

**Sutter Mutual Water Company  
(SMWC)**

Meeting Held on August 21, 2023

**OPEN FORUM:**

SUTTER MUTUAL WATER COMPANY WATER USE FOR 2023- GM Cornwell presented a slide that shows the water SMWC has used for the summer. SMWC used most of the water in July, about 3500AF left for the month. Through August 15<sup>th</sup> we have used all the base supply water. We are working on using up the project supply water, over all we have used about half of our allocation for the month of August. Most of the rice fields are shutting off. GM Cornwell believes we will be fine with water for the month of August. Tomato fields are also shutting off. GM Cornwell is a little worried about September due to some of the late rice fields. The later rice fields are still green. At the beginning of the summer, we were worried about the amount of rice that was going to be planted but overall, everything turned out great.

LONG TERM OPERATIONS OF THE CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT- Currently the LTO is in the negotiations area working with various agencies. It's getting better but we will have to wait to see what the outcome is. Critical years we would be cut a little more, so if we get a 75% year, we would be cut to 50%, to prevent another 18% year like the last one.

**BOARD MEETING:**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors for August 2023 was called to order in the Company office at Kirkville, Robbins, California at 9:15 a.m. by Director Bill Henle.

Directors Present: Steve Butler, Jon Munger, Dave Richter (zoom), Mark Hoffart, Bill Henle

Directors Absent: John Penning, Neil Dougherty

Others Present: Roger Cornwell, General Manager, Jon Scott, Operations Manager, Heather Munoz, Operations Assistant, Melissa Patterson, Finance Operations Manager, Dominique Vaughn, Accounting Office Manager, Venus Tenell, Executive Assistant, Niko (Downey Brand), Tish (Nelson & Associates), Meredith Nikkel (Downey Brand)

A copy of the written notice of the meeting was provided to each Director on August 18th, 2023, and are incorporated in these minutes by reference hereto and so filed.

**On MOTION of Director Butler and seconded by Director Munger and unanimously carried the agenda of the August 21, 2023, meeting, was approved, with the addition of item d, purchase equipment, under General Manager's Report.**

July 17, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes were previously mailed to the directors and were presented for review and approved.

**On MOTION of Director Munger and seconded by Director Hoffart and unanimously carried the minutes of the July 17th meeting were approved.**

**NELSON & ASSOCIATES- FISCAL YEAR 2022**

Tish, the audit manager from Nelson & Associates was present to give the board an overview of the Fiscal year 2022 audit. Nelson & Associates tested SMWC controls, she reported that everything went great and had no issues to report. The board asked Tish questions.

**GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT- ROGER CORNWELL**

**FISH FOOD PROGRAM-** This program is going out to be the end of this month, there was a meeting last Thursday. We are going to have it run through the district the same as last year. We want to get a list of names and acres of growers who would like to get involved with the fish food program. Working with Cal Trout was great. This year the program will be stackable, so growers can participate in more than one program. We will have a few requirements of our own such as rice boxes and the ability to hold the water. The board discussed how many acres and what the amount will be for participating.

**BOHANNON DAM UPDATE-** The meeting last Friday was a tough call; we were told we must mitigate 400<sup>th</sup> of an acre about 2000 square feet. It's going to cost roughly \$7000. We thought about making the land bridge smaller, but it would cost more money to redo the plans. It doesn't look like we will get this project started this year.

**On MOTION of Director Butler and seconded by Director Munger and unanimously carried, giving GM Cornwell the approval to buy mitigation ground not exceeding \$9,000, was approved.**

**WATER SMART GRANT FOR TISDALE-** The mag meters have been ordered. They will be here at the beginning of September. We didn't have David's engineering come out for an update because there isn't much to say other than the purchasing of the meters. David's Engineering will be here at the next meeting to give the board an update.

**EQUIPMENT PURCHASE-** BIDA can buy a Link Belt Excavator, but they don't have the funds currently. SMWC would loan the funds to BIDA to purchase the excavator, BIDA is waiting on rental fees from RD 1500 and the 210 Excavator is being auctioned, we should get \$150,000.

**On MOTION of Director Munger and seconded by Director Butler, and unanimously carried, loaning BIDA \$280,000.00 to purchase a Link Belt Excavator to be repaid later with interest, was approved.**

**OPERATIONS MANAGER- JON SCOTT**

**WATER UPDATE-** We are pleased to report that pump #5 is all installed. The pump is running well and super smooth. We changed the water system for the barrens, We are looking to change

over all the pumps to the same water system. In the month of July, we recycled just under 14,000 AF of water with the booster pumps. We had some issues with motors with the power outages, we are trying to work with PG&E to get some money back. We have been looking at how much water rice fields use. Some fields are using 8 af/ac. We are monitoring these fields.

EMPLOYEE UPDATE- Unfortunately we lost the ditch tender for district 3. He was getting tired of working weekends and missing out on time with his family. We did hire a new employee that will fill in that ditch tender spot. We had had to pump 2 shifts at Karnak all summer long. We had to keep it pumped down most of the time due to construction, but we also can't go on gravity due to the river being too high.

### **FINANCE MANAGER'S REPORT- MELISSA PATTERSON**

FINANCIAL REVIEW- Finance Manager Patterson presented a high-level overview of the finance statement for July 2023. She answered board member questions. The board ratified the July 2023 check register.

Manager Patterson and GM Cornwell let the board know that we have scheduled meetings to go over budgets, to talk about changes and ask questions. These meetings are just to review the budget and not approve the budget.

BANKING UPDATE- We had a meeting with the online banking manager and cash manager. The remote deposit machine has been ordered, this way we don't have to take a trip to the bank, we can make deposits here at the office. The staff will be trained in this. Everything is moving along.

### **REPORT ON SRSC AND NCWA ACTIVITIES-**

An event will be October 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Matchbook. This event is a good place to see lots of people and make connections.

There is also the ACWA conference coming up in Palm Springs at the end of November. They are going to release the hotel blocks next week.

### **MISCELLANEOUS OTHER MATTERS-**

RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1500 ELECTION- We just wanted to let everyone know that the RD board will have 4 seats available. One board member is stepping down.

KARNAK UPDATE- We have officially started the review process at Little Rock. NRCS is moving forward and will get comments back to us within 60 days, we will then get the comments answered. It will then move to get congressional approval. Due to the large amount of funds, we will need to get letters from the Ag committee. GM Cornwell thinks it will be 2 years before any major construction starts. The board asked questions and discussed ways to help move the grant along.

### **CLOSED SESSION-**

The Board convened into a closed session at 10:14 am.

The Board reconvened into an open session at 11:06 am.  
There are no actions reported.

**ADJOURN-**

There being no further business to come before the Board of directors, the meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM.

  
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Roger Cornwell, Secretary