



MINUTES OF A REGULAR 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 in a regular Meeting on the 12th day of November 2003, at 9:00 a.m. at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President BEN SERAFIN. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2005	BENJAMIN SERAFIN
Director	Div. 3	2003	DONALD MACMILLAN
Director	Div. 4	2003	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2005	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2005	DIANE BOWMAN-FRIEND-9:40 a.m.

District Staff Present: DANIEL G. VINK – General Manager
ERIC LIMAS - Controller
MIKE BATTLES – O&M Superintendent

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the October 14, 2003 regular meeting were reviewed as mailed. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the minutes of the October 14, 2003 regular meeting were accepted and ordered placed on file.

The Board reviewed the financial statements as presented by Controller ERIC LIMAS. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director BOWMAN-FRIEND, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the financial statements for the month of October 2003 were accepted and placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the finance committee in paying the September bills following the October meeting. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director BOWMAN-FRIEND and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the finance committee in approving payment of the September bills.

General Manager VINK and Controller LIMAS submitted to the Board for review a modified 125+ plan. The modifications were made consistent with Internal Revenue

Service guidelines. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board adopted the modified plan as presented.

2. WATER CONDITIONS

The Board reviewed a variety of water supply activities. There has been no change in declarations on either the Friant division or the Westside.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of water supply issues including:

- Potential delivery of the District's 2003 Cross Valley water. Given the timing of the year any possible deliveries will be reduced and any margin for sale will be minimized.
- A review of the capital repayment schedule. The review showed acceleration in capital payments since 1998 coinciding with the direct funding of the Friant canal operations and maintenance through the Friant Water Users Authority.
- Partnerships with Metropolitan Water District,
- State Water Resources Control Board funding issues and;
- The Water Management workshop to be held in February. Water Resources Assistant, KEN PHELPS will attend to represent the District.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities, including ongoing work at the Creighton Ranch wherein the District is redoing the internal channel and levies to make for better water management and less losses in dry year situations.

General Manager VINK and O&M Superintendent BATTLES presented to the Board for review the purchase of a new backhoe. The purchase of the new backhoe would be consistent with the Districts long-term equipment maintenance plan. The existing backhoe to be replaced is a John Deere 510, approximately 10 years old with over 6,000 hours. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized purchase of a new John Deere Backhoe through Empire Equipment. The



District had received competing bids from both Caterpillar and John Deere. In addition to the purchase to the backhoe the District will accept a trade in offer of \$19,000 from John Deere and authorized Controller LIMAS to prepare a 3-year financing package with Kaweah National Bank.

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of administrative activities with the Board including the completion of the District's Reclamation Form review, the status of the AG discharge waiver and various 404 permitting issues.

The Board also reviewed the District's Prop 13 application and the preliminary notice that the District has received \$700,000 in Prop 13 funding for completion of the Westside Intertie.

The Board then welcomed DICK MOSS and DENNIS MILLS from Provost & Pritchard Engineering to review with the Board the feasibility study for the Tule River Intertie project. The District had contracted with Provost & Pritchard to prepare a study assessing the feasibility of a Tule River Intertie on the eastside of the District to make better use of the District's Tule River water supply. A review of the various alternatives through a power point presentation by Provost & Pritchard demonstrated that the most feasible alternative would be to conduct a new canal approximately one mile west of the Friant Kern Canal. The Board took the matter under advisement. A copy of the feasibility study is attached as **Exhibit "A"**.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including the ongoing discussions for capacity increase and partnership with the Kern County Water Agency. In addition General Manager VINK briefed the Board on WAPA and post 2004 implementation issues. It appears as present as though the District will best served by forming a joint powers authority with a number of other WAPA contractors.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the October 2003 meeting of the Tule River Association Board meeting. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing Success Reservoir Enlargement activities.

The Board also reviewed various Success Power Project activities including a year to date generation report.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on Success Reservoir Enlargement activities including the ongoing meetings and the Federal and State funding issues. The minutes of SREJPA are submitted to the Board and as such are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK presented for review and consideration a transmission tower/line relocation agreement between Lower Tule (as lead agency for the project) and Southern California Edison. The agreement is part of the relocation of which the local sponsors are responsible. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director BOWMAN-FRIEND and unanimously approved the Board authorized Chairman SERAFIN to execute the transmission tower relocation agreement.

The minutes of the TRA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the ongoing meetings with FWUA Board of Directors. Considerable time at the FWUA has been spent discussing the facilitation process and the modified joint powers agreement. The modified joint powers agreement had been submitted to the Board for review. After thorough review and discussion on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director BOWMAN-FRIEND and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the modified joint powers agreement and authorized execution of the agreement by President SERAFIN.

The District has also received a call for funds for FWUA. The call for funds is designed to fund the Authority through the end of the calendar year 2003. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of the call for funds in the amount of \$38,713.

The minutes of the FWUA 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. Nothing new to report.

8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Nothing new to report.

9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

The ACWA fall conference will be held in San Diego in the first week of December. General Manager VINK and Controller LIMAS will attend to represent the District. O & M Superintendent BATTLES will attend to represent Lower Tule and Pixley at the ACWA-JPIA conference.

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. California Chamber of Commerce.
- F. Ag Water Committee
- G. Water Education Foundation
- H. California Farm Water Coalition. The Board reviewed a variety of miscellaneous matters including the California Farm Water Coalitions Outreach programs.
- I. Family Water Alliance.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink