

# BRADFORD RECLAMATION DISTRICT 2059

## Meeting Minutes

For an EMERGENCY Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. (P.S.T.)

## VIRTUAL MEETING

**Login in by computer or use the provided Call-In number**

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/81552533127?pwd=UWRXVm9pWUVLNkNWeWg0RU0wVnhHZz09>

**Meeting ID: 815 5253 3127**

**Passcode: 184362**

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

**Board President:** Rob Davies – Present  
**Trustees:** Bill Hall – Present  
Kevin Finta – Present  
Smith Cunningham – Present  
Charles Louie – Present

The meeting began at 6:00 P.M. The meeting Called to Order, and a Quorum was determined.

### PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

### DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### D.1 EMERGENCY – DISTRICT ENGINEER

a. It was announced at the board meeting that Blake Johnson the District's Engineer was no longer employed with Black and Veatch Corporation. Blake outlined his length of employment with Black and Veatch and expressed that Reclamation District 900 had called him and offered him a General Manager Position. Legal Counsel Raquel Henderson expressed that an emergency board meeting had been called because, she was made aware that Blake no longer was employed with Black and Veatch and wanted to discuss the parameters of employment to cover the District. Raquel expressed that she looked into hiring Blake on as an independent contractor and outlined that it would be breaking the guidelines for the District. Raquel outlined that Blake was requesting \$85 an hour at 10 hours a week. The Workers' Comp insurance would increase approximately \$1000 per year. Raquel went over the other options of hiring Black and Veatch directly or the option to hire another engineering firm.

There is a brief discussion on obtaining workers compensation insurance and errors and omissions insurance after some opinions had been voiced with concerns of liability. There is a brief discussion on the percentages of coverage from subventions for Blake's time. It was noted that the most recent hiring for the district with out placing an ad was for the historical Levee Superintendent Smith Cunningham. He was contracted with he District as an independent Contractor and then was offer employment with the district that he declined the position. This then triggered the hiring process for the newest Levee Superintendent.

Trustee Smith Cunningham voiced his concerns with the reimbursement for mileage, purchase of sodas, liability and also concerns with the status of important projects. Trustee Cunningham expressed that he felt that the District should hire someone that lives closer to the island. Blake expressed that he lives near Sacramento at this time. Trustee Cunningham also expressed that an engineer could be contracted on an as needed basis.

Trustee Louie inquired on if there was a probation period for new hires, annual reviews, and a job description that he would like to review. Trustee Louie inquired on if there was some time of time sheet or report of work that is being conducted. The District Manager responded to the questioned and outlined that there was a very detailed spreadsheet used to track Ron's time and there are areas to document notes outlining the scope of work and station markers. Trustee Louie voiced his knowledge of hiring guidelines in the public sector as an EDD employee. Trustee Louie further inquired on if there is a law regarding having to place an ad in the newspaper due to the District being a government agency. Trustee Louie also inquired on if there was a panel for hiring.

The District Manager outlines that there is a formal hire in packet, each staff member has a job description and an employment agreement. The District Manager further expressed that the district follows all of the employment laws and outlined that the District is contracted with a payroll company that provides the official hiring forms. The District Manager went over the most recent hiring process for the Levee Superintendent explaining that an ad was placed, resumes came in, the resumes were filtered through by the trustees, a hiring panel was selected, the trustees on the hiring panel selected a day to conduct the interviews and all of the interviewers came on that day, the trustees went over the candidates interviews and selected a candidate.

Trustee Kevin Finta expressed further on Trustee Cunningham's concerns with liability coverage for Blake's work. Trustee Finta inquired with the District Engineer on how much Black and Veatch billed out for him per hour. Blake responded that the engineering rate was \$220.00 per hour. The District Manager outlined that one month's billing from Blake and Veach was \$29,998.11 vs. the \$85.00 per hour at 10 hours per week.

President Davies went over some of his experience with hiring and firing having worked for the Government as well. Trustee Davies inquired with Trustee Louie on how long an ad had to be posted for. Trustee Louie responded for almost a month. Expressed that he felt comfortable with Blakes seven (7) years of experience with the district and expressed that he trusted him. President Davies further expressed that he would not re hire Dominick Gulli as a District Engineer.

M/S/P louie/Hall/Finta/Davies with Smith Cunningham has a NO to allow for the temporary position until the research is conducted

**ADJOURNMENT 6:37**

**PM:** Next meeting to be discussed Meeting **TBD.**