

MINUTES

Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Board Of Directors
6425 Main Street, Georgetown, California 95634

IRRIGATION COMMITTEE

Regular Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2023
2:00 P.M.

Irrigation Committee

Ray Griffiths, Chairman
Bill Threlkel, Vice Chair
Carla Sutton, Secretary
Fran Todd

Alexandra Duarte
Kristy McKay
Eric Mede

Board of Directors Liaison

Donna Seaman
Mike Thornbrough

MISSION STATEMENT

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.
 - Ensure fiscal responsibility and accountability are observed by balancing immediate and long-term needs.
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The Irrigation Committee Chairperson is responsible for maintaining an orderly meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER — ROLL CALL — PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Griffiths at 2:05 PM

Roll Call: Bill Threlkel, Carla Sutton, Kristy McKay, Alexandra Duarte, Ray Griffiths were present; Fran Todd and Eric Mede were absent.

Once a quorum was established, Carla Sutton asked to be excused due to a family emergency.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Threlkel.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Kristy McKay motioned to adopt the Agenda; Alexandra Duarte seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bill Threlkel, Kristy McKay, Alexandra Duarte, Ray Griffiths

Nays: None

Absent: Carla Sutton, Fran Todd, Eric Mede

MOTION PASSED.

- 3. PUBLIC FORUM** - Any member of the public may address the Irrigation Committee on any matter within the jurisdictional authority of the Irrigation Committee. Public members desiring to provide comments, must be recognized by the Committee Chairman, and speak from the podium. Comments must be directed only to the Irrigation Committee. The public should address the Irrigation Committee members during the public meetings as Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, or Member, followed by the Committee member's individual last name. The Irrigation Committee will hear communications on matters not on the agenda, but no action will be taken. No disruptive conduct shall be permitted at any Irrigation Committee meeting. Persistence in disruptive conduct shall be grounds for summary termination, by the Chairman, of that person's privilege of address.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 17, 2022

Bill Threlkel motioned to approve the minutes; Kristy McKay seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Bill Threlkel, Kristy McKay, Alexandra Duarte, Ray Griffiths

Nays: None

Absent: Carla Sutton, Fran Todd, Eric Mede

MOTION PASSED.

5. IRRIGATION COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

- Chairman, Board Report None
- General Manager, Nicholas Schneider, reported the Board of Directors approved the submission of the Fire Safe on the Divide” grant. If funded, the grant would provide for the purchase of equipment including brush cutting tools for vegetation management, and a drone to inspect up country fire areas. The vegetation management would be funded through a contract under the grant. The exact budget is not yet determined but the equipment cost is estimated at between \$325,000 to \$660.0000 with the total grant between \$650,000 to \$985,000.

Comments: Steve Dowd asked if the drone will require special training. Mr. Schneider replied yes, an FAA certification.

Bill Threlkel asked if there was a safe herbicide to use. Mr. Schneider said no, we cannot use any herbicide.

Steve Dowd mentioned a few years ago at the east end of Stumpy, the Forestry Department sprayed poisons. Adam Brown, Operations Manager, stated we have not seen any impact, although chemicals can last.

Director Seaman recommended for the District to reach out and see what the U.S. Water service is doing around Stumpy Meadows and Pilot Hill. Adam Brown replied when we do the American River Watershed survey, there is a portal where they record what they spray. The last update we did was in 2019 there were no issues.

Note: Let the record reflect Fran Todd joined the committee at 2:10 PM and is now present.

6. INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

A. Water Resources

Adam Brown handed out a report (Attachment 1). Stumpy reached capacity as of December 31, 2022. What the report shows is the prediction for inflow into Stumpy by the end of the water year which is September 30th. It also shows the delivery capability for irrigation season. Ten percent of the time we can continue to see 135,000 acre feet to continue to flow into Stumpy Meadows before September 30th down to 95% of the time we will still see 14,890 acre feet. This is based on a 30-year historical inflow averages. As to water resources related to irrigation season, every scenario shows we would have enough water to meet the demands of irrigation services for the 2023 season. As for the season adjustment, it is too early to make that recommendation.

Kristy McKay requested a copy of the report emailed to her.

