

## CONFORMED AGENDA

### SPECIAL MEETING

GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
6329 LOWER MAIN STREET, GEORGETOWN, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2015

6:00 P.M.

### MISSION STATEMENT

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It is the purpose of the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District to:

- Provide reliable water supplies
  - Ensure high quality drinking water
  - Promote stewardship to protect community resources, public health and quality of life
  - Provide excellent and responsive customer services through dedicated and valued staff
  - Insure fiscal responsibility and accountability are observed by balancing immediate and long term needs
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**1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – *The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM. Directors Present: Krizl, Hoelscher, Capraun, Hanschild, Uso. Staff Present: General Manager Wendell Wall, Operations Manager Darrell Creeks, Erik Jacoby. General Counsel: Not present.*

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**A. Board Action –**

*Motion by Director Uso to adopt Agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Director Hoelscher.*

*Public Comment: None.*

*Vote: Motion carries.*

*Ayes: Krizl, Hoelscher, Capraun, Hanschild, Uso.*

**3. PUBLIC FORUM** – Any member of the public may address the Board on matters contained on the agenda that are within the jurisdictional authority of the District. Public members desiring to provide comments must be recognized by the Board President, and speak from the podium. Comments must be directed only to the Board. The public should address the Board members during the public meetings as President, Vice President, or Director followed by the Board member's individual last name. The Board will NOT hear communications on matters not on the agenda.

No disruptive conduct shall be permitted at any Board meeting. Persistence in disruptive conduct shall be grounds for summary termination, by the President, of that person's privilege of address.

*Director Krizl introduced the topic and provided the preferred format of the meeting. He noted that the Board would not be making any decisions on specific water restrictions and that this is only an informational meeting – the same as the meeting held the night before at Pilot Hill.*

#### 4. DROUGHT AND POTENTIAL IMPACT ON DISTRICT RESOURCES AND CUSTOMERS

##### A. Discussion –

- Recent action by Governor Edmond G. Brown Jr. relative to mandatory water restrictions as identified under Executive Order B-29-15.

*General Manager Wendell Wall discussed Governor Jerry Brown's April 1, 2015 Executive Order B-29-15 concerning the drought. The 25% cutback mandated by the State of California is an overall statewide goal. The state water board (Department of Health) will set specific conservation mandates in order to achieve the Governor's 25% target. Within the last 24 hours the state water board placed the District into Tier 4, which requires a 35% reduction.*

*GM Wall said that cutbacks within this district will be predicated on Stumpy Meadows Reservoir. Regardless of what the State mandates, the reality in this community is how much water is available in the Stumpy Meadows Reservoir. GM Wall further explained the potential for State-mandated curtailments in the event of good rainfall where the State could require the District to let the water flow through and prohibit it from storing the new water.*

- Prior state mandated Emergency Water Use Restrictions of 2014 as identified in District Resolution 2014-07.

*The State mandated Emergency Water Use Restrictions of 2014 as identified in District Resolution 2014-07 are from last year when the Board adopted Stage 2 water conservation. Reference the GDPUD 2010 Urban Water Management Plan for details regarding the various stages.*

- Current water storage in Stumpy and restrictions under a Stage 3 Drought Declaration as identified in the 2010 Urban Water Management Plan.

*Currently Stumpy is at 12,350 acre feet. GM Wall stated that he would be bringing a recommendation to the Board on April 14, 2015, as to what stage to adopt based on water storage, and that he would be looking more at a specific water level rather than a date in time as an end to the irrigation season.*

- ##### B. Possible Board Action –
- No action was taken. Director Krizl noted that this is an informational meeting only. No action would be taken until the next regular meeting on April 14, or soon thereafter.*

**Public Comment:** *Someone in the audience asked about the possibility of seeding clouds for rain. Director Capraun responded that this had been studied in the past with the determination that it is not beneficial to our District based on terrain and how weather moves across. The El Dorado Irrigation District benefits, but we wouldn't get much, if any benefit – we would probably give more rain to EID than what we would get.*

*Someone else commented that lower water consumption equals lower revenues and expressed concern about how that might affect water rates.*

*Ed, ALT Greens Committee, reported on how much water is being used at the golf course. He requested that the District follow EID's policy of allowing exemptions for golf courses.*

