

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSION OF THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY**

The Commission of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority met in special session on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023 at 10:05 a.m., conducted in-person and via Zoom Webinar from Turlock, California.

Attending were the following representatives of the member agencies:

Michael Frantz – Turlock Irrigation District (Chair)  
Glenn Spyksma – South San Joaquin Irrigation District (Vice-Chair)  
Robert Frobose – Modesto Irrigation District  
Newsha Ajami – City and County of San Francisco

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Member of the public Larry Byrd commented on the SJTA's need to hire an Executive Director sooner than later to assist with future planning for the Authority as well as also encouraging previous member agencies OID and Merced ID to rejoin for a more regional influence. He also encouraged members to consider future storage projects as there is now a window of opportunity due to the recent flooding caused by the storms.

### **MOTION APPROVING COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

Moved by Commissioner Spyksma, seconded by Commissioner Frantz, that the special meeting minutes of August 8, 2022, be approved as presented.

All voted in favor with Commissioner Frobose abstaining. The Chair declared the motion carried.

### **PRESENTATION OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Michael Clipper presented the Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements, Revenue and Expenditures Budget Report and Member Cash Call through the end of December 2022. As of December 1, the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority had funds available in the amount of \$356,789.37. Mr. Clipper reported no disbursements for the month leaving cash on hand in the amount of \$356,789.37.

### **MOTION APPROVING TREASURER'S REPORT**

Moved by Commissioner Spyksma, seconded by Commissioner Frobose, that the Treasurer's Report through December 31, 2022, be approved as presented.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - 1**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY  
MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2023**

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority is a Joint Powers Authority under the California Government Code; and

WHEREAS, the legislature adopted additional provisions in the Government Code Section 6592.1 to require all meetings where actions regarding financing actions be held at regularly scheduled meetings of the Authority.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority that the regular meeting schedule for 2023 be established as follows: May 8, August 7 and November 13.

Moved by Commissioner Ajami, seconded by Commissioner Spyksma, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Spyksma, Frobose, Ajami, Frantz
Noes:	Commissioners - None
Absent:	Commissioners - None

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING THE PROPOSED SJTA 2023 FISCAL BUDGET**

Legal Counsel Valerie Kincaid presented the proposed 2023 budget. Members discussed carryover figures, Cash Call commitment, legal and administrative costs, Strategic Planning costs as well as monies potentially due to an outgoing member agency. SSJID General Manager Peter Rietkerk stated his board would not be meeting until the next day to approve their fiscal budget which would include the Cash Call to the SJTA but noted he did not see an issue. Legal Counsel Valerie Kincaid noted the approved budget can be amended at any time if needed. Hearing no further discussion, the Authority took the following action:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2023 - 2**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE  
SAN JOAQUIN TRIBUTARIES AUTHORITY  
2023 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET**

WHEREAS, a proposed budget for fiscal year 2023 totaling \$1.41 million, discounted by a carryover of approximately \$180,000 from 2022, results in cash call of \$307,500 from each member agency for operation of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority and associated business was presented to the Commission of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority; and

WHEREAS, the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority recognizes the uncertainty associated with many of the upcoming activities but does not expect the cost to exceed that proposed in the projected budget; and

WHEREAS, the cash call from each member agency of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority to fund the Authority's share of actions on the San Joaquin River is projected to now be \$307,500 for fiscal year 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Commission of the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority that the proposed 2023 fiscal-year budget in the amount of \$1.41 million is hereby approved, along with a cash call of \$307,500 from each member agency. Payment due date will be April 15, 2023 or an alternate date determined by the Commission.

Moved by Commissioner Ajami, seconded by Commissioner Frobose, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes:	Commissioners Spyksma, Frobose, Ajami, Frantz
Noes:	Commissioners - None
Absent:	Commissioners - None

The Chair declared the resolution adopted.

### **STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**

Alison Kastama (SFPUC) and Jennifer Persike (Jennifer Persike & Co.) presented an update on the adopted SJTA Strategic Plan. Phase II, *Development of Strategic Plan Implementation* was launched in January 2023 with the team focusing on refinement of strategies and developing actions to support the vision, mission and goals. In light of recent statewide activities, including water rights legislation, two main goals were prioritized to better position the SJTA in 2023. The team noted work had begun on building deliverables under the *One Voice* goal to focus on the SJTA structure while increasing collaboration among members. Externally, the priority this year is to *Tell the Story* by developing a cohesive message while identifying people who can best speak on behalf of the SJTA. Ms. Persike reviewed the desired outcome for Phase II which includes expanding membership for the commission, increasing regional planning/projects, and elevating support for science while also becoming a recognized voice for the region. Discussion continued among members on how to best achieve these goals along with recommendations on strategies to increase awareness and understanding of the widespread benefits from the water systems and resources managed by SJTA members. Ms. Kastama conveyed there would be regular progress updates provided over the coming months with another discussion scheduled at the May Commission meeting. Commissioner Frantz thanked Ms. Persike and Ms. Kastama for the excellent work on the Strategic Plan and looks forward to the May presentation.

### **MOTION ADJOURNING TO CLOSED SESSION**

Moved by Commissioner Ajami, seconded by Commissioner Spyksma, that the Commission adjourn to closed session:

**A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority, et al vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Tuolumne County Superior Court - Case Number CV62094

Judicial Council Coordinated Proceeding No.5013

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

**B. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Fresno County Superior Court - Case Number 21CECG02632

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

**C. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

California Government Code Section 54956.9

San Joaquin Tributaries Authority, et al vs. California State Water Resources Control Board

Court of Appeals 6<sup>th</sup> District – Case No. H047270

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

**D. Conference with Legal Counsel – Exposure to Potential Litigation**

California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)

Legislative proposals regarding water rights

- Valerie Kincaid, Legal Counsel

All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

### **RECONVENE – OPEN SESSION**

The commission meeting was reconvened at 12:17 p.m. in open session with all officers present as per the previous session.

### **REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

The Chair announced no reportable action was taken in closed session.

### **MATTERS TOO LATE FOR THE AGENDA**

Commissioner Frantz commented he appreciated today's discussion towards a more action focused future, though he understood it is hard to get everyone in one place but encouraged the group to meet as frequently as needed so no opportunities are missed.

### **FUTURE MEETING**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on May 8, 2023.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, moved by Commissioner Ajami, seconded by Commissioner Spyksma, that the meeting be adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The motion was carried.

*Tami Wallenburg*  
Secretary to the Commission