Public Comment: Steve Dowd does sealing the ditched decrease the seepage into the soil and evaporation? Adam Brown stated that in the end of the year summary to the Board, there is a value based on our gaging throughout the system, it was approximately 400 acre feet savings this year.

Director Seaman asked for clarification on the drop in the blue line on the chart. Adam Brown said the top graph is based on inflow into Stumpy and is related to the historical precipitation and includes snowpack. It is based on a 30-year average, and will vary. Reservoir storage is the second graph. What this showing, we could potentially be spilling until mid-July.

B. Public Outreach — On-line Video Update

Mr. Schneider stated we are planning to put together videos for irrigation customers, They can run the gamut of how to operate a metering device; things that need to be done as an irrigation customer; what sort of access is needed to maintain the ditches. The weather is preventing any progress on tis project, plus we will wait until there is water flowing. These informational videos will be posted on our web site for public access.

C. State Mandates for Water in 2023—Climate Conditions and Water Regulations

Mr. Schneider reported we don't know yet what the State mandates will be. With the glut of water, we're getting the State has toned down their conservation standard for the year. We'll be hearing from the State on their requirement. Any kind of treated water is still being conserved at the 15 to 20%. We will bring an update back to the Committee on raw water.

7. ACTION ITEMS

A. Review Proposed Ordinance Changes

Mr. Schneider reviewed the Proposed Ordinance language changes as per the attached copy of the Ordinance, (Attachment 2)

Kristy McKay in Section 1, sub section b commented the language should be modified to say "loss of plant material or other loss if appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Environmental Impact Report (EIR) reports have been submitted and approved."

Mr. Schneider stated this section refers to a loss of water not a structural change. He noted another section in the ordinance covers what she is referring to.

Mr. Schneider continued to review recommended changes and noted additional

changes as per the attached red line copy of the Ordinance.

Public Comment: Jim Croft expressed concern about being unable to access property to get to his boxes. Mr. Schneider encouraged him to contact the office and let the GDPUD personnel address the issue directly.

Steve Hoffman noted that not only is access difficult, blackberries have been allowed to cover the area making it difficult to get to the boxes to service them.

Mr. Schneider indicated he would be happy to meet with them, inspect the area and work out a solution.

Cherie Carlyon asked where the District gets the authority that there is a 12.5" easement on either side of the ditch, when the District doesn't have actual easements on all of the properties? Mr. Schneider stated we have a right of use easement—Unadjudicated Prescriptive Easement.

Kristy McKay suggested adding an appendix for definition. Mr. Schneider agreed it would be helpful and asked her to email him a list. Additionally, Ms. McKay noted she did not see where her earlier comments regarding CEQA and EIR reports should be required for structural changes. Mr. Schneider suggested she put a list together.

Action: Final review of the suggested changes at the March Committee before submitting to the Board.

B. Discuss Possible Adjustment To Irrigation Season —

Mr. Schneider stated there are no recommended adjustments to the Irrigation season. Final decisions should probably wait until March. The Committee agreed they should look at it later. Director Seaman pointed out; we are required to give 30 days' notice to customers.

Alexandra Duarte indicated much of the work for her farm is based on the May 1 start date. Advanced start date notice is important to know.

Kristy McKay said setting one date then going back to set another, is unnecessary red tape. It would be easier to recommend a later date, say May 11, and not have to go back and change it.

Bill Threlkel motioned to table the recommended start date until the March meeting; Fran Todd seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Fran Todd, Bill Threlkel, Alexandra Duarte, Chairman Griffiths

Nays: None

Abstained: Kristy McKay

Absent: Carla Sutton, Eric Mede

MOTION PASSED

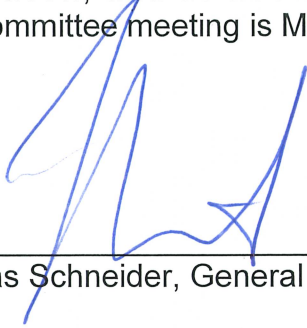
C. Discuss Annual Customer Letters

Director Seaman, stated she received a letter with the General Managers name on it, not Alexis's—not the application letters in the packet—with a different title. It went out with the requirement for May 1; the letter needs more clarification as to what is being asked for. Mr. Schneider suggested the letter be brought to the next Committee meeting for discussion. We can work on adding the clarifying language.

