

*Browns Valley Irrigation District*  
Post Office Box 6, Browns Valley, CA 95918

**AGENDA OF THE  
BROWNS VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

**WHEN**  
**Thursday**  
**July 08, 2021**  
**5:00 pm**

**WHERE**  
**Teleconference via Zoom**  
**Browns Valley, CA**  
**95918**

This meeting will be conducted by Zoom Video Conference and Audio Teleconference Only.

The Browns Valley Irrigation District supports the orders and directives from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Office in the effort to minimize the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 enables meetings of legislative bodies to be conducted by way of a teleconference. Governor's Executive Order N-33-20 directs all individuals in the state to stay at home or their place of residence except those individuals designated as essential by the Federal Government or the Office of the Governor.

The public is invited to listen, observe and, at designated times provide comments during the meeting by either method provided for below.

For members of the public interested in viewing and having the ability to comment at the public meeting via Zoom, an internet enabled computer equipped with a microphone and speaker or a mobile device with a data plan is required. Use of a webcam is optional. Login information is below.

**Join Zoom Meeting** (Copy and paste link into the search field of an internet browser):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858138652>

Password: **123456**

To participate via the audio only teleconference, dial-in to the meeting using the information below.

**Audio Only Dial-in 1-888-475-4499 Meeting ID: 828 5813 8652**

Public comment may also be provided in writing via email to the General Manager at [bvid@bvid.org](mailto:bvid@bvid.org).

Written public comment received via email prior to the adjournment of the meeting will be included in the record. If received before the end of the Board's discussion of an agenda item, email/comments about the item will be read or summarized by District staff.

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF THE  
BROWNS VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
JULY 08, 2021**

President Lowe called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Browns Valley Irrigation District to order. Directors present were Bordsen, Woods and Wheeler. Director Sokoloski absent. Also in attendance were Secretary / Clerk Springsteen and Operations Manager Shrader.

**1. Minutes:** The Minutes of the June 10, 2021 Regular Board Meeting will be reviewed by the Board for approval. A motion by Director Woods, seconded by Director Wheeler to approve the June 10, 2021 minutes. Directors Bordsen, Woods, Lowe and Wheeler ayes, Director Sokoloski absent. Motion passed.

**2. Public Forum:** None

**3. Finance Committee Report:** Concerning the Financial Report for June 2021. A motion by Director Bordsen, seconded by Director Wheeler to approve the June 2021 Financials. Directors Bordsen, Woods, Lowe and Wheeler ayes, Director Sokoloski absent. Motion passed.

**4. The Board will receive a presentation from the District’s independent audit firm Blomberg and Griffin and consider adopting the 2020 Browns Valley Irrigation District Independent Auditor’s Report.** A motion by Director Lowe, seconded by Director Woods to adopt the 2020 Independent Audit Report. Directors Bordsen, Woods, Lowe and Wheeler ayes, Director Sokoloski absent. Motion passed.

**5. The Board will consider authorizing an analysis to determine power purchase agreement options for the Virginia Ranch Dam powerhouse.** A motion by Director Bordsen, seconded by Director Lowe to authorize an analysis. Directors Bordsen, Woods, Lowe and Wheeler ayes, Director Sokoloski absent. Motion passed.

**6. The Board will consider authorizing staff to sign a proposal with Peterson Brustad Engineering, Inc. for design and engineering services to construct a pipeline across the new Highway 20 bridge spanning Dry Creek.** Tabled

**7. Manager’s Report:**

**COLLINS LAKE STATUS**

DATE	REMAINING SUPPLY VOLUME	%	LAKE ELEVATION	DIST BELOW SPILL	RELEASES	GEN OUTPUT
TODAY	10,650 AF	21.5%	1,132.5 FT	50.5 FT	71.1 CFS	0 kW
1 YEAR AGO	29,520 AF	59.6%	1,160.4 FT	22.6 FT	80.7 CFS	476 kW

Dry conditions continue as BVID enters the third month of the irrigation season. Community efforts on conservation continue to maintain the projected route which is slightly better than the 2015 customer usage. Estimates with current consumption patterns show an end date around the week of October 4, 2021, but staff emphasizes this subject to change as the weather and usage can vary throughout the summer and early fall.

On June 18, 2021, Ryan McNally received notice from MBK that the State Water Resources Board has imposed curtailments on all post-1914 water rights, including BVID’s Dry Creek and Tennessee Creek water rights. However, it should be noted that because BVID is delivering from storage at Collins Lake and not from flows in Dry Creek, the effect to the District will be minimal. In terms of Tennessee Creek, there is no flow above where we introduce stored water from Collins Lake so there will be nothing to curtail.

