

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
LOWER TULE RIVER IRRIGATION DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District met at a Regular Meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2000, at 9:00 a.m. at the District office in Woodville, California. The meeting was called to order by Vice President BENJAMIN SERAFIN. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 5	2001	ROBERT F. BOWMAN (11:30)
Director	Div. 3	2003	DONALD MACMILLAN
Director	Div. 2	2001	BENJAMIN SERAFIN
Director	Div. 4	2003	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2001	TONY SIMONICH

Also present was DANIEL G. VINK, General Manager for the District.

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the April 11, 2000 regular meeting were reviewed as mailed. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the minutes of the April 11, 2000 regular meeting were approved as mailed.

The financial statement for the month of April, 2000 was reviewed and on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the financial statement for the month of April was ordered placed on file.

● The Local Agency Investment Fund earned an effective yield of 6.014% for April, 2000 compared to 5.119% for April 1999.

● General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the quarterly interest earned from LAIF amounting to \$56,180.00.

After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of finance committee in approving the March and April bills.

**2. WATER CONDITIONS**

Current water conditions were reviewed. The forecast for the Friant Kern Canal has been fixed at 100% Class 1 with a variable season on Class 2 estimated to end up at approximately 10-15% Class 2 available after the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. After thorough review and discussion on the amount of water available to the District for the 2000 water year, it was determined that the current water run will continue uninterrupted until the end of June. At that time conditions will be re-evaluated and the balance of the summer run will be determined.

The Board discussed the 2000 Friant Pilot program. Current program participants are participating on a one to one and half rate of return on water dedicated to the program versus water returned to the District. The Board concurred that that return ratio would not work for Lower Tule River Irrigation District and authorized participation in the program at 3 to 1 rate of return.

General Manager VINK reported on a variety of west side activities including a meeting with PSMOS representatives to discuss late season water that might be made available. In addition General Manager VINK met with both MIKE DRESICK and the WATER GROUP at the ACWA conference to discuss the 2000.

Considerable discussion was given to the Districts current implementation of full cost charges. After thorough review and discussion no action was taken.

### **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board various maintenance activities including the spraying and grading of District canals along with the replacement of various turnouts and ongoing work to the Districts maintenance yard facilities.

General Manager VINK reported on a meeting to be held later in the month with Tulare County Supervisor BILL MAZE to discuss MAZE's proposal for groundwater ordinances within Tulare County that may have a detrimental impact on the Districts operations.

The Board had a thorough review and discussion relative to the MWD proposed water quality exchange within the Friant Service area. General Manager VINK is on a Committee made up of Friant members and MWD representatives to try to draft principles that would guide any water quality exchanges with MWD.

At 11:30 a.m. Vice President SERAFIN convened the meeting into executive session to discuss the Districts potential litigation problem relative the channel clearing on the Tule River. District Counsel DAN DOOLEY was present via conference call. At 12:00 p.m. the meeting was brought out of closed session. No action was reported to be taken.

The Board discussed a variety of ancillary District activities including a meeting with CalTrans regarding the Poplar Ditch and the Highway 144 widening. In addition General Manager VINK presented an article explaining the Auserix relationship with the J.G. BOSWELL relative to Metropolitan Water District's request for dry year water supply.

The Board spent considerable time discussing potential water banking and Proposition 13 moneys that may be available to assist the District. After thorough review and discussion the Board directed staff to begin exploring the matter further and authorized the work to be done in conjunction with PROVOST ENGINEERING staff in an effort to try to obtain money for the District for potential water banking and system improvements.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on the BOR contract renewal process. Drafting work was completed with the CVP contractors rolling out their draft of a contract to the Bureau on April 25<sup>th</sup>. There has been no reaction from the Bureau to date although as negotiation

sessions has been scheduled for the 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> of May in Sacramento.

The Board spent time reviewing variety of District activities including potential staffing changes and long term staffing plans as well as the Districts need to comply with OSHA guidelines pursuant to recent legislation.

#### **4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including Advisory Committee meetings and several items relative to WAPA issues.

Considerable time was spent discussing the ownership and management problems and the situation with Kern County Water Agency. General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a letter from Counsel GEAN MCMURTREY outlining the KCWA's most recent position. The Agency has taken the position that the negotiations are no longer fruitful and as such no agreement will be forthcoming from the Agency. The CVC Participants will meet next week to assess various options

#### **5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed a variety of Tule River Association activities including the April 19<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the Success Reservoir Enlargement project.

General Manager VINK presented for review Interim Project Agreement #3 between the Tule River Improvement/Joint Powers Agreement groups. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERFAIN, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board authorized signature to the JPA Interim Project Agreement #3.

General Manager VINK reported on variety of other Success Reservoir Enlargement activities including a meeting held with some of the local sponsors and the DWR staff to try to iron out the CEQA process.

#### **6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Board discussed the April 27<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup> FWUA Board meetings. Considerable time at those meetings was spent discussing the NRDC matter and a review of a letter from a Pixley Irrigation District Board expressing the Boards concern relative to the NRDC matter. The minutes of the FWUA meeting are submitted to the Board and as such are not repeated here.

The District has received a call for funds from the FWUA in the amount of \$38,047.00. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of the FWUA call for funds.

#### **7. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

A. Mid-Valley Water Authority. The District has received no response from Mid-Valley pursuant to its request to withdrawal and distribution of unallocated funds.

B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. DCTRA Board is set to meet on the 18<sup>th</sup> of this

month.

- C. U.S. Department of Interior. General Manager VINK briefed the Board on a variety of staffing changes at the Mid Pacific regional level of the Bureau of Reclamation.

**8. MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND NOTICES**

General Manager VINK reported to the Board on a variety of activities regarding the recent ACWA conference. In addition there was a breakfast meeting held with Congressman CAL DOOLEY to review various agricultural concerns throughout the area.

**9. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

- C. Association of California Water Agencies
- D. Central Valley Project Water Association
- E. California Water Resources Association
- F. National Water Resources Association
- G. State Chamber of Commerce. The District has received a request for support from the Chamber of Commerce. The District is a long standing member of the Chamber of Commerce and after motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board authorized support for the Chamber of Commerce in the amount \$650.00.
- H. Ag Water Committee
- I. Water Education Foundation
- J. California Farm Water Coalition
- K. Family Farm Alliance. The District has also received a request from the Family Farm Alliance. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the authorized participation in the Family Farm Alliance program in the amount of \$500.00.

There being no further business to be brought to the Board's attention, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink  
General Manager