

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 9th day of January 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-Absent
Director	Div. 1	2001	TONY SIMONICH

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

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the December 12th, 2000 regular meeting were submitted for review. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director MACMILLAN the minutes of the December 12, 2000 regular meeting were approved as presented.

The financial statement for the month of December 2000 was reviewed:

● The Local Agency Investment Fund earned an effective yield of 6.535% for December, 2000 compared to 5.639% for December 1999

● The Board reviewed the District's status of accounts relative to the beginning of the fiscal year. The beginning balance for January 2000 was \$4,482,634.00. January 2001 the District began the year with the balance of \$4,612,658.00 in the accounts for a net increase of \$130,024.00.

● The Board reviewed the payment of the first installment of the 2001 assessment which was due on December 20, 2000. The total amount of the unpaid first installment is 5.8%.

The finance committee has not yet met to review the December bills, as such any action related to the finance committee was deferred to a subsequent meeting.

The Board reviewed the current slate of officers and the District appointments for 2001. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board retained the current slate of officers and the current slate of appointments, removing only GARY PEREZ as assessor for the District.

2. WATER CONDITIONS

Current water conditions were reviewed. The preliminary forecast from the Friant Kern Canal has the Class 1 water supply at 75% at a 50% accidence. Current projections and hydrology call for no Class 2 water for the 2001 water year. General Manager VINK reported that the District has approximately 6,000 acre-feet of water remaining for use during the 2000 water year. That water can be used up until the end of February and at that point can then be carried over into the 2001 water year.

General Manager VINK reviewed a number of water related matters with the Board:

- The District has approximately \$50 to \$55 an acre-foot in reserve to pay back the 2000 riparian banking program with Friant Water User Authority.

- The District has delivered 12,000 acre-feet of its 2000 Cross Valley water on the Westside. The District is in the process of completing a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation for the sale of 5,000 acre-feet to the level 4 program using the 2000 Cross Valley water.

The Board reviewed discussions between General Manager VINK and lake bottom interest relative to an option program for the 2001 water. After thorough review and discussion it was the consensus of the Board that an option program for 2001 should involve Westside water and preferably not Eastside water.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

General Manager VINK updated the Board on the ID 6 main canal project and the retaining of JIM WEGLEY from Keller, Wegley Engineering firm in Visalia to review the flow data and survey activity on the project. The Board reviewed a preliminary time line on the project that called for survey to be completed in spring of 2001 with construction to start shortly thereafter. Any activity related to the ID 6 main canal will be dependent upon the hydrology and the water run for 2001.

The Board reviewed a variety of personnel issues as they related to the District:

- The employees have requested a 4% cost of living increase reflecting the cost of living for 2000. After thorough review and discussion on the needs of the District and balancing that with equity to the employees, on motion by Director SIMONCH, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized a 3.1% cost of living increase for 2001.

- Considerable discussion was given to the methodology for determining the cost of living increases and the relationship with the Pixley Irrigation District. It was the consensus of the Board that in the future a joint Board meeting or a joint conference with the Pixley Irrigation

District Board would be appropriate when determining the cost of living increase.

● The Board also reviewed a request from the employees to modify the District's PERS retirement plan allowing for final compensation to be determined on a 1 year highest salary basis rather than a 3 year higher salary basis. After thorough review, and discussion and in particular a review of the PERS funding status showing the District being approximately 130% funded under PERS, on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board authorized the change in the PERS retirement contract to a final 1-year compensation.

● General Manager VINK presented a proposal to raise Construction and Maintenance Superintendent PAT BURTON's salary by \$200.00 reflective of a 5% merit increase over the past 2 years. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board authorized a \$200 per month merit increase for Operations and Maintenance Superintendent PAT BURTON.

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the cost associated with providing a vehicle allowance for the General Manager. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board modified the vehicle allowance from \$450.00 per month to \$525.00 per month. This was the first modification in the last three years.