*Kevin, ALT General Manager, stated that he had established a water conservation committee at ALT, and commented that the committee is looking at ways to reduce water consumption at ALT, including the golf course.*

*Pat Snelling expressed concerns about ash from last summer's King Fire possibly affecting the water quality at Stumpy, and whether fire hydrants supply irrigation water or treated water. Mr. Creeks responded that the water quality so far has not been affected by ash from the fire. Red hydrants use treated water, black hydrants are on the irrigation pipeline.*

*Another person commented that green lawns, backyard pools, and golf courses are luxuries we can't afford.*

*Bruce Wadsworth has 30,000 Christmas trees and four acres of pasture. He feels that 50% cutback is too much. The trees need water before May or they will die.*

*Another person urged the Board to think of the future and to be strict regarding over-development.*

*Pete Brothers, who has fruit trees, commented that the intention of ditch water is for agricultural use. He asked the Board not to cut at the front of the season, because water is needed at the beginning of the season to keep trees alive. Mr. Creeks clarified that it takes from two to four weeks to get the ditch completely filled for the season. Due to the antiquated design of the system, the water can't be turned on and off at will.*

*Claudia Licht, Garden Valley, uses pipe ag water and asked if that works the same as ditch water. Mr. Creeks responded that if customers start shutting it off, it will spill over somewhere down the line. She also asked how customers will know how much water they used in 2013 for comparing to current use. GM Wall responded that the new bills will have a place to show prior use compared to current use. Ms. Licht asked about situations where family size increases (and hence water use) from 2013 to 2015. Mr. Creeks responded that at this time, individual users are not going to be monitored, the 35% reduction is District-wide, and everyone needs to participate. The next question was regarding well water users and if the District has planned any outreach to those people. Regarding the timing of the irrigation season, she would prefer the water be cut at the end of the season rather than at the beginning.*

*Another person suggested that a 50% reduction could be achieved if all users of the ditch got their pipes reduced by 50%. Mr. Creeks responded that not only would pipes have to be replaced at 391 places, but 391 risers would also have to be added in order to get the water level high enough to reach the pipes. Unfortunately, it's just not feasible.*

*Someone else asked about water loss due to leaks and if there is a long-term plan to repair leaks. Mr. Creeks responded that there are many thousands of feet, and extremely expensive, not to mention the special fish screens that have to be installed, too.*

*Another person commented that when irrigation season is cut, potable water use will go up to compensate.*

*Someone else commented that people who have historically been low users should not have to cut back by 35%, and high water users should have to cut back more than 35%. She asked if the District could get some emergency funding from the County.*

Another person asked if ag users that are financially damaged can tap into some State drought disaster funds. Director Hoelscher responded that those funds are for infrastructure, dams, etc. Director Hanschild noted that the money is going to people in the low income Central Valley area.

Someone else noted that there is ag water being used for non-agricultural use, and priorities will have to be set regarding ag water. GM Wall noted that the District will have to come up with an ag water plan by July 2016. Director Uso stated that at some time the District will have to bite the bullet and get an updated delivery system.

Another person questioned whether the District is submitting comments to the Water Board. Mr. Creeks responded that staff has been submitting comments.

One person suggested that a date should be set for ending the irrigation season, rather than a water level.

Another person commented that he would prefer to have the season shortened at the end rather than the beginning.

Another person commented that it is more important to have clean drinking water than to have green grass on the golf courses.

Someone else commented that those who have been conserving water should not be penalized the same as those who are not conserving and urged the Board not to do things the way the state water board is doing.

Another person lamented the loss of water in the ditch system.

Carol Scott commented that there are a lot of retired people in the community that perhaps could volunteer to write grants. GM Wall responded that the big issue currently is staff to administer the grants.

Someone else brought up the change in nomenclature from the State: ag water vs. irrigation water and potential future implications.

- 5. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT** – The next regular meeting will be April 14, 2015, at 2:00 p.m. at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District office.

*Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Wendell Wall by telephone at 530-333-4356 or by fax at 530-333-9442. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one-full business day before the start of the meeting. In accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2(a), this agenda was posted in the District's bulletin board at the Georgetown Divide Public Utility District office, at 6425 Main Street, Georgetown, California, on April 3, 2015.

Signed 

Date July 15, 2015

Wendell B. Wall, General Manager