



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 9th day of November 2004, at 9:00 am 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	2007	DONALD MACMILLAN
Director	Div. 4	2007	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2005	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2005	ROBERT F. BOWMAN

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 MACMILLAN and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the October 12th, 2004 regular meeting were presented for review. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director BOWMAN and unanimously approved the minutes of the October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2004 regular meeting were approved as submitted.

The financial statement for the month of October 2004 was reviewed. Included in the financial statement was a report by Eric Limas on a conference he attended. Topics at the conference included financial presentations and reserve issues. Considerable discussion ensued relative to District reserve policies.

After thoroughly reviewing discussion on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH an unanimously approved. The financial statements for the month of October 2004 were ordered and placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the finance committee an ratifying the September bills following the October meeting. On motion by Director MACMILLAN,



second by Director FERNANDES an unanimously approved. The actions of the finance committee were ratified.

## **2. WATER CONDITIONS**

The current declaration from the Friant Division remains at 100% Class 1 and 8% Class 2.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on precipitation to date. There has been approximately five inches of precipitation on the Tule River watershed which is significantly above normal to date. The Board reviewed a variety of water supply issues including:

- 2004 Cross Valley Deliveries
- 2004 Friant Transfers
- Potential 2005 Friant Transfers

No action was taken on any of these matters.

General Manager VINK reported that the City of Orange Cove is interested in accessing some of the water under the agreement between the City and Lower Tule in Water Year 2005. The District staff will be meeting with City of Orange Cove staff and the Bureau of Reclamation to finalize the transfer arrangements.

The Board spent considerable time reviewing a water rate worksheet for 2005. The preliminary review of the 2005 water rates resulted in considerable discussion relative to long-term fiscal issues.

## **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

### **Operations and Construction**

The Board reviewed a variety of construction operations and maintenance activities. General Manager VINK and O&M Superintended Battles reported on the River improvements and requested that the Board authorized replacement of the second phase of the Tule River diversion structure which is the Wood Central control structure. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director BOWMAN and

unanimously approved, the Board authorized reconstruction of the Wood Central structure at a cost not to exceed \$100,000.00.

The Board spent considerable time reviewing the purchase new tractor trucks for the Districts fleet. After thoroughly reviewing discussion on motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director MACMILLAN an unanimously approved. The Board authorized staff to spend up to \$60,000.00 for the purchase of two new trucks. The District has not identified any trucks for purchase. The authorization is being provided in order to expedite the process of purchase through auctions etc.

### Administration

The Board reviewed a variety of personnel activities. No action was taken.

At 11:30am the meeting was called in a closed session to review litigation matters including the NRDC vs. Patterson case. District counsel Dan Dooley briefed the Board via conference call. At 12:00pm the meeting was brought out of closed session. It was reported that no action was taken.

The Board reviewed a variety of Administrative activities including:

- The Public Records Act request from NRDC, which has been responded to by Counsel.
- On going negotiations with Metropolitan Water District for long-term water supply exchange.
- Memorandum from District Counsel relative to collection of assessments and;
- 404 and 1601 issues. It was reported that the District has received a completed 1601 permit for work on the lower end of the Tule River.

General Manager VINK presented for consideration the Districts water conservation plan. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SIMONICH an unanimously approved, the Board adopted the five-year update of the water conservation plan and directed that it be submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation.

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

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including Inter tie construction and issues associated with the Power of Water Resources Pooling Authority. No action was taken.

**5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the October meeting of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the Tule River Association Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

The Board spent considerable time discussing the Success Power Project and the potential buy out of the contract from the now bankrupt partners. On motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director SIMONICH an unanimously approved the Board authorized staff to spend up to \$100,000.00 to purchase the contract. That action is consistent with the action already taken by the Tule River Association Board of Directors.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of activities associated with the enlargement project, which is now on hold and the Dam safety project. Staff presented a 2004-2005 budget program for the D.S.A.P work. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director MACMILLAN an unanimously approved the Board authorized participation in the seismic activities through the Tule River Joint Powers agreement budget.

General Manager VINK reported that he and other members of the Tule River improvement group will be going to Washington D.C. in December to meet with Congressional representatives and the CORPS of Engineers on the seismic and enlargement project.

**6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the October meeting of the Friant Water Users Authority. The minutes of the FWUA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

**7. The Friant Water Authority**

The Board reviewed the October meeting of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the FWA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

**8. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

A. Mid-Valley Water Authority.

B. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

Deer Creek River Authority will be having it's meeting in November.

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

Nothing new to report.

**10 MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES**

Nothing new to report.

**11. 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.
- 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