

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 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 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 SERAFIN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2001 regular meeting were distributed and reviewed. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director SERAFIN and unanimously approved the minutes of May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2001 regular meeting were approved as presented.

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

- Ø The Local Agency Investment Fund earned an effective yield of 5.328% for May 2001 compared to 6.190% for May 2000.
- Ø Water accounts receivable through June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001 were \$412,801

The Board reviewed the actions of the finance committee meeting in approving the April bills. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the finance committee in their approval of the April bills. The finance committee will be meeting later on in the day to review the May bills. The Financial Statement is attached as (Exhibit "A").

**2. WATER CONDITIONS**

Current water conditions were reviewed. The forecast for the Friant Kern Canal has been modified to 100% Class 1 and 5% Class 2. General Manager VINK expressed some reservation on the Class 2 declaration indicating dropping San Joaquin River natural run off and the possibility of total April-July runoff not matching what would be required to substantiate a Class 2 declaration of 5%. More information

on the Class 2 declaration will be available at the water supply meeting at the end of June.

Given the water available to the District the Board reviewed the current water run and a projected summer run. After thorough review and discussion it was a consensus to the Board to continue the current run through the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June and resume a run of the July 9<sup>th</sup>. That run would then be set up to be a possible on off run in order to get water to growers into the month of August.

The Board reviewed a variety of other water supply and water condition activities. Including continued discussions with BOSWELL relative to Creighton Ranch pumping and meetings with other urban water agencies throughout the state of California on potential water banking programs.

General Manager VINK also reviewed the status of the Westside water accounts including the delivery of water to the growers on the Westside of the valley with whom the District has agreements or transfers. In addition General Manager VINK reported on the untimely death of JOHN BRYNER in an airplane crash on Memorial Day. BRYNER was one of the key partners in the Districts Westside water operations.

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### **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities. General Manager VINK highlighted the project ongoing in Pixley Irrigation District whereby Lower Tule River Irrigation District employees are working with Pixley Irrigation District employees in the construction of an intertie between 2 of Pixley's main laterals. General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the hiring of a Controller.

FRANCIA MENDOZA-REYES was hired by the District on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2001. She will begin working at the District on June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2001. MENDOZA-REYES has been hired to replace retiring Controller VONNIE COLLIER. Her starting salary was \$45,000 per year.

General Manager VINK also reviewed with the Board performance issues involving Lower Tule Water Systems Operator GABRIEL PIZANO.

The Board discussed thoroughly the billing issues and joint operations concerns including meetings with the Pixley Irrigation District. Meetings between Irrigation District staff and School staff to discuss the value and possible sale of the Districts existing office facility. In addition the District has retained an architect to assist in the planning of a new project including cost estimates. The Joint Districts will be holding a public meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June at 6:30 pm at the AGTAC building to review the matter further with Landowners and Water users.

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the Friant Water Users/MWD water quality program including a letter from the Madera Irrigation District objecting to the style and content of a brochure being prepared by the 2 parties.

The Board spent considerable time reviewing the Westlands and particularly the CalFed issues as they relate to the Friant Division. The San Joaquin Area of Origin application and the Westlands 3 litigation issues. General Manager VINK and President BOWMAN will be traveling to Washington DC later in the month to meet with local legislators to review the matter in more detail and to further outline the Districts and collective Friant positions on the matters.

The District has received a variety of memorandum from Counsel, including issues clarifying the Districts acceptance of tail water into the system and some issues associated with the 1601 Permit.

The Board reviewed the May newsletter as mailed. The Talent Irrigation District case and the associated problems, the Districts website and the discussion on the Cross Valley Canal contract.

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

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including:

- Ø The continued discussions on the Pool 1 Liner project and the advisory committee issues.
- Ø The District is expected to receive a 1999 power reconciliation in the amount of approximately \$190,000. That money should be disbursed to the Districts within the next 30 days.

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

The Board reviewed the May 16<sup>th</sup> TRA Board meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing local river issues including the minimum pool issues and the need to keep water in the reservoir during the recreation season. The Board reviewed a variety of Success Power Project activities including the plant coming on line on May 16<sup>th</sup> and other various issues associated with the Power Project including the payment by Southern California Edison. Considerable time was spent discussing the Success Reservoir Enlargement project including meetings with Reclamation Board and various legislators to try to get money for the LAIRDS process. In addition the District has received a local interim agreement outlining the Governance between the local parties for the next 6 months. Action on that agreement was deferred until July 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

The Board reviewed the May 17<sup>th</sup> Special and the May 24<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Friant Water Users' Authority Board. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the CalFed issues and the Authorities relationship with NRDC and the Patterson litigation. Considerable time was also been spent discussing the Friant Water Users' replacement of resigning Engineer-Manager DICK MOSS. The current advertisement for the Managers position will run through the 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

The minutes of the Friant Water Users Authority have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

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

- A. Mid-Valley Water Authority.
- B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority had its bi-monthly meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May. Considerable time at that meeting was spent

discussing the Basin project and the various percentages accordingly.

- C. Upper San Joaquin River Water and Power Authority. The Upper San Joaquin River group has received notice from Manager John Boudreaux that he will be retiring from the Upper San Joaquin River as that group is in a mothball state. There is no clear indication as to what will happen next. General Manager VINK reported on a meeting with Kaweah Tule Watershed Counsel to be held later in the month when General Manager VINK will give a presentation on the Tule River Channel Clearing activities.

**8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

Nothing new to report.

**9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES**

Nothing new to report.

**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 request for support from the Family Farm Alliance. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized support for the Family Farm Alliance for the 2001 year in the amount of \$100.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink