

MEETING MINUTES
of the Board of Trustees Reclamation District No. 537
April 1, 2025

Pursuant to the foregoing consent and the notice thereof, duly and regularly posted and given to all members of the Board of Trustees, and by-laws of said District, a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Reclamation District No. 537 was called to order by Trustee William Mattos on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 9:04 am in-person and via Teams online meeting.

Meeting items

1. Meeting attendance/introductions:

The meeting was attended by Trustees William Mattos, Dan Ramos, Thomas Ramos, Ross Peabody, and Trustee Ray Yeung. Also in attendance were District staff and consultants Rebecca Smith, Dustin Dumars, William Mattos, and Nichole Leonard. Three members of the public, Russell Maichel, Suresh Bagga, and Komal Bagga also attended the meeting.

2. Approval of agenda:

Trustee Dan Ramos made a motion to approve the agenda, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0.

3. Approval of minutes of the Board Meeting from March 6, 2025.

Trustee Peabody made a motion to approve the agenda, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items District

There was no public comment on non-agenda items.

Business/Action Items

1. Discussion regarding culvert crossing

Suresh Bagga sent a request to the District for a legal crossing. Mr. Bagga and Maichel had declined signing the previous license agreement, stating liability issues.

The District and legal counsel have drafted a license agreement for use of the crossing. All parties currently using the crossing over Reclamation District No. 1000's lands have signed the agreement. Mr. Maichel clarified that he does not want to sign the license agreement as it does not grant legal access, and he clarified that he is requesting a legal easement for the crossing. This is due to an issue with a bank loan for the property. Mr. Maichel is willing to pay for any construction or improvements needed to create a legal crossing.

Trustee Peabody reported the District does not have the authority to grant a legal easement as they do not own the land.

Ms. Smith also reported that the District would need an engineering evaluation regarding required drainage and maintenance prior to any construction of a new or improved crossing.

Trustee Dan Ramos recommended taking the license agreement to the bank regarding the loan. He also suggested that Mr. Bagga and Mr. Maichel seek legal easement from the State, which does own the land.

If that is granted, the District can evaluate potential construction or improvements of the crossings used by the landowners. Trustee Dan Ramos will forward contact information for

the State; Ms. Smith will send the template license agreement to the Baggas.

2. Report on District Finances

Mr. Dumars presented informational financial items. The District is now using Gusto and Bill.com for their transactions.

a. Line of Credit with First Northern Bank

Mr. Dumars will confirm the transaction fee amount and annual renewal fee, if any, and report back to the board.

3. Corp Yard

a. Building Bid from TriVel

The District requested, and was granted, an extension of TriVel's bid expiration, until April 17th. The District has since met with their funding partner and the funding contract lacks sufficient funds for full completion of the Corporation Yard Building Project, and therefore award could not be made to TriVel at this time.

4. Consideration to adopt Amendment No. 7 to SAFCA agreement 1526

The District's legal counsel has reviewed Amendment No. 7. Trustee Thomas Ramos made a motion to adopt Amendment No. 7, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0.

5. Master Agreement with DWR

The District plans to meet with DWR to review the final maintenance costs of the lands to be deeded over to the District.

6. Leasing JD135 for ditch cleaning

The District reviewed the lease agreement which has a term of five years. Trustee Dan Ramos moved to approve leasing the equipment, Trustee Yeung seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0.

7. Engineers' Report and Updates (MBK):

a. FEMA

Trustee Thomas Ramos is still working with SAMs.gov to update the District's Sams number for the FEMA claim. The District will use their rd537elkhorn@gmail.com email address and see if that resolves the account authentication issues.

b. Consideration to adopt CEQA NOE Resolution for the District's 2025-2026 routine maintenance.

Trustee Bill Mattos made a motion to adopt the resolution, Trustee Peabody seconded, and the motion passed 5-0-0.

8. Attorneys' Report

Nothing additional to report.

Informational Items

Trustee Mattos received a budget amendment request from Geosyntec. This item will be added to the Agenda for consideration at the next board meeting.

The District will meet with Westervelt to prepare maintenance plans.

1. Manager's Report

Manager Mattos report that Spring inspection is scheduled for April 25th. The District plans to perform mowing and begin rodent control for the season.

He reported the pumps are continuing to run and there was a temporary fault with pump number 5. The pumps are due for annual maintenance.

2. WSAFCA Update

a. Removal of RD 537 from the WSAFCA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA)

Ms. Smith reviewed the Agreement and reported that withdrawal of an agency requires a unanimous vote of the JPA, but reimbursement of the District's deposit does not require a unanimous vote. President Mattos signed the letter and it will be sent to WSAFCA.

3. Discussion of RD1000/900 Mitigation Site

The District will prepare a letter requesting take over ownership and maintenance of the RD 1000/900 mitigation site.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.