

Directors

Steven Strickland, President
 Alan Hanger, Vice President
 Gary Hensley, Director
 James R. Miles, Director
 Eileen Uthe-Smith, Director

**Staff**

Weston Stankowski, Interim General Mgr.
 Brenda Kane, Billing Manager
 Rick Trites, Meter Reading/Backflow
 Nancy Veerkamp, Clerk/Admin
 Solano Irrigation District, Operation
 & Maintenance

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 10, 2024 at 7:00 pm

The Rural North Vacaville Board of Directors met in Regular Meeting session on this date.

Roll Call: Steven Strickland, President; Alan Hanger, Director; Gary Hensley, Director; James Miles, Director; Weston Stankowski and Gordon Stankowski, Interim General Manager; Nancy Veerkamp, Clerk/Admin; Brenda Kane, Billing Manager, Carrie Blacklock, County Counsel.

Absent: None

Public (Speaking): David Stevens, Elizabeth Miles, Mark Welch

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by the President, Steven Strickland, at 7:02 pm.

2. Administer Oath of Office for two newly elected District board members: James R. Miles and Gary K. Hensley for four-year terms and for one District board member by appointment in lieu of election for Alan Hanger for a two-year term. (Board Clerk)

3. Roll Call (Board Clerk)

4. Approval of the Agenda (Board President) Director Alan made a motion to approve the Agenda and the motion was seconded by Director Gary. All approved.

5. Consider and appoint a district member to fill vacant seat on the District Board for the remaining term ending in December 2026 (Action Item) Director Alan made a motion to appoint Eileen Uthe-Smith to fill the vacant seat ending in December 2026. Director James seconded the motion. Discussion: There was one application

received from Eileen Uthe-Smith.

Vote: All approved. The Oath of Office was administered by the Board Clerk.

6. Nominate and elect Board Vice President for remaining officer term ending in December 2025 (Action Item) Director Eileen made a motion to elect Alan Hanger as Vice President. Director James seconded the motion. Discussion: None

Vote: All approved.

7. Public Comments (Non Agenda Items): James Miles doesn't believe that public comments cards are required. David Stevens, President of Pleasants Valley Fire Safe Council, made a presentation regarding potential grants through collaboration with other local entities through partnerships. Many neighbors are having problems maintaining or getting insurance. This could be a future source of additional revenue for the district infrastructure. He is available in the future to work with the district. His email is: dstevens@jps.net

8. Consent Items: Public Comment: None

a) Consider for Approval the Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 12, 2024.

b) Consider for Approval the Monthly financial reports and adjustments for October 2024.

Director Gary made a motion to approve items a & b. Director Alan seconded the motion.
Yes: Gary, Alan, Steven, Eileen
Noes: James

9. General Managers Report (verbal update)- Public Comment: None

a) Interim GM Gordon thanked the Board for the opportunity to be of service over the last 6 months and past 13 years.

b) Final FEMA monies have been received for the Cantelow Road flooding and erosion totally approximately \$50,000.

10. Continuing Business: Public Comment: None

a) Discuss and provide direction on the following options for solar power: a) Negotiate and sign a power purchase agreement, PPA; b) Drop the solar application completely; c) Evaluate outside funding to do the solar installation without a PPA or d) Evaluate other reduced scope scenarios such as for only Well 1 and 2 and obtain additional bids. (Action Item) President Steve asked to table this item until the next meeting as we don't have all the information we need. Director Alan passed out a spreadsheet to be used for potential financing amounts and rates that can be updated as we get more information. Alan made a motion to table this item. Director Gary seconded the motion.

Vote: All approved.

11. New Business- Public Comments: None

a) Consider for approval the agreement with Patrick Sweeney (Sweeney Construction Company) to act as the independent contractor District General Manager (GM). (Action Item) Director Alan made a motion to approve the contract for GM. Director Eileen seconded the motion. Discussion: Director James asked for this item to be moved to the January meeting as he had not reviewed the contract, there are new board members, he doesn't know who wrote the contract and did not understand the budgeting for the position. I may have questions. How did we get where we are now. Steve: All prior board members had approved the contract. Alan: All five prior board members reviewed the contract. Alan explained the whole process of interviewing candidates. James: Is this legal? Carrie: Yes. Public Comment: Elizabeth Miles asked to push the contract approval off to the next meeting, it feels like you are rushing this through. Allow the public to review the contract. Eileen: I have been to all the meetings and the former board interviewed and reviewed the contract as did the RNVWD attorney. This has been discussed for months. Mark Welch requested the same. Alan gave a time line of all the work that had gone into selecting the candidate and preparing the contract with the Attorney approval. Steve and Alan reviewed all resumes for both positions. Patrick and another were the finalist. There were three candidates for Executive Assistant. Ken had to resign during contract negotiations. Transitions period is ½ time Patrick with Gordon training. Same with Ashwin. Neither contract was negotiated by the prior board members, Patrick and Ken who resigned. New board Directors Gary and Eileen had been aware of the selection process.

Vote:

Yea: Steven, Gary, Eileen, Alan

Noe: James

b). Consider for approval the agreement with Ashwin Swenson (KASCO) to act as independent contractor District Executive Assistant Treasurer (ETA). (Action Item) Director Alan made a motion to approve the contract for the Executive Assistant/ Treasurer position. Director Eileen seconded the motion. Discussion: Alan: Explained the process to create the Executive Assistant position. She is directly responsible to Board for her some of her duties and some to the General Manager-those tasks are defined in the contract. This is to provide check and balances. Elizabeth Miles: How did board members get copies of the contracts? The packet was sent out Friday. President: By email. Elizabeth: the email you used for James is incorrect. No one contacted him for his district email. He cannot receive a district email until he receives the oath. The email used was in the RNVWD billing program. Nancy: The district does not receive detailed info i.e. emails or addresses from the ROV when people sign up to run for office. Patrick: The information has been on the website since Friday. Mark Welch: I agree with the lady sitting next to me: time to figure out the next steps forward and be very careful. 30 days is not asking much to review this. Alan suggested a meeting on December 17th if others agree. No motion or action on this.

Vote:

Yea: Steven, Gary, Eileen, Alan

Noe: James

a.) **Consider for Approval the District Financial Audit for Fiscal Year July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024 (Action Item)** Director Gary made a motion to approve the District Financial Audit. Director Alan seconded the motion. Discussion: GM: It was a two page cover letter with favorable report. Eileen: A few comments that had already been addressed by the Board and Staff.

Vote:

Yea: Steven, Alan, Gary, Eileen, James

Noes: None

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Vacaville Fire Protection District, Fire Station #67, 4135 Cantelow Road, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Minutes submitted by Nancy Veerkamp, Clerk of the Board

Minutes approved by President:



President

1/14/25

Date