Bradford Reclamation District 2059

November 2027 Newsletter

Community Appreciation

The District extends its sincere appreciation to the individuals whose time, service, and generosity support Bradford Island and its community.

Landowner meeting and community support

Karen Cunningham, Stella Szostek, and Michael Craig helped facilitate the Bradford Island landowner meeting held October 25, 2026, at Forbes Island. Michael Craig's sister prepared sandwiches for attendees, and Michael Craig provided ferry tickets, food, and beverages. The District appreciates their generosity and hospitality. Heidi Petty made Forbes Island available for the landowner meeting. The District thanks her for supporting community participation. Stella Szostek was welcomed to her first Board meeting for taking an active interest in District affairs. Jake Cruz was welcomed back to an in-person public Board meeting.

Board of Trustees

Service on the Board of Trustees is unpaid. Trustees contribute time to public meetings, District oversight, planning, and consideration of matters affecting the island and its landowners. The District recognizes Board President Robert (Rob) Davies and Trustees Jamie Eddy, William Hall, and Kevin Finta for their service and continued commitment.

President Robert Davies

The District thanks President Davies for his years of dedication and leadership. In addition to serving as Board President, he serves as the District's ferry representative. He works with District staff and Engineer Blake Johnson on operations, projects, and maintenance, and responds to landowner calls, texts, and emails, often outside regular Board meetings.

Former Levee Superintendent Ronald Mijares

The District extends heartfelt appreciation to Ronald Mijares for his years of hard work and service. With his permission, the District shares its support as he continues his cancer journey and wishes him strength, healing, and continued support.

Community & District Operations

Meeting agendas

District staff prepare draft agendas using items requested or called for during public Board meetings, including items Trustees ask to be added. The Board President and District Engineer provide input. Legal counsel reviews the final draft before posting. Trustees may request items during a meeting. Members of the public may comment on matters within the District's jurisdiction and should have an opportunity to address agenda items before or during consideration. The District requests that comments on listed items occur when those items are called.

District website

Port City Marketing provides website services. District staff submit items for posting. If you find a broken link, notify the District Manager, who will contact the website host to arrange repairs. Port City Marketing Solutions 6507 Pacific Avenue #298, Stockton, CA 95207 www.PortCityMarketing.com | (209) 965-7678

Public records requests

The District responds to public records requests. Historical files may require additional research, and applicable response deadlines continue to apply. Submit requests to bradford2059@gmail.com.

Public records notice

Under the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 7920.530), letters, correspondence, statements, and other documents received, used, or retained by the District in connection with District business may constitute public records regardless of format. Records may be subject to inspection and disclosure upon request, except where confidentiality, privacy protections, legal privileges, or other exemptions apply. Individuals submitting documents relating to District business should understand that those materials may become part of the District's public records. References: Government Code sections 7920.530, 7922.000, and 7922.530.

Zoom meeting access

After legal counsel removed Zoom access information from a draft agenda, landowner Karen Cunningham asked at a public Board meeting why it had been removed. Counsel explained that Zoom was not required and that online participant identities could not be verified. Landowners expressed a preference for Zoom access and requested its restoration. Following that discussion, Zoom meetings will resume.

Meeting Recordings

Recording an open public Board meeting

California Government Code section 54953.5 generally permits members of the public to record open meetings of a local legislative body using audio or video equipment, subject to the statute's provisions concerning persistent disruption. Permission from individual attendees is generally not required simply to record the open public meeting.

When the meeting has adjourned

Once the Board meeting has concluded, the right to record that open meeting does not automatically extend to subsequent private conversations. Participants should stop recording when the public meeting ends unless they have an independent lawful basis to continue recording.

Private or confidential conversations

California Penal Code section 632 generally prohibits intentionally recording a confidential communication without the consent of all parties. Whether a conversation is confidential depends on the circumstances and whether participants reasonably expected it would not be overheard or recorded. Not every conversation after adjournment is legally confidential.

Recording devices left running

Leaving a phone or recording device operating after a public meeting has ended may raise concerns if it captures a confidential conversation without required consent. Legality depends on the facts; the presence of a device alone does not establish that a law was violated. This is general information only and is not a legal finding concerning any individual or incident.

Engineering, Levee Maintenance & Emergency Readiness

Levee repairs and restricted grant funding

The District has reported insufficient financial resources since 2022 to repair identified levee sites. FEMA and California Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant funds are restricted to approved purposes and are not available for general levee-raising work unless expressly authorized by the applicable funding agreements. These funds are subject to oversight, review, and audit. Use outside the approved scope may require repayment and could have additional grant-related consequences.

Appropriate levee coverings and landscaping

Landscaping, vegetation, and coverings on or near levee slopes can affect stability, drainage, erosion protection, inspections, and emergency access. Contact District Engineer Blake Johnson, P.E., through the District before installing, removing, or changing levee coverings. District review does not replace permits or approvals required by other agencies.

Depending on site conditions, engineering review may consider maintained grass or suitable low-growing vegetation, engineered erosion-control blankets or mats, location-designed riprap, and engineered soil-stabilization systems. Do not install or alter trees or large shrubs, concrete or asphalt, retaining walls, decorative rock, imported fill, landscape fabric, plastic sheeting, artificial turf, excavation, grading, irrigation, or levee slopes without prior review. USACE publishes levee vegetation guidance; California DWR provides flood-management guidance; and the Central Valley Flood Protection Board regulates applicable encroachments within its jurisdiction. Suitability depends on the site, engineering design, and applicable permits. References: USACE ETL 1110-2-583 and Central Valley Flood Protection Board permitting guidance.

Permits

Landowners may download a permit application at www.bradfordisland.com. The permit fee is $100.

Major levee projects and stockpiled material

Stockpiled material is only one component of major repair or construction work. Projects may require engineering evaluations and design, specifications and bidding, qualified contractors and labor, heavy equipment, transportation and placement, permits, prevailing-wage and certified-payroll compliance where applicable, oversight, inspections, and testing. Material availability alone does not mean the District has funding to complete a major improvement. Projects are prioritized based on engineering recommendations, available resources, and flood-protection needs.

Pump station update

At the direction of District Engineer Blake Johnson, staff are contacting PG&E to evaluate electrical connections related to a pump failure. Findings will inform repairs.

Emergency readiness

The District stockpiles emergency repair supplies at the corporation yard to support urgent levee and infrastructure work.

Ferry Service & District Liaison

Delta Ferry Authority — staff and roles

The Delta Ferry Authority (DFA) maintains its own operating rules and schedules. Bradford Reclamation District management and staff cannot independently change DFA policies or ferry schedules. District staff communicate ferry-related matters as a liaison.

Regular ferry service

Captain Bruce Kitchens confirmed regular ferry service of one run per hour on October 27, 2026.

Additional runs

Additional runs are governed by DFA policies. Landowners and contractors should submit the appropriate request form; charges may apply. Additional runs authorized for the special landowner meeting were a one-time allowance, not a permanent policy change. District Manager Angelia Tant does not make or change ferry policies and serves only as a liaison.

Ferry crew

The District thanks ferry captains and deckhands for their work. Day-to-day ferry operations are not directed by the District Manager/Secretary.

Ferry hangers — January 2027

At the October 2, 2025 Special Board Meeting, the Board approved ferry hangers for qualifying deed-listed landowners, effective January 2027 and conditional on passage of Proposition 218. The District reports that the 2025 assessment passed. FEMA funds cannot pay for these hangers. Ownership verification by deed is needed. The illustrative hanger states: Board approved; valid January 1, 2027; landowner; meeting minutes verified. The 2022 assessment proposal did not pass. Before 2022, ferry hangers were issued when a secondary funding source covered their cost. The District reported that ad valorem revenue alone was not enough to cover ferry operations and maintenance. The District sought special authority to use funding for ferry access because the ferry is needed for island maintenance, pump-station access, and emergencies. Funds remain subject to their legal and grant restrictions.

District Funding & Proposition 218

Understanding the District's funding sources

Bradford Reclamation District No. 2059 relies on funding sources with different purposes and restrictions.

- **Levy Code TU — Proposition 218 assessments:** The 2022 assessment proposal failed; a later proposal passed in 2025. The annual TU levy amount used in the newsletter illustration is $232,406.90.
- **Ad valorem, Levy Code CB:** Approximately $158,000 was collected. The majority was designated for ferry operations, leaving limited flexibility for other maintenance needs and District obligations.
- **State subventions:** The State reimburses 75% of eligible levee maintenance costs, less $1,000 per levee mile; the District pays the 25% share. Eligible staff payroll may be included. Pump-station repairs, ditch cleaning, and other noneligible work are not covered.
- **FEMA and DWR grants:** Funds are restricted to approved scopes and eligible expenses. They cannot be redirected to ferry hangers, unrelated repairs, or routine work outside authorization.

Four-year revenue illustration

Using the stated annual TU amount of $232,406.90 for four years produces a hypothetical total of $929,627.60. This is an illustrative projection of potential assessment revenue, not an audited loss or a claim that the District was legally entitled to collect these amounts. Restricted funds cannot be redirected to unrelated operations or projects.

District financial position

The District states that it is not bankrupt. Following the failure of the 2022 Proposition 218 assessment, it operated with limited funding and could not undertake larger capital improvements without sufficient available funding. Staff continued day-to-day operations and smaller-scope work using available subvention reserves, ad valorem allocations, mitigation funds, and project work-agreement funds, subject to each source's restrictions.

Staffing, pay and benefits

The District operated with three part-time staff members. According to District staff, they received no employer-provided holiday pay, vacation pay, health insurance, or retirement/CalPERS benefits; state-mandated paid sick leave was provided.

Compensation comparison

District staff report that compensation was significantly below Reclamation District No. 799, Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District, and Reclamation District No. 800, following many years without raises. These are staff-reported comparisons; supporting payroll records and agency comparisons should be verified before publication.

How eligible payroll costs are funded

Depending on the work performed and applicable reimbursement rules, payroll may be charged or reimbursed through State subventions, DWR project funding agreements, mitigation-site funds, permit fees, or FEMA disaster funding for eligible disaster-related work. District assessments and other unrestricted revenues cover remaining eligible costs.

Board Governance, Legal Counsel & Meeting Safety

Who makes District decisions?

The Board sets policy and approves budgets and projects. District Engineer Blake Johnson, P.E., provides independent technical direction. District Manager/Secretary Angelia H. Tant coordinates administrative work and does not override engineering decisions.

Board and staff

Board President: Rob Davies Trustees: Jamie Eddy, William Hall, and Kevin Finta; one vacancy
District Manager / Secretary: Angelia H. Tant, serving since 2006 District counsel: Nicholas (Nico) Chapman, Downey Brand LLP
Temporary Levee Superintendent: Brian Eliff, reporting to the Engineer

Legal billing clarification

A statement that monthly legal bills totaled $8,000 was described in the newsletter as incorrect. The newsletter says the monthly legal bill was substantially less than $8,000. Review official District records when checking financial claims.

Why the District retains counsel

Legal counsel advises on the Brown Act, records, contracts, public funds, and other District responsibilities. Counsel reviews meeting practices and proposed expenditures. Whether an expenditure is an impermissible gift of public funds requires legal analysis.

March 2026 Board meeting — ferry hangers

On October 2, 2025, the Board approved issuing ferry hangers to qualifying landowners beginning in January 2027, with the expectation that Proposition 218 funding would cover associated costs. When the matter arose again in March 2026, that anticipated funding had not yet been received. District Manager Angelia Tant recommended waiting for legal counsel to review the proposed expenditure, prior Board authorization, and applicable requirements.

Meeting safety and public participation

The March 2026 meeting included discussion of ferry hangers and the need for legal review. Trustee Michael Craig resigned at that meeting. Following the meeting, staff and the Board President reported concerns about disruptions and personal safety. In-person meetings were temporarily suspended while safety procedures and legal guidance were reviewed; meetings later resumed. The District welcomes questions, criticism, and respectful disagreement.

Sergeant-at-Arms

Trustee Kevin Finta serves as Sergeant-at-Arms to assist with maintaining order at Board meetings, consistent with applicable law. The District encourages civil participation and will address substantial disruptions using lawful meeting procedures.

Community Feedback & Contractor Information

Landowner and community comments

The District received expressions of support from landowners and community members. The newsletter included these excerpts and summaries: Fred B. thanked the District for ferry updates, property guidance, and newsletters; Janis S. expressed appreciation and celebrated the ferry's return; Alex W. thanked the District for an update; Ezequiel F. appreciated public-records information; and Matt B. thanked staff for assistance with a records request.

Consultants and professional partners

John Bliss and Heather Jamison of SCI Consulting Group congratulated the District on the Proposition 218 effort. Bliss recognized Blake Johnson, Rob Davies, Angelia Tant, and Michael Craig for speaking with property owners. Brian Eliff thanked staff for onboarding materials and explanations.

Contractor information

CES officially closed on January 31, 2025. Michael (Mike) Pedersen, a former part-owner, confirmed that he now operates under Pedersen Services. Statements independently made by individuals at the Bradford Island landowner meeting were not made on behalf of Michael Pedersen or Pedersen Services.

Character reference received by District staff

The newsletter reproduced a character-reference letter from Michael Craig dated May 1, 2025, as supplied, without corrections or editorial changes. The author described Angelia Tant's work and character positively and stated that he held her in high esteem. The full original letter is preserved below in a text-only transcription.

Character Reference Letter (transcribed)

From: Michael Craig | Date: May 1, 2025, 11:43 PM | Subject: Angelia Character | To: Michael Craig

To Whom it may concern,

I write this character reference letter in support of Ms. Angelia Tant with the knowledge of the reason for her request that I write. My name is Michael Craig. I am 84 years old and married for 37 years with a son. I have owned property for 35 years on Bradford Island, Contra Costa County. My professional background is Engineering. I graduated from San Jose State with a Civil Engineering degree. I currently sit on the Board of Trustees for the Bradford Island Reclamation District. This woman not only amazes me, but she amazes those around her. Those who know her through her work all think well of her. I could go on and on, but my purpose here is to sum up and say that there really is little to nothing on the negative side for me, and that with the time I've had to observe her, I hold her in high esteem. If you need further information or clarification please contact me at the contacts below.

Sincerely,
Michael Craig

Landowner Information & District Administration

Keep your address current

Contra Costa County Assessor
Attn: Public Service 2530 Arnold Drive, Suite 100 Martinez, CA 94553-4359
Phone: (925) 313-7400 ChangeOfAddress@assr.cccounty.us
Submit a signed Change of Address form with your APN.

District Manager / Secretary responsibilities

Angelia H. Tant has served since 2006. Administrative responsibilities include records and notices, Board support, DFA liaison work, accounting and payroll, human resources, ferry ticket sales and delivery, meeting minutes, and subventions claims.