The Board reviewed a memorandum from KRIS PETERSON, an attorney with Dooley and Herr's office, relative to how the District handles overtime and compensation time. After thorough review of the matter the Board concurred with the recommendations as provided by Dooley and Herr and concurred with administrative implementation.

The Board spent considerable time reviewing the contract renewal process. The Friant 25 year water contracts as negotiated with the Bureau of Reclamation have been completed and the 60-day public review period ends on the 10th of January. The Board spent considerable time reviewing proposed changes to the contract that would involve the removing of the exemption for tiered pricing on the uncontrolled season water. After thorough review and discussion, following the recommendation of staff and legal council, on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized the removal of the uncontrolled season language from the contracts.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of District activities:

& Discussions with Pajaro Valley related to the transfer and assignment of a portion of the Districts Cross Valley supply.

& Discussions with CalTrans regarding the Poplar Ditch alignment and Poplar Ditch pipeline plan.

- No response has been heard from ALAN CHANGALA relative to the purchase of property near the Districts Koslov basin.

The Board reviewed the Westlands Area of Origin application in particularly the potential formation of a strategic action committee to head up the Westlands with emphasis given to potential hearings with State and Federal officials and a long-term fix of the problem.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

Cross Valley Canal participants continue to meet on a regular basis to try and resolve the Cross Valley Canal management issues. A final draft agreement has been circulated for review with further discussions to be held later in the month.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the activities of the TRA in particular the December 20th, 2000 meeting of the TRA Board meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing channel clearing and the SRE project.

The Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority held their meeting on the 8th of January at the City of Porterville offices. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the Southern California Edison tower relocation issue and lead agency and representation concerns. It will be necessary over the course of the next month or so to decide which agency amongst the TRI-JPA will become the lead agency on the SRE project. The Board reiterated their concerns to General Manager VINK about taking on lead agency status without adequate compensation in the form of staffing from the other agencies and/or from other independent sources.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the January 5th FWUA Advisory Committee meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the MWD issues along with contract renewal. The minutes of the FWUA meeting are distributed to the Board and subsequently are not repeated here.

7. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY

- A. Mid-Valley Water Authority. General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the December 8th meeting of the MVWA whereby the MVWA Board was reluctant to grant the Districts request for withdrawal of the Districts share of the unspent portion of the reserve funds. That matter has been referred to outside counsel for subsequent review.
- B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. The DCTRA will be having its bi-monthly Board

meeting on the 19th of January.

8. MEETINGS, HEARINGS AND NOTICES

The Mid Pacific Water Users conference will be having its annual conference on the 17th - 19th of January and the Family Farm Alliance conference is being held in Las Vegas at the end of February. General Manager VINK along with various Board members may attend to represent the District.

9. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- A. Association of California Water Agencies
- B. Central Valley Project Water Association
- C. California Water Resources Association
- D. National Water Resources Association
- E. State Chamber of Commerce
- F. Ag Water Committee
- F. Water Education Foundation
- G. California Farm Water Coalition. The District has received a request from the California Farm Water Coalition for support for the 2001 calendar year. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the Board authorized support for the California Farm Water Coalition in the amount of \$1000.

Following the completion of the agenda the Board noted the on-going discussions relative to Contract Renewal and the need to meet and review matters related thereto. As such the meeting was adjourned until necessary to meet to discuss Contract Renewal matters. That meeting (time and place) will be duly noted.

The Board of Directors of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District reconvened the Regular Meeting of the 9th day of January 2001, at District Council Dan Dooley's office in Visalia. 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 and District Council Dan Dooley.

CONTRACT RENEWAL

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the latest developments concerning the contract renewal process, in particular last minute changes that were designed to placate the concerns of the plaintiffs and defendants in the NRDC -vs.- Patterson litigation. The Board reviewed the proposed changes in detail and following thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director McMillan, second by Director Serafin and unanimously approved adopted Resolution 2001-1-1 authorizing signature and attest to the final form of contract.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager