

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 10th day of April 2001, at 9:00 a.m. at the District office in Woodville, California. The meeting was called to order by President ROBERT F. BOWMAN. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 5	2001	ROBERT F. BOWMAN
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 SERAFIN and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the March 13, 2001 regular meeting were reviewed. Following one minor correction, on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the agenda was approved as presented.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statement for the month of March 2001:

- The Local Agency Investment Fund earned an effective yield of 5.976% for March, 2001 compared to 5.851% for March of 2000
- Water delinquencies to date for prior water years totaled \$28,835.00.
- Earned interest was not reported.

After thorough review of the financial statement on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the financial statement was approved as presented. A copy of the financial statement is attached as (Exhibit "A").

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in their meeting to approve the March bills. After thorough review, on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in approving the March bills.

2. WATER CONDITIONS

Current water conditions were reviewed by General Manager VINK. The declaration for the Friant Kern Division remains at 85% Class 1. It is anticipated that, given normal precipitation for the balance of the year, the declaration will increase to between 90% and 100% Class 1.

General Manager VINK reported on a variety of water supply and water activities including the 40-60% declaration for South of Delta contractors including the District and their CVC contract.

It was the concurrence of the Board to continue the current projections of a water run beginning sometime in the later part of May.

The Board spent considerable time reviewing the Poplar Ditch allocation. By agreement with Poplar Ditch Company, the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board sets the Poplar allocation for each water year. That allocation is based on the amount of water available from the Tule River for Poplar Shareholders. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board set the preliminary allocation for Poplar Ditch Shareholders at 30 acre-feet per share. That declaration is subject to further review at subsequent meetings.

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3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including the completion canal crossings for landowners MANUEL FARIA and RAYMOND VAN BEEK and an installation of a bridge on the Tule River for landowner HORINE. The Board reviewed video of the projects and discussed the projects in detail.

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of personnel issues and administrative matters within the District including:

- Interviews for a controller to fill the position being vacated by the retirement of VONNIE COLLIER. The Board entered into considerable discussion relative to the salaries to be paid to the new controller. No action was taken.
- A reported on a increase in dental insurance rates in the amount of 10-15%.
- The Board reviewed the retirement of RAYJONCOALTZ and the transitioning of JONCOALTZ activities to a new accounting firm in Tulare.

The Board has received from PERS the final documentation necessary for the contract amendment to the District's PERS contract providing for final compensation based on one-year basis. After thorough review and discussion on motion Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized final amendment to the PERS contract.

The Board discussed the recent meeting of the AD-HOC committee that was appointed by the Pixley and Lower Tule River Irrigation Districts to discuss the need for improved facilities for both Districts. No action was taken.

General Manager VINK reported on some hardware and software purchases that were made

in order to facilitate better drafting and engineering by Water Resources Engineer KEVIN FELLOWS. The purchases included a plotter and a CAD (computer automated design) program. The purchases totaled more than \$7,000. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of General Manager VINK in purchasing the hardware and software items

The Board reviewed some legal matters relative to the Districts renewal of the Friant water supply contract with the Bureau. District Council DAN DOOLEY has presented a validation action in accordance with the contract that was previously executed. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2001-04-01 directing that a suit be filed validating the form of the contract. That suit will be filed in Tulare County Superior Court by District Council. Resolution 2001-04-01 is attached as (Exhibit "B").

The District has received notice from the JPIA that the property insurance program renewal for 2001 in the amount of \$11,558 is due for payment. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized the renewal of the property insurance program with JPIA.

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a variety of administrative activities including:

- The law suit filed against the Talent Irrigation District and its implications on the Districts blue stone and copper sulfate treatments. T
- The lease agreement on the Lewis Hill property that will be allowed to lapse given the Districts switch over to the Nextel system.
- Various memorandum from Council DAN DOOLEY outlining activities and supreme court decisions.
- The transition from a landline based internet service to a wireless internet service that will provide email access to all the Districts employees and facilitate better information for District landowners.

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the proposal to proceed with the groundwater study for potential water banking within Lower Tule and Pixley Irrigation Districts. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized proceeding with the Phase II portion of the study as outlined by General Manager VINK at a cost of approximately \$40,000. More cost information will be provided as it becomes available.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

The Board reviewed the March meeting of the CVC Advisory Committee meeting and spent some time reviewing aerial photographs and images related to the construction of an inter-tie

between the CVC and the Kern Water Bank.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the March 21st TRA Board meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing Success Power Project and the Success Reservoir Enlargement activities.

The Board reviewed correspondence from Southern California Edison relative to Success Reservoir Enlargement and the relocation of transmission towers to accommodate the SRE project. No action was taken.

The Board reviewed the TRIJPA meetings held throughout the month with the Reclamation Board and other agencies to facilitate the enlargement of Success Reservoir.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the March 22nd Friant Water Users' Board of Directors meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the Westlands Water District area of origin claim and various San Joaquin River restoration issues. The minutes of the FWUA meeting are distributed to the Board and subsequently are not repeated here.

The District has received notice from Friant that there will be a special Board meeting on April 12th to discuss the tolling agreement between Friant and Central Green per the Sierra Foothills Utility District.

7. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY

- A. Mid-Valley Water Authority. Mid-Valley Water Authority will be holding a special meeting on April 20th to discuss to the Pixley and Lower Tule River Irrigation Districts request to withdraw from the Authority and receive their share of the undistributed funds.
- B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. Deer Creek and Tule River Authority had a meeting on the 16th of March. The minutes of the meeting are distributed to the Board and subsequently are not repeated here.
- C. Upper San Joaquin River Water and Power Authority. Upper San Joaquin River Water and Power Authority held a special meeting on the 27th of March to review the project. SEAN GEIVET of Terra Bella Irrigation District was asked to head up the review of the project to determine whether the project is still viable.

8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

The District has received a news release announcing that KIRK C. ROGERS has been named acting Regional Director for the Bureau of Reclamation given the recent vacating of the position by LESTER SNOW.

9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

AWCA and AWCA/JPIA will be having its semi-annual meeting in Tahoe early in the month

of May.

10. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- A. Association of California Water Agencies.
- B. Central Valley Project Water Association
- D. California Water Resources Association
- E. National Water Resources Association
- F. State Chamber of Commerce
- G. Ag Water Committee
- H. Water Education Foundation
- I. California Farm Water Coalition
- J. Family Farm Alliance. The District has received a request from the Family Farm Alliance for support in the amount of \$500.00 for the 2001 calendar year. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized the support for the Family Farm Alliance in the amount of \$500 for the 2001 year.

There being no further business to be brought to the Boards attention, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager