

**BRADFORD RECLAMATION DISTRICT 2059**  
**Meeting Minutes for**  
**For a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees**  
**Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at 10:00 A.M. (P.S.T.)**

Interested members of the public may participate in the meeting via phone/video conference. Please Contact the District Manager at [angelia\\_bradford@sbcglobal.net](mailto:angelia_bradford@sbcglobal.net) or (925)209-5480 with questions or if accommodations are necessary.

**Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at:**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85403370261?pwd=MDRDM2ZubE1kOWdlWURoNzlsR1JqUT09>

Meeting ID: 854 0337 0261  
Passcode: 435690

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**Board President:** Rob Davies – present  
**Trustees:** Bill Hall – present  
Brian Elliff – present  
Kevin Finta – not present  
Smith Cunningham – present

Others Present: Raquel Hatfield, Attorney; Blake Johnson, District Engineer; Ronald Mijares, District Levee Superintendent; Angelia Tant District Manager taking the meeting minutes.

Landowners: Michael Gonce, Michael Craig, Scott Diamond, Charles Louie, and Jake Cruz

**Meeting begun at 10:00 A.M.** There is a quorum

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

John with PG&E was present to discuss the proposed plan for PG&E power restoration and to get some feedback. John requests to have somewhere to store the equipment and pay additional funds to the ferry to run the additional days that they need. There are maps that Blake would like to share online. Blake requests certain permissions to share the maps provided with PG&E online with the virtual group. President Davies provided a report to the Board regarding the availability schedule of the ferry for PG&E. President Davies reported that the ferry is available for Tuesday/Thursday and expressed that there would be need to book a full day. John inquired with the Board on if PG&E could store some equipment out on the mitigation site. President Davies and Blake both expressed to John that PG&E could store their equipment on the Jersey Island side and expressed that this property is not owned by the District and would be happy to provide contact information to them. Trustee Elliff inquired with John on when they would need the ferry. It was reported back by John that the estimated time would be a week out. John reported that he would confirm this schedule and report back. Trustee Hall inquired on how long it would take to have the power restored to the Island. John went over the scope of the project and where they anticipated on starting the project. John reported that the pump station and the northwest side of the Island will take several months to restore. Blake discussed the map, that the map is a work in progress map, that John with PG&E reported as being for reference only. Trustee Eliff inquired about PG&E purchasing property from landowners. Bradford Island Landowners inquired about the PG&E restoration specifically on their properties. John announced the estimated costs to maintain PG&E on the island. John also wen over the three (3) options:

1. Purchasing property from landowners

2. Micro Grid System – Placing 4-5 Generators with Solar and in addition Siphon, maintain equipment and fueling them and in the future the Board or the landowners would have to maintain them.
3. Go back in with distribution lines.

**CONSENT ITEMS (Items listed as C.1 through C.3 on this Agenda) – M/S/P by Hall/Elliff/Cunningham with all in favor and zero opposed to adopt the consent items**

**C.1 MEETING MINUTES: Review Board meeting minutes.**

Attachments: RD 2059 Meeting Minutes from the September 07, 2021, Regular Board Meeting

**C.2 PAYROLL: Review Appropriation warrant for \$8,000.00 deposit to Replenish Payroll Account.**

Attachments: Payroll documents for two (2) Employees

**C.3 GENERAL WARRANTS: Review Warrants for General Expenses/Work Agreements**

Attachments: List of Warrants

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**D.1 CONSENT AGENDA: on any Consent Items removed from Consent Agenda for Discussion.**

There we no items removed.

**D.2 DWR LONG TERM MITIGATION:** Blake reported that the State will be working on a plan. The State is anticipating on a plan that will include removing the black berries. Blake expressed that we would not know which trees survived until the springtime,.

a. Report on the Purchasing of the Herbicide Sprayer, Tow behind mower Utility Vehicle and Storage container.

b. Status Report on (RFQ) to establish a list of qualified construction contractors to assist the District to eradicate blackberries along mitigation site fence line (\$25k) - Tabled

- Update on bids for this project – Blake reported that the fire took care of this project.

**D.3 FERRY MATTERS:**

a. Report from President Davies

b. Temporary Ferry Schedule – It was reported that the ferry would be out of service and in for repairs for another 3 to 3 and a ½ weeks

c. Dry Dock and Ferry Repairs Status Update – leaks in the propeller, study done on hole, and they found two (2) weak spots, the Coast Guard will have to provide a report. One of the gear boxes are missing three teeth, bearings had to be replaced, they are currently painting the underside of the boat. President Davies reported that there were funds in the savings for ferry repairs that covered these costs. President Davies expressed that there were some issues with Webb that have been resolved.

Trustee Elliff inquired on how the second ferry is being paid for. Do we have contract to pay for 360 days for the landowners? By deleting the 20-30 days that we are not running the ferry do the landowners get a refund for the days of non-usage.

**D.4 TRUSTEE'S TERMS & ELECTIONS:**

a. Report on Election Nomination Forms Received – Raquel reported that four (4) nomination forms had been received and reported that she prepared the ballot in which will be mailed out on 10/18/2021. The November Board meeting will have to be pushed out a little. The November 16<sup>th</sup> Board meeting will have to be pushed to November 23, 2021, since the Landowners have until 8 PM on November 16 to turn in the ballots. The Committee needs time to count the ballots before the next Board Meeting.

Committee – One landowner to volunteer to be a part of the election committee. Trustee Volunteer to participate in the counting of ballots – Smith Cunningham, Raquel Hatfield and Angelia Tant will form the Committee.

**D.5 ENCROACHMENT REGULATIONS:**

a. Encroachment Committee meetings postponed until the COVID-19 meeting restrictions are lifted.

**D.6 DELTA LEVEE MAINTENANCE SUBVENTIONS PROGRAM FOR 2021/2022:**

a. Status Report on 2021-2022 Delta Levee Maintenance Subventions Program – Blake recapped what the program was about and the share of costs to participate. Blake reported that this is the same contract to participate in the Delta Levee Subventions Program and the Board would need to make approval to sign it. M/S/P by Hall/Elliff/Cunningham with all in favor and zero opposed.

**D.7 STAKEHOLD OUTREACH RPP PLANNING:**

a. Report on Possible Wildfire Assistance for the District – CDF Regarding Fire Protection  
b. Participating in Fire District Blake reported that he had been speaking with the Chief on the East Contra Costa County Fire District to discuss how we would get into a fire district. Blake recommended tabling this item to allow for time to invite the chief into a future board meeting to speak on this subject matter. Blake reported that historically the fire district had invited the District to participate, and it was historically declined by the historical board of trustees. Blake reported that there are a lot of new landowners and that this may want to be re considered. Trustee Elliff inquired on if we could participate with just CDF. Blake responded to Trustee Elliff's questions and expressed that he did not believe so but would be inquiring more on this. Blake reported that this would be a landowner matter rather than the Bradford Reclamation District matter.

**D.8 BRIDGE GRANT: M/S/P by: Eliff/Hall/Cunningham with all in favor and zero opposed to allow for Angelia to continue with inquiring about the Bridge Grant**

a. Report on Possible Grant for Bridge – The District Manager provided the following report to the board:

Michael Chung, P.E.- Bridge Engineering - San Joaquin County Dept. of Public Works

The Highway Bridge Program is who they went through to obtain the grant and CAL Trans funded it.

If there are two ramps it is considered a bridge in which, I believe we only have one.

He also expressed that this must be in the national bridge inventory. Dave Forkel with the Delta Ferry Authority is not certain on if the bridge is registered. The District will need to investigate.

Woodward islands ferry system was considered for public use and if our ferry is not for public use then it is NOT eligible. Our ferry is for public use this was confirmed by Dave Forkel.

The only way for Bacon Island Road to access Woodward Island was through the ferry system.

To replace a public ferry with a bridge, it has to be a public ferry system. Again, our ferry is for public use.

The District needs to measure the ramps to see if they are 20ft or longer, this is the other eligibility criteria.

I will be having a second meeting with Mr. Chung if the Board of Trustees wishes to continue with this project for Grant funding.

President Davies brought up the following issues: security, theft, Bradford Island being a private landowner island, and also some part of Jersey Island not being public. Trustee Elliff understands that there will be some issues however, suggested that we push on with the investigation and continue to apply for the grant funding.

#### **D.9 EMERGENCY DROUGHT BARRIER -**

a. Blake reported that the State wants to leave the barrier in until 2022. The State would notch the barrier to allow for boat access, there is no knowledge on if the Army core has approved this plan. Blake reported that he would be working with other district engineers to see what the impacts of this barrier are and re consider on if the District may need a muscle wall for protection. Trustee Cunningham reported that last time the barrier was installed that it cut/split specific parts of the Cunningham property and he expressed that this project has also split his property this time. Trustee Cunningham wanted to inquire with the Board on how to proceed with addressing the matter with the Board or the State. Blake responded that he would come out and assess the area and assist on reporting the issue to the State.