**YUBA RIVER STATUS (PUMPLINE CANAL)**

DATE	MAX DIVERSION RATE (BVID/YWA CONTRACT)	BVID WATER RIGHT (CURRENT MONTH)	CURRENT DIVERSION*
<b>TODAY</b>	90 CFS	47.2 CFS	<b>46.28 CFS</b>

*\*If the current diversion exceeds BVID monthly water right, the difference is deducted from the District’s “Project Base Supply.”*

Lower District supplies on the Yuba River continue as expected. The District is limited to its monthly water rights allocation (47.2 cfs), plus any remaining project base supply.

When speaking with MBK, they are also predicting additional curtailments to pre-1914 water rights. Historically, this would have affected the District dramatically as we nearly saw in 2015. However, in our 2016 Water Supply Agreement with the Yuba Water Agency, we are assured our 47.2 cfs from storage at New Bullards Bar as long as the gage at Slate Creek measures at least that amount. Although our legal gage remains at Goodyears Bar, we adjusted the measurement location further downstream in 2016 as a convenience to Yuba Water, but the benefit to BVID is that it picks up additional water from Canyon Creek. Nevertheless, the District has a right to invoke the Goodyears Bar reading if we identify an advantage, but staff cannot foresee one.

BVID’s water right on the north fork of the Yuba River is well below what minimum flows were recorded in 1976 and 1977. The north fork enjoys a unique hydrological advantage in that it is largely sourced by groundwater, opposed to other watersheds in the Sierra which rely on snowmelt. At this point, staff remains confident the District will receive our 47.2 cfs throughout the 2021 Irrigation Season.

**STAFF ACTIVITIES**

Staff met with the Executive Committee to develop a recruitment strategy to fill the General Manager vacancy. For now, staff is advertising on the website, as well as ACWA. This is in lieu of a full professional recruiting service that will cost \$10,000 to \$20,000. However, if not enough interest is generated, or qualified applicants come forward, we may have to consider this option. All incoming applications will be forwarded to the Personnel Committee for further consideration and as of July 08, 2021, there have been no applicants.

The BVID newsletters were mailed out June 24, 2021 and were delivered to all customers in the District.

Ryan McNally is working with David Daley who manages a ranch located to the north of Honcut Creek in Butte County that is not in BVID. The landowner is claiming they are entitled to pre-1914 water rights from Collins Lake because “when BVID enlarged the Collins Lake/Virginia Ranch Dam, they impounded the water from South Honcut. In their permit from the State water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), it states that they must not interfere with the water right of downstream superior water right holder.” McNally’s recommendation is to wait for official correspondence from the landowner’s attorney before invoking the District’s legal counsel in defense. All indications show this demand is made from a misunderstood water right due to Collins Lake having no impact on Honcut Creek.

At the May 13, 2021 Board meeting, the Board upheld the penalty consistent with policy imposed to a customer at 12008 Spring Glen. Since that time, the party has advised they hired an attorney regarding the issue and has requested all documents related to their property. Legal counsel has advised that the District not turn over any documents without a written subpoena, or formal request consistent with the California Public Records Act and is reviewing the issue.

## **CURRENT PROJECTS**

### **Sicard Pipeline Project**

Staff is waiting for the grant Agreement with USBR to be executed, which is expected later this fall, before purchasing pipe for the project.

### **Virginia Ranch Dam**

Staff is still waiting on parts to complete the repair on the generator.

The Technical Services Manager is coordinating with Kleinschmidt to develop and submit the annual dam security assessment as required by FERC.

## **PAST MEETINGS**

N/A

## **DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE / OPERATIONS**

### **Upper District**

Irrigation water flows in the upper district have remained consistent. Most customers are doing a great job on conservation efforts, compared to previous years, tail water is almost non-existent

A mainline break on the McDrip line was discovered and repaired.

The electric pump serving customers on white oak has gone out again, we are currently looking for a temporary diesel pump to serve customers.

Virginia Ranch Dam Power plant was brought back online; however, the generator has gone offline several times since being repaired, the low lake level and high-power demand during the hottest part of the day is thought to be the reason. It is currently offline due to an issue with the excitation panel.

Hwy 20 bridge crossing, Caltrans has requested signatures for the Cooperative agreement; the estimated cost is \$250,000.

Staff continues to be busy with service calls and repairs.

### **Lower District**

Pumpline Canal is running 47 cfs.

District well is running.

**8. Director's Comments and Reports:** Director Lowe discussed a possible new policy to be established for water truck permits.

### **9. Correspondence:**

- Letter dated June 15, 2021 from SWRCB to BVID regarding water rights
- Letter from NCWA regarding CA State Budget Overview
- Email dated July 2, 2021 to Director Wheeler from Richard Duplantier regarding out of district water truck permits

**101. Adjournment:** 6:15PM