

**VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 5, 2025**

1) **CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Peggy Wiles called the meeting to order at 2:01 P.M. at the District office at 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, California 93023.

2) **ROLL CALL**– Glecina Reyes, Office Manager, conducted the roll call.

Present: Directors Bruce Kuebler, Ed Lee, and Peggy Wiles.

Absent: Director Laurel Lary

Staff present: Alma Quezada; General Manager

Mark Albertsen; Field Supervisor

Glecina Reyes; Office Manager

Nichole Suggs; Account Administrator

Stuart Neilson, Legal Counsel

Public Present: Brian Aikens

Public on Zoom: Laurel Lary, Amar Patel and Casey Watkins of KBKG, Jonathon Turner of Phoenix Civil Engineering, Miya Turner of TerraVerde, and Clara Nagy of Ventura Energy

3) **PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA)** – None

4) **SOLAR PROJECT: POTENTIAL TAX INCENTIVES:** The General Manager provided background information on the Solar Project and presented three funding sources for the project. Amar Patel of KBKG discussed the possible tax credit available through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the process of obtaining the tax credit, and KBKG's fee structure. In addition, the General Manager will work with Legal Counsel and KBKG to finalize the contract. Staff and KBKG responded to questions from the Public and the Board. **Public Comment:** There was a general discussion about the potential tax incentive. **Recommended Action:** The General Manager recommended that the Board hear a presentation from KBKG, and authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with KBKG to conduct a comprehensive benefit analysis and provide assistance with claiming available tax incentives for the proposed solar project to ensure the District maximizes eligible benefits while maintaining full compliance with IRS requirements. **Action:** Director Kuebler motioned to direct the General Manager to enter a contract with KBKG, seconded by Director Lee and the motion carried unanimously.


5) **SOLAR PROJECT – AUTHORIZE THE GENERAL MANAGER TO REVISE, COMPLETE, ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) PACKAGES:** The General Manager presented the item and introduced Miya Turner of TerraVerde Energy, LLC, who presented TerraVerde's procedure in developing and running RFPs under Government Code 4217. It was also stated that the General Manager will work with the District's Legal Counsel, TerraVerde and Phoenix Civil Engineering if the Board approves moving forward with the completion of the RFP. **Public Comment:** There was a discussion regarding TerraVerde making decisions on behalf of the District and the General Manager clarified the contractual relationships among the project consultants. TerraVerde is operating as a subconsultant to Ventura Energy, which in turn serves as a subconsultant to Phoenix Civil. It should be noted that when Phoenix Civil's contract was amended at a previous board meeting to include Construction Management services, Ventura Energy did not disclose their subconsultant arrangements. This information is being provided now for complete transparency. **Recommended Action:** The General Manager recommended that the Board review and provide feedback on the draft RFP presented by Ventura Energy and TerraVerde, and authorize the General Manager to revise and complete the RFP based on Board feedback and legal review, advertise the RFP through required and appropriate channels, receive RFP submissions, and return to the Board with RFP evaluation results and recommendation for award. **Action:** Director Lee motioned for approval of the General Manager's recommendation, seconded by Director Kuebler, and the motion carried unanimously.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm.

Attested:

  
Alma Quezada, Secretary