Kristy McKay will provide recommendations for reformatting the application.

8. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT IRRIGATION COMMITTEE MEETING

9. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT – The Irrigation Committee set the 3rd Thursday for regular committee meetings during the Irrigation season, and as needed or directed by the Board. The next regular Irrigation Committee meeting is March 16, 2023.

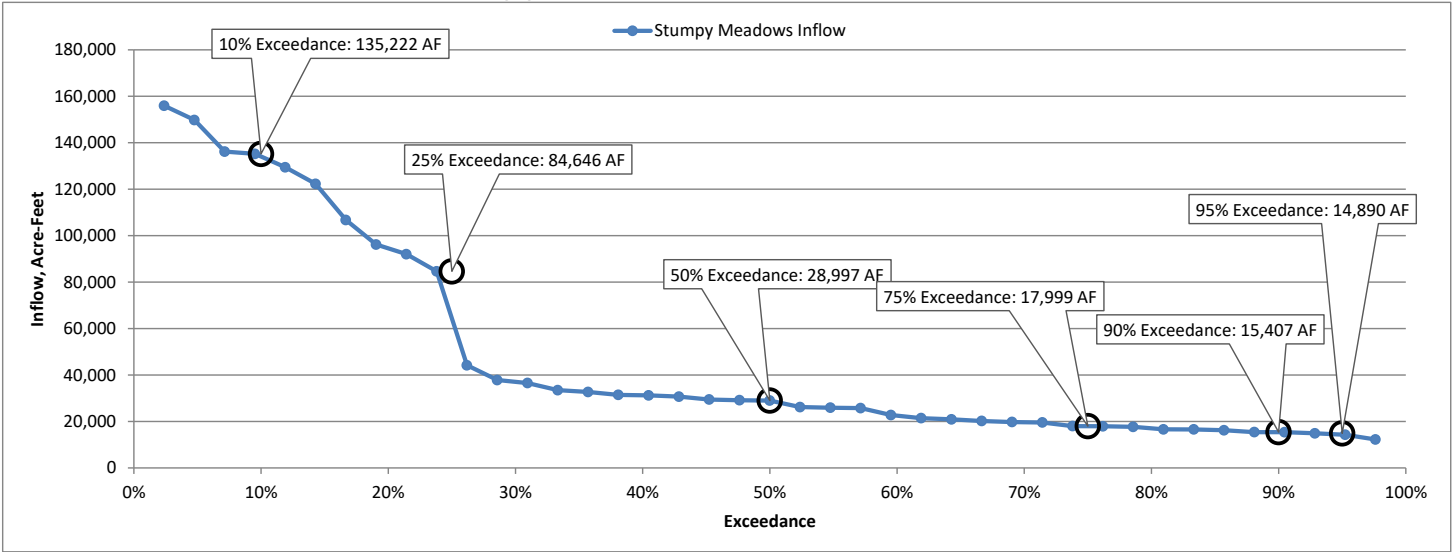


Nicholas Schneider, General Manager

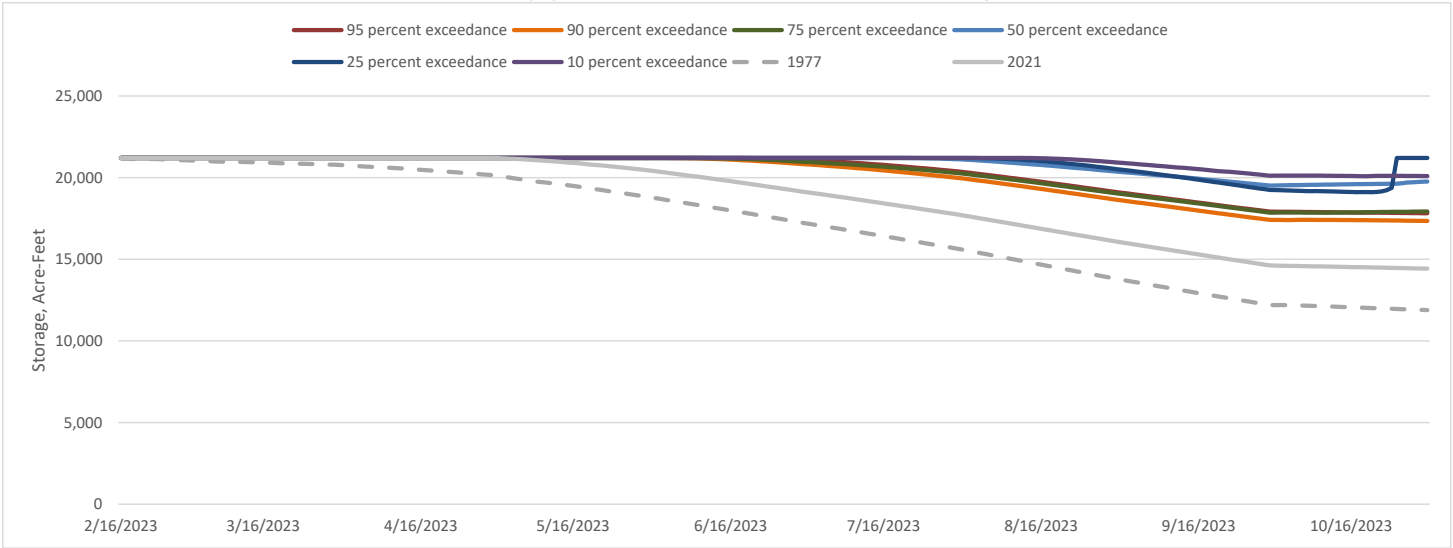
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Date

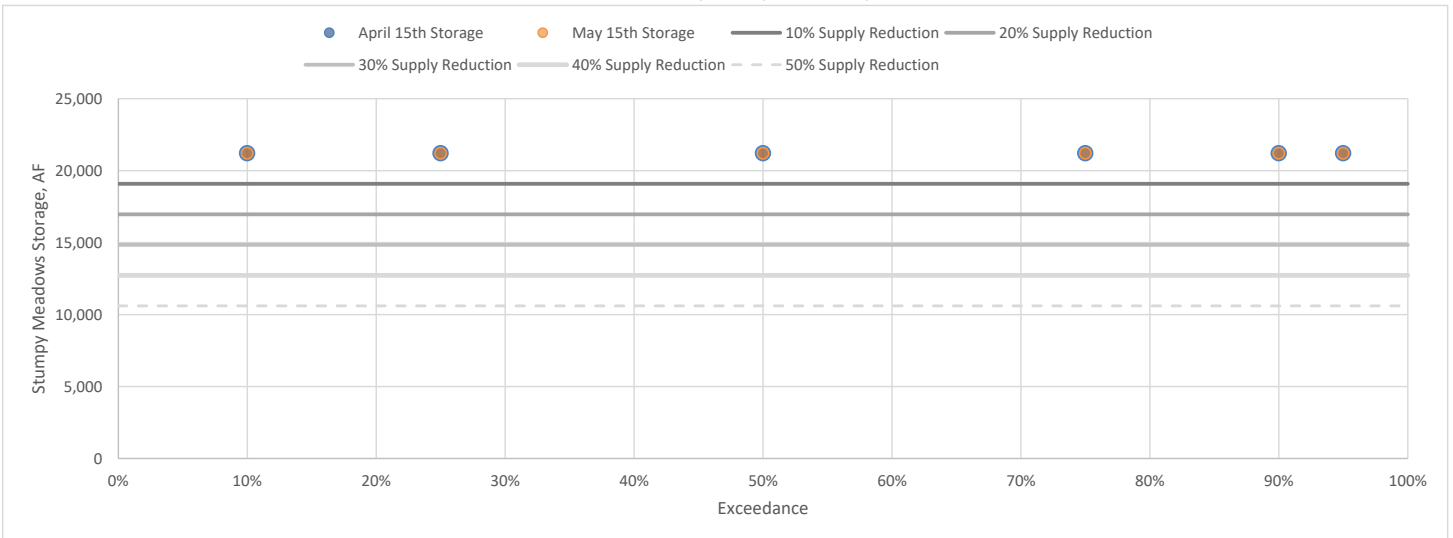
Total Inflow to Stumpy Meadows Reservoir, Remainder of Water Year



Stumpy Meadows Reservoir Storage



Delivery Capability



Delivery Capability