Landowner Scott Diamond had a question regarding on if the District had or has any say on this project. Blake the District's Engineer reported that in 2014 Bradford Island and the State to allow for this barrier to touch the levee that is maintained by BI. Blake reported that they drove sheet pile in, installed abutments in this area and reported that in 2015 they cut the pilings out. Blake reported that this year, when the State installed the barrier that they installed a lot of rock. Blake reported that in 2014 The State and the Reclamation District came to an agreement that the State could install three (3) barriers over a ten (10) year period. Blake reported that the District could pull out at any time. Blake reported that historically there were some issues with the ferry and some docks. Blake reported that the state provided a short notice of approximately one (1) week of time prior to them installing their rock. Blake reported that in 2025 a new encroachment permit could be entered into a new permit with the state. Blake reported that in 2016 he received a report on the Salinity. Blake reported that the report that went to the Army Core showed some improvements in the Salinity. Landowner Michael Gonce inquired on if Smitty

#### **D.10 LEVEE SUPERINTENDENT Ronald Mijares provided the report: M/S/P by Hall/Elliff with all in favor and zero opposed to have the District's Legal Counsel to research the easement for the property that has the gate to enter the road that gets to the ferry.**

a. Report on Ongoing District Maintenance & Vegetation Control

b. Key to gate from Jersey Island/Iron house – The local owner approved a key for the gate and expressed that there would be some liabilities. Ronald Mijares expressed that David Dal Porto expressed that he would not approve for the District having a key. Trustee Elliff inquired on if the landowners could all have a key as well or if it would just be provided to the District. Trustee Elliff inquired on if they would give direction for someone to investigate the easement rights on this gate and also inquired on if each landowner has a right to put a combo lock on the gate. Trustee Elliff expressed that Iron House had told him that this subject matter was discussed at the ferry meeting, and they had expressed that it was requested for the gates to stay shut. Trustee Hall reported that historically when the gate was left open, that people would go out and have wild parties and that the ramp was burnt historically. Trustee Elliff reported that on New Year's Day, they had an issue with the gate being locked.

Trustee Elliff expressed that the crest of the levee may be a contra costa county public road. Trustee Smith Cunningham expressed that if there is a Contra Costa County maintained road that there could be a lock placed. Smith expressed that there should be a combination lock placed on the gate. Landowner Jake Cruz is inquiring on if the gate is open, he would like to know if the access would be his property. Trustee Elliff expressed that landowner should be able to use a boat from their property and go Scott Diamond repeated a quote from Benjamin Franklin. Landowner Scott Diamond expressed that keeping a lock combination a secret would be a difficult task and he feels that they lock would be an issue in the future with having to be replaced. Scott expressed that daisy chains and combo locks appear to be simple however he outlined some of the personal experiences that caused issues before.

#### **D.11 GOATS:**

a. Report from District Engineer on Discussions with Ranchers on Bradford Island – Ron reported that he had a goat service provide a quote. Once Ron receives the quote, he will provide the quote to the Board. Ron outlined the areas of where the goats would eat the vegetation and black berries. Ron reported that goats

had been used historically and it is feasible. Blake inquired on with the ranchers on if there would be any issues with them for using goats out on the island. There is no response from any of the ranchers on the line.

**D.12 LEASING OUT DISTRICT PROPERTY:**

a. Leasing Out District Property for Monthly Residual Income - Tabled

**D.13 EMERGENCY – FIRE STATUS Reported by Blake Johnson:**

a. Status Report on Temporary Pumps –Blake is awaiting a report back from the pump guys to determine on if we need larger pumps. President Davies inquires on what size pumps we used during the last fire. Smith Reported that there were two (2) six-inch pumps that did not work. Smith expressed that he stopped and inspected the pumps, and he personally feels that we should concentrate on repairs the existing pump and Blake responded that this is what they were working on. Blake reported that he obtained a pump from Delta Pumps. Blake reported that the District is looking into the costs of repairing vs. replacing. Trustee Cunningham inquired with the District Engineer on which companies he has contacted. Blake responded and identified which companies he had reached out to. Landowner Scott Diamond inquired with Trustee Bill Hall due to the line of work he is in, on if he knew of where any diesel pumps that were used may be located. Trustee Hall responded that he would inquire with his job in if they had any. President Davies recommended placing a container out there that would be weatherproof and low fire deal to place the pumps into. President Davies also recommended burying the discharge pipes this time. Trustee Elliff inquired on if there was the possibility of using steel. Trustee Elliff saw over 200ft flames at the pump station. Landowner Michael Gonce announced that he was also trying to keep the costs down. Landowner Michael Gonce expressed that there could be some potential erosion issues with burying the pipes and expressed that steel costs a lot more. Landowner Michael Gonce expressed that maybe installing some sprinklers would be a good idea. Landowner Michael Gonce thanked the board for the efforts during the fire and congratulating this Board for making the pumps a priority.

b. Status Report on Subventions Advance for \$50k.

c. Status Report on Insurance Claim Limits and Payouts – The insurance company hired a third-party company to look at the pump station and the costs. Blake reported that he is waiting to hear from the insurance company. Blake expressed that thing can be assessed further once the district knows how much they are going to pay for and what the district will need to come out of pocket. Blake reported that there is a portion that the District would be responsible for.

