

Special Meeting Minutes of the Florin Resource Conservation District

Tuesday, June 10, 2014

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florin Resource Conservation District was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Barrie Lightfoot, Chair, at 9257 Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove CA.

Attendance:

Committee Members: Chuck Dawson – present
Barrie Lightfoot – present
Tom Nelson – present
Don Menasco – present
Elliot Mullberg – present

Associate Members: Davies Ononiwu and Mike Schmitz

Staff: General Manager Mark J. Madison; Finance Manager Dennis Coleman; Finance Supervisor Donella Ouellette; Management Analyst Ellen Carlson; Water Distribution Foreman Jose Carrillo; Water Distribution Foreman Richard Salas; Water Treatment Foreman Steve Shaw; and Associate Civil Engineer Bruce Kamilos

Consultants: Ann Siprelle, General Counsel, and Ethan Walsh, BBK

This was a posted meeting and it began at 6:30 PM.

Roll call was taken and pledge of allegiance was performed.

1. 2014 Florin Resource Conservation District Election

Director Tom Nelson led the discussion regarding the 2014 Florin Resource Conservation District Election. He voiced his concerns about the FRCD running out of funds. He stated that the election costs will deplete the funds. Mr. Nelson stated that by belief, he thinks people should have an election. Mr. Nelson said, he likes the idea of saving money, but he does not like the idea of being beholden to the County of Sacramento.

Chairman Barrie Lightfoot stated that the Board has worked very hard to get the District running smoothly and it runs very efficiently without any influence from the outside. He stated that reverting back to having the County of Sacramento make appointments may cause the good ole boy atmosphere.

Vice-Chairman Chuck Dawson stated that people should be able to vote and it's a small cost, every two year for allowing people the opportunity to have a say and stated he's in favor of continuing the election process.

Director Elliot Mulberg stated that he felt that the District should continue the election process and that people should be able to vote for those who have the authority to raise their rates.

Mr. Mulberg stated that the water portion of the District needs a Board and should bear the cost of the election.

He stated the Board and staff need to figure out what they are providing for the people outside of the EGWD boundaries (residents in the FRCD boundaries). He stated that if RCD's are primarily for agricultural services, then we need to find out what agricultural land is in the FRCD and what land is residential that will not need the services of the FRCD. Mr. Mulberg stated then maybe before the next election, we can go back to LAFCO and detach that territory not needing services from the FRCD to reduce the costs for future elections.

Director Don Menasco stated that he felt the election is well worth it, but would like to see if there is another way that is less costly than the election.

Associate Director Mike Schmitz stated that he felt the County of Sacramento may not care who they appoint to the FRCD Board.

Associate Director Davies Ononiwu stated that the people need to speak.

Bob Gray stated that he could not accept having a Board be appointed. He stated that the water district is not the majority and does not have the electoral vote.

The FRCD Board of Directors agreed to keep the election process, but explore ways to fund conservation efforts.

2. Draft Elk Grove Water District Fiscal Year 2014-15 Operating Budget

General Manager Mark Madison presented the Draft Elk Grove Water District Fiscal Year 2014-15 Operating Budget and cited the highlights as follows:

- Longevity Pay
- 2.6% COLA based on the San Francisco Consumer Price Index (CPI) Wage earner (W)
- Asset Management Program
- Emergency Response Plan
- Election costs

A lengthy discussion followed regarding which CPI should be used to determine the COLA.

Vice-Chairman Chuck Dawson stated that he was a proponent of the Longevity Pay, but does not support the San Francisco CPI –W. He stated that he did not feel that represented Elk Grove. Mr. Dawson stated that he felt that the District should use the All Cities CPI-W, which is a 2% COLA.

Director Tom Nelson stated the cost of living is the rate of increase not the cost of living. He stated that the San Francisco CPI-W is what the District has used in years past.

Director Tom Nelson presented a spreadsheet that dated back to 2004 of various CPI's to demonstrate the averages.

General Manager Mark Madison informed the Board that the District had used the San Francisco CPI –W in 2008, 2009, and 2010.

Director Elliot Mulberg stated that the San Francisco CPI-W is not representative of the area (the economy of Elk Grove).

Director Don Menasco suggested that the District should take the average of the different CPI's.

The FRCD Board of Directors agreed to take the average of the All Cities CPI –W, Western CPI –W and San Francisco CPI-W, which is 1.87% COLA. The Board stated that they would like to be consistent with this method moving forward.

3. Draft FRCD Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget

General Manager Mark Madison presented the Draft FRCD Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget.

A brief discussion was held. No changes were recommended.

4. Draft Susie Gaines-Mitchell Building Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget

General Manager Mark Madison presented the Draft Susie Gaines-Mitchell Building Fiscal Year 2014-15 Budget.

Finance Manager Dennis Coleman commented on Expenditure (5710) “Assessment/Property Taxes” stating that the proposed figure in Fiscal Year 2013-14 was too low. Mr. Coleman stated that he will adjust the figure in the final budget. He mentioned the figures shown in the same line item for Fiscal Year 2014-15 do not reflect the assumption of the annexation of the building into the FRCD boundaries, which would reduce the property tax and therefore reduce the budgeted amount.

Respectfully submitted,

Stefani Phillips

Stefani Phillips, Secretary