on lake-front property homeowners, and suggested the development and implementation of a Household Boat Permit process which would generate revenue for Tri-Dam, regulate monitoring of vessels on the water, and maintain the water quality and health of the Lake.

Mr. Paul Burdette, Lake Tulloch resident, addressed the Board, via the online Zoom meeting platform, regarding the Golden Mussel issue. He expressed his opinion that Tri-Dam placed the boating ban without sufficient knowledge of potential impact of the mussels, referenced the January 23, 2025 Tri-Dam Minutes, Item #8 – Staff Reports, and quoted an excerpt of SSJID General Manager Peter Rietkerk stating the available information on the species' reproduction is limited. Mr. Burdette noted that local business owners will lose revenue, and that Tri-Dam should reconsider the boating ban until more information is obtained on the mussels, and further assessment of potential effects, risks, and/or eradication of the Golden Mussel.

Ms. Mia Brown, SSJID General Counsel, announced that the Board may receive public comments, but is not permitted to discuss the Golden Mussel issue at length, as it is not on the agenda and discussion is precluded

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under the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Mr. Noel McLaughlin, Lake Tulloch resident and President of Peninsula Estates Association, addressed the Board, via the online Zoom meeting platform, regarding Tri-Dam’s boating ban and suggested a quarantine process including an initial inspection to flag “clean” boats, a 30-day quarantine period, a second inspection and updated flag of “safe” boats, and launch. He noted the forty-six (46) water-front homes in the Peninsula Estates community, and his desire to provide the homeowners with updated information or potential resolution.

Ms. Alicia Kanazawa, Lake Tulloch resident, addressed the Board, via the online Zoom meeting platform, regarding the boating ban and concurred with the sentiments expressed by Mr. McLaughlin. She added that many homeowners currently have their boats in dry storage which could not be affected by the Golden Mussel invasion, and that consideration should be given to the implementation of a boating ban that does not impact the resident homeowners or their rental properties.

Mr. Troy Jones, Lake Tulloch resident, addressed the Board, via the online Zoom meeting platform, regarding the boating ban and emphasized the livelihoods and/or loss of revenue of local vendors, business owners, and property taxes that will be affected by the Tri-Dam action. He noted Lake Berryessa’s handling of the Golden Mussel issue.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

1. Approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025
2. Approve the Treasurer’s Report for the 12-Months Ending December 31, 2024
3. Approve the January Statement of Obligations

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Weststeyn and seconded by Director Doornenbal to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted.

The motion passed 10 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN B. DeBOER, J. DeBOER DOORNENBAL ORVIS TOBIAS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**Item #4 – Discuss and Approve Resolution 2025-03 Business Officer Resolution for TCM Bank Credit Card Services**

Ms. Summer Nicotero, Tri-Dam General Manager, addressed the Board and stated that adoption of the resolution identifies Ms. Nicotero, OID Chief Financial Officer Sharon Cisneros, and SSJID Finance and Administration Manager Sonya Williams as Business Officers of Tri-Dam’s credit card account with TCM Bank N.A. Board action will also remove former Tri-Dam employees Jeff Shields and Genna Modrell from the credit card account.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director J. DeBoer to adopt Resolution 2025-

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03 Business Officer Resolution for TCM Bank Credit Card Services.

The motion passed 10 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN B. DeBOER, J. DeBOER DOORNENBAL ORVIS TOBIAS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**Item #5 – Discuss and Consider Approval and Capital Budget Adjustment for Change Order #1 Ulteig Installation of an Auxiliary CAISO Revenue Meter**

Mr. Alex Brown, Tri-Dam Operations and Maintenance Manager, addressed the Board regarding replacement of the Beardsley Powerhouse Auxiliary CAISO revenue meter. The original scope of work was to replace the primary and back-up CAISO certified revenue meters, and the original plan was to re-use the Auxiliary meter. However, during installation and commissioning, the Quad 4 would not communicate with the replacement meter.

Staff recommended Board approval of the change order from Ulteig for Auxiliary Meter Replacement, and CAISO NRI Process Management and subsequent capital budget adjustment in the amount of \$15,000.00.

Board discussion included vendor communication protocol, and in-person inspections.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Orvis and seconded by Director Roos to approve the Ulteig Change Order #1, for Auxiliary meter replacement and CAISO NRI process management, and subsequent capital budget adjustment in the amount of \$15,000.00.

The motion passed 10 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN B. DeBOER, J. DeBOER DOORNENBAL ORVIS TOBIAS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**Item #6 – Discuss and Consider Approval and Capital Budget Adjustment for Proposal from Microwave Networks to Replace Strawberry Peak to Donnels Dam and Tulloch Powerhouse to Goodwin Microwave Links**

Mr. Brown addressed the Board regarding approval of Microwave Network (MN) management software, and replacement of the Strawberry Peak-Donnells Dam / Tulloch Powerhouse to Goodwin microwave links. He explained that Tri-Dam has been replacing the aging microwave infrastructure, replacements of main trunks to the powerhouses and Strawberry operations have already occurred, and that Donnells and Goodwin Dams are slated for microwave link replacements this year. Mr. Brown noted that all six (6) links that have been replaced are Microwave Networks and that procuring MN for the final two (2) links will allow continued health monitoring of the system, as well as utilization of the current maintenance contract.

Staff recommended Board approval of the Microwave Networks radio and SPARCS network management system quote for \$98,776.00. The 2025 Capital Budget allocated \$100,000.00 for microwave replacements and network

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management software, the proposed Capital Budget Adjustment is \$6,000.00, for a Total Project Cost of \$106,000.00.

The Board requested justification of the \$6,000.00 Capital Budget Adjustment to which Ms. Nicotero responded that sales tax was not included in the MN quote.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Holbrook and seconded by Director Tobias to approve the purchase of Microwave Network management software and replacement of the Strawberry Park-Donnells Dam / Tulloch Powerhouse to Goodwin microwave links, and subsequent Capital Budget Adjustment in the amount of 6,000.00.

The motion passed 10 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN B. DeBOER, J. DeBOER DOORNENBAL ORVIS TOBIAS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**Item #7 – Discuss and Approve Resolution 2025-04 Acceptance of Grant Funding from the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program for Local and Tribal Governments and Authorize Its Use in Accordance with the Terms of the Grant**

Ms. Nicotero addressed the Board regarding adoption of Resolution 2025-04 Authorizing Designated Officials to Accept and Use Grant Funding Awarded through the Local Cybersecurity Program for Local and Tribal Governments.

Ms. Nicotero provided background of Tri-Dam, in collaboration with partners at VC3, creating a budget for submission to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) State & Local Cybersecurity Grant. Staff was notified of Tri-Dam’s award of \$178,519.00 to be spent within the next two (2) years, with no match required. The submitted budget included reimbursement for IT support services, replacement of end-of-life servers and firewalls, and replacement of workstations and related hardware.

Adoption of Resolution 2025-04 authorizes the General Manager and Interim Finance Director to act on behalf of the Tri-Dam Project in accepting and utilizing the award.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Director Doornenbal and seconded by Director Weststeyn to adopt Resolution 2025-04 Authorizing Designated Officials to Accept and Use Grant Funding Awarded through the Local Cybersecurity Program for Local and Tribal Governments.

The motion passed 10 to 0 by the following vote:

AYES:	HOLBROOK ROOS SPYKSMA VAN RYN WESTSTEYN B. DeBOER, J. DeBOER DOORNENBAL ORVIS TOBIAS
NOES:	NONE
ABSTAIN:	NONE
ABSENT:	NONE

**COMMUNICATIONS**

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8. Staff Reports as Follows:

a. General Manager Report

Ms. Nicotero announced the upcoming 36<sup>th</sup> Annual TuCARE Dinner and Auction on March 8, at the Sonora Elks Lodge. She clarified that Tri-Dam will pay for the dinner of Board Members, and that Directors would be responsible to reimburse Tri-Dam for the cost of guest tickets. Directors interested in attending should contact Ms. Nicotero so she can RSVP for the event.

b. Operations & Maintenance Report – None

c. Compliance Report

Ms. Tracey McKnight, Tri-Dam Compliance Coordinator, provided an update on the Golden Mussel issue at Tulloch Lake, stating that the serious threat could have a long-term effect on reservoir health. She added that Tri-Dam is working with the local Homeowner Associations (HOAs), considering the impact the boating ban is having on recreation, and exploring all options to reopen safely. Ms. McKnight stated that she has spoken to local residents with positive feedback; that information is posted on the Tri-Dam website; and that she has a meeting scheduled with the CDFW to discuss updates, direction and action.

Board discussion included the invasive, rapidly spreading species; the long-term effect and health of every type of water supply; the priority to protect the Tri-Dam and the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant infrastructures; being entrusted to responsibly protect and serve the water supply; and New Melones' 30-day banding process.

Ms. Nicotero added that the CDFW had created a Golden Mussel "survivability matrix" which identified the species' adaptability to survive in Lake Tulloch. Consideration is being given to early detection and response methodology, and a tagging process of "safe" vessels that cannot be removed from the water.

9. Generation Report – None.

10. Fisheries Studies on the Lower Stanislaus River – None.

11. Directors' Comments

Director Van Ryn expressed gratitude to staff for addressing the Golden Mussel issue, and the importance of keeping the public informed and up to date on action.

Director Holbrook reiterated the importance of involving local residents, HOAs, and homeowners in discussions regarding the Golden Mussel issue.

Director J. DeBoer stated his appreciation to staff for their work to protect Lake Tulloch, and exploring the potential environmental impact of the mussel invasion.

Director Tobias commented on the current water supply levels and hope for a wet March.

Director B. DeBoer reported that he attended a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) meeting on February 19, and commented on the importance of working with local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

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(GSAs) on required groundwater levels, and the government's intent for more surface water usage. He cautioned all to stay active on SGMA issues.

Director Doornenbal shared about a recent article posted on Brietbart News titled, "Ten Years and \$7.5 Billion Later, No New Water Storage in California." He also questioned if irrigation districts should create their own GSAs, and acknowledged SSJID Water Resources Coordinator Brandon Nakagawa and SSJID SGMA Liaison Bob Holmes for their hard work on the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) and SGMA requirements.

Director Orvis concurred with Director Van Ryn regarding concern of the potential detriment to water infrastructures due to the Golden Mussel invasion.

Director Orvis announced the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Region 4 Tour & Program to view fyke trapping and an electrofishing demonstration at River Islands. The event will be held on April 16. Space is limited so register early, if interested.

Director Orvis commended SSJID staff on the Canyon Tunnel public meetings and informational presentations. He stated that he received only positive feedback, and that his constituents were happy and informed.

Director Roos thanked Ms. Nicotero and Tri-Dam staff for their work on the mussel invasion and invited consideration of a power-wash station for vessels at Lake Tulloch.

Director Weststeyn stated that he had no updates to report.

Director Holbrook announced the ACWA/Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA) board meeting, to be held at the ACWA 2025 Spring Conference, on May 12. He inquired if Tri-Dam staff and/or board members are attending the ACWA conference to be appointed as the Tri-Dam representative to the JPIA. Board discussion concluded that Director Holbrook would be registered for the JPIA Board meeting as the Tri-Dam representative, and President Syksma will be registered as SSJID's representative.

President Spyksma expressed his appreciation for the strong effort to combat the Golden Mussel invasion.

President Spyksma opined that the Canyon Tunnel meetings went well, and thanked Director Orvis for his positive comments.

*President Spyksma recessed to the Tri-Dam Power Authority Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:10 a.m.*

*The Tri-Dam Project meeting resumed at 10:12 a.m. after the Tri-Dam Power Authority meeting adjourned.*

***It was announced that all remaining items on the Closed Session agenda would be discussed. The Board took a brief recess at 10:15 a.m. and convened to Closed Session at 10:30 a.m.***

**Item #12 – CLOSED SESSION**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:07 p.m.

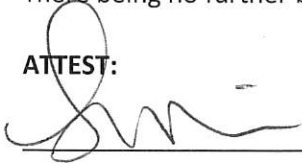
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Disclosure of reportable actions taken in Closed Session, pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1:  
There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

**Item #13 – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:08 p.m.

**ATTEST:**



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Summer Nicotero, Secretary  
Tri-Dam Project