D. Status Report on Ramos Oil – 1800 Gallon Diesel tank was reported to be set up. Blake reported that CES was transferring oil from the 1800-gallon tank to the pump station. Ron reported that he requested a 50-footer hose.

e. Status Report of Pump Station Rebuild – Blake reported again that he is getting quotes for repairs.

f. Status Report on PGE Permit to Restore Power – Blake reported that he spoke with PG&E to reestablish power to the pump station. There could be power restored to the pump station within an estimated two (2) months.

g. Tree Removal – Blake reported that there are trees identified as having to be removed on the island due to the fire that are a potential hazard. Blake reported that he will be obtaining quotes.

h. Mitigation Site Fund(s) – Blake reported that we will not request funds at this time.

i. Lessons Learned – Open Discussion – Blake reported that everyone worked together to put out this fire and he expressed that we could look at what better ways we could save money next time we fight a fire etc... Blake expressed that he would put this subject out for public discussion.

Landowner/Trustee Brian Elliff – Brought up CDF fighting the fire and that it was brought by his attention that this would have had to have been fought by air. Trustee Hall provided his comment on the subject matter about bringing in a bomber and dropping fire fighting from the air. Landowner Scott Diamond reported to the Board that the north end of the island is still smoking currently. Scott Diamond inquired on what the plan is to finish the job and expressed that a 2” pump with 6 ft hoses from harbor freight may assist in putting out the fire. Landowner Scott Diamond inquired on if anyone had time to inquire with the fire department on if they had any hoses to provide even if they have holes in it. Trustee Smith Cunningham expressed that the island needed to be flooded due to it being peat dirt. Landowner Scott Diamond expressed that he didn’t

feel that this may be the solution due to the fact that he flooded Andy's property, and this became an issue. President Davies expressed that when the hard to get to spots continued burning that the rain would put them out. This is the only way other than flooding the island. President Davies expressed in taking care and being cautious when flooding their properties due to the neighboring properties being flooded next to Scott Diamond being Landowner(s) Alex Webster and Andy. Landowner Michael Craig reported that he has been out on the island for a long time and expressed that they never flooded the island except for one-time years ago. Landowner Michael Craig expressed that the rains did not help with this fire and the fact that it burned for an estimated two (2) years. Landowner Michael Craig expressed that the filled the ditch on both sides to wet this property and that was what helped. It was suggested that each property owner take care of their own parcels and keep the flammable items down. District Engineer reported that the county was out on site, and they may begin getting involved more with vegetation control. The Contra Costa County Fire Department expressed that if they come out to fire fight, that they would be requiring for the landowners to clear their properties, and this would be their main concern. President Davies expressed that the county is coming out to inspect properties that are storing items of clutter.

#### **D.14 PROPOSITION 218: DISCUSS/POSSIBLE ACTION**

a. Estimate to Conduct Prop 218 from SCI Engineering – tabled

#### **REPORTS:**

a. **Trustee**

b. **District Secretary: Provided by Angelia Tant**

1. District Financials
2. Summary of Activity Report
3. Property Owner's Delinquent Assessment Report

c. **Engineer's report provided by Blake Johnson**

1. Fire Protection MOU with Webb Tract – There were no items reported.
2. Potential installation of Siphons throughout the island- Blake provided a report on how many existing siphons were out on the island and also installing some potential new siphons. Trustee Cunningham provides his input on the siphons to be installed. Trustee Cunningham expressed that there could be a potential issue with pumping water due to the angle of the area.
3. Permits – Blake reported that the dredging project occurred. The contracted was directed to dredge another area by the Army Core. They requested permissions to store some equipment out on the island.

d. **Attorney Raquel Hatfield**

1. Update on COVID Orders - Due to the social distancing, masking indoors and vaccination order in place, the District meetings will continue to be held via zoom.

**ADJOURNMENT was at 12:02:** Next meeting to be on November 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10 AM.