

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 13th day of March 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 February 13, 2001 regular meeting were reviewed as mailed. After some minor corrections, on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board approved the minutes of the February 13, 2001 regular meeting.

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

- The Local Agency Investment Fund earned an effective yield of 6.169% for February, 2001 compared to 5.824% for February of 2000
- Interest earned was not reported.
- Water delinquencies totaled \$27,315.00 for prior years.

After thorough review of the financial statement on motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the financial statement was ordered placed on file. A copy of the financial statement is attached as (Exhibit "A").

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee at their meeting to approve the January bills following the February meeting and their meeting to review the February bills prior to the March meeting. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in approving the February and March bills.

2. WATER CONDITIONS

Current water conditions were reviewed. The forecast for the Friant Kern Canal remains at 85% Class 1 although it is anticipated that the declaration will increase with normal precipitation for the balance of the year. The Cross Valley Westside allocation remains at a 15% preliminary declaration.

General Manager VINK reported on a variety of water conditions and water related activities including the cancellation of the transfer of 10,000 acre-feet to the Bureau of Reclamation level 4-refuge program for 2001. That program was canceled as a result of the inability of the Department of Water Resources to wheel the CVC water during the 2000 water year.

The Board reviewed the agreed to option program with JG BOSWELL involving 2001 Westside supply. The District has received \$20 an acre-foot payment from Boswell for 2,500 acre-feet^[1]. If the water is moved to BOSWELL during the 2001 year the option payment will be applied towards the cost of the water. If Boswell elects not to take delivery of the water during the 2001 year the District retains the option payment.

The Board reviewed the 2001 water rates and the projected 2001 water run. Tentative plans call for a run sometime in the later part of May continuing on an on and off again program as necessary to meet the timing of irrigation demands. General Manager VINK will provide a letter to the water users accordingly.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities in and throughout the District including the completion of a crossing on canal #2 for Landowner MANUEL FARIA and for Landowner RAYMOND VAN BEEK. Those projects were paid for in part by the landowners.

The Board reviewed the Poplar Ditch pipeline project. Water Resources Engineer KEVIN FELLOWS entered the meeting to discuss the matter further with the Board and to review the process of completing the cost estimate. More information will be available at the April meeting.

The Board discussed the need for additional administrative space and the need for a long-term solution relative to the use of the temporary building currently being leased by the District. In conjunction with the Pixley Irrigation District, the Lower Tule Board formed an AD-HOC committee to review the matter of the administrative space for both Lower Tule and Pixley. Director SERAFIN and President BOWMAN will serve on that ADHOC committee representing the District.

General Manager VINK reported on a phone conversation with a real estate agent representing ALAN CHANGALA. MR. CHANGALA has listed for sale his property next to the Districts Koslov Basin. General Manager VINK relayed to the agent that the District was willing to pay approximately \$160,000 for the 2 parcels. That offer was rejected and the will be listed for sale on the open market accordingly.

General Manager VINK presented for review a Resolution identifying personnel eligible for

procurement of District property through the State & Federal Surplus Program. On motion by Director SERAFIN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 01-3-1 listing the names of KEVIN FELLOWS, MIKE BATTLES & PAT BURTON as authorized purchasers for District property under the State & Federal Surplus Program. Resolution 01-3-1 is attached as (Exhibit "B").

The District has received a request from the Madera Irrigation District to support Madera ID Director ROGER GALLEANO to the position of the ACWA/JPIA Executive Committee. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 01-3-2 supporting ROGER GALLEANO for the position of ACWA/JPIA Executive Committee. Resolution 01-3-2 is attached as (Exhibit "C").

General Manager VINK reported on discussions with JG BOSWELL representative WALTER BRICKER concerning the modifications to the 1977 Well Field agreement. Further discussion will be needed to modify that agreement to bring it more up to date with current conditions.

The Board reviewed in detail the Tule River Riparianist meeting that was held in the later part of February. The Riparianist and the Irrigation District work closely on monitoring and managing the Riparian water in order to benefit both the Riparian interest and the Irrigation District. This years operations will involve the District regulating the Riparian water in accordance with Districts water irrigation schedule rather than making the water available to the Riparians on a Riparian demand earlier in the year.

The Board reviewed in detail the Groundwater study as prepared by PROVOST & PRITCHARD focusing in particular on the phase 1 activity and the phase 1 workshop. The conglomerate of Districts involved in that process have received an estimate of cost for phase 2. That estimate of cost is approximately \$175,000, which General Manager VINK reported could be paired down by several thousand dollars depending on who participates in the next phase of the study. The Board concurred that the most appropriate way to proceed would be on an equal share basis but held final decision until further meetings with PROVOST & PRITCHARD could be had to determine the scope of work and the approximate cost.

At 11:00 a.m. President BOWMAN convened the meeting to a tour of District facilities.

The tour included site visits of the following:

- The Creighton Ranch facilities
- The Los Feliz project
- Various projects within Pixley Irrigation District, including the Townsend Recharge project and the Townsend inter-tie project
- The Poplar Ditch pipeline project and;
- The Deer Creek Tule River Authority Wildlife Enhancement project

The Board returned to the District office at approximately 2:30 p.m. to resume the regular business of the Board of Directors meeting.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK reported on the activities of the Cross Valley Canal including the activities of the Advisory Committee meetings and the continued discussions relative to the ownership management of the Canal by the participants.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the February 21st TRA. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing Success Power Project and the Success Reservoir Enlargement project. The minutes of the TRA are distributed to the Board and subsequently are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK and Tule River interests continue to monitor closely the issues relative to the SCE and their credit rating status and how that might affect the District in so far as their SO4 contract is concerned.

The members of the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Agreement will be meeting within the next month with representatives of the State to discuss issues relative to the Success Reservoir Enlargement project.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The meeting of the FWUA Board of Directors meeting was held on the 22nd of February at the Lamp Liter Inn in Visalia. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the Strathmore Creek flooding problems, the sessions with MWD and the Westlands issues. 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. Mid-Valley Water Authority will be holding a special meeting on April 20th to review the request of Pixley and Lower Tule River Irrigation Districts concerning their withdrawal from the Authority and the disbursement of proportionately available funds. The Authority has received a response form independent Council GARY Sawyer's relative to that matter.
- B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. Deer Creek and Tule River Authority will be holding its Board meeting on Friday. Considerable time at that meeting will be spent discussing local water supply projects.

8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

General Manager VINK reported that Regional Director LESTER SNOW has left the Bureau of Reclamation to take a position with a private consulting firm in Sacramento.

9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

The Upper San Joaquin Water & Power Authority will be holding a meeting on March 27th

at the FWUA. Director BOWMAN will attend to represent the District. General Manager VINK reported that the ACWA conference will be held in Tahoe in May.

10. 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
- G. Water Education Foundation
- H. California Farm Water Coalition
- I. Family Farm Alliance.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager

^[1] Total sale to Boswell for 2001 will be divided equally with the Pixley Irrigation District. Current payment is based on estimated delivery of 5,000 acre-feet.