



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 11th day of January 2005, 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 - ABSENT

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

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

President SERAFIN turned the meeting over to General Manager VINK to conduct Board organization for 2005. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board reelected the current slate of officers and kept the current appointments. The meeting then was turned back over to President SERAFIN.

The minutes of the December 13th regular meeting and December 16th adjourned regular meetings were reviewed as submitted. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved, the minutes of the December 13th regular meeting and the December 16th adjourned regular meeting were approved with minor amendments.

The financial statement for the month of December 2004 was reviewed. Included in the presentation of the financial statement were 2005 budget amendment recommendations for both the Employee Benefits and San Joaquin River litigation categories. The changes were due to increases in the District's PERS rate (retirement)

and additional activities associated with the NRDC litigation through the FWUA. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved, the financial statements for the month of December 2004 and the budget amendment recommendations were approved. **A copy of the revised 2005 budget is attached as EXHIBIT "A".**

The Board reviewed the actions of the finance committee in paying the November bills following the December meeting .On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the finance committee in paying the November bills following the December meeting.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources issues. The current declaration from the Friant Division remains at 100% Class 1 and 8% Class 2. General Manager VINK reported that the declaration may change, and addition water supply may be available on the Friant system before the end of Water Year 2004. Precipitation on the water sheds to date has totaled about 150% of normal.

The Board reviewed a variety of water supply issues including the 2005 winter rate. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board set the 2005 winter rate at \$25.00 per AF. That rate will remain in affect until further notice and is subject to changing conditions.

The Board reviewed:

- The ongoing flood release from the Tule River
- The Poplar allocation for 2005 and the impact of the allocation as a result of the re-operation, no action was taken.
- The full cost rate issue within the District, that matter was tabled for discussion until subsequent meeting.
- Potential Cross Valley Canal deliveries for 2005 including the potential for delivery of some of the water to the Wildlife refuges.
- Discussions with Metropolitan Water District and received an update on the process relative to developing an agreement.

General Manager VINK reported that the District has been in discussions with The City of Orange Cove to begin transferring water to the City of Orange Cove under the agreement between Orange Cove and Lower Tule.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Operations and Construction

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and operations activities. O&M Superintendent Mike Battles is attending a conference in Sacramento and was unable to provide a verbal report.

General Manager VINK then reported that long time equipment operator Mike Clark will be retiring in January. The District will make the necessary arrangements to recognize Mr. Clark's retirement.

Administration Activities

The Board spent considerable time on various administrative matters including:

- The transfer of the Taylor Ditch facility. That process is continuing.
- Ag discharge permit status
- The State Board fee issue and various meetings held relative to 404 and 1601 issues

General Member Vink presented an easement dedicated to Poplar Ditch Company from a developer in Porterville. After thoroughly reviewing discussion on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board accepted the easement on behalf of the Poplar Ditch Company and ordered it recorded at the County.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including the Inter tie construction and the long-term issues associated with the WAPA contracts.

The District has also received the final draft of the long-term contracts. Accordingly, on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized the posting of a notice to adopt a negative declaration. That action is scheduled to take place at a meeting in February.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the December 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.

Success Power Project

The Board reviewed the discussions and negotiations between General Manager VINK and the trustee relative to the buy-out of the contract. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of General Manager VINK and directed staff to enter into final negotiations with the trustee to buy-out the contract in the amount of \$160,000.00.

Success Dam

The Board reviewed a variety of Success Reservoir activities including:

- The enlargement project, which is currently on hold.
- The TRIJPA meeting held in January,
- A letter from the City of Porterville relative to their status in the JPA and;
- The Success Dam remediation project.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the actions of the Friant Water Users Authority and the various committee meetings held during the month of December. There have been no Friant Water Users Authority Board meetings since the last Lower Tule River Irrigation District Director Board meeting.



The District has received a call for funds from the Friant Water Users Authority in the amount of \$ 86,029.00. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved the Board authorized the payment on the call for funds in the amount of \$86,029.00.

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 November 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.

Nothing new to report

b. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

Nothing new to report

9. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Nothing new to report.

10. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

Nothing new to report.

11. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

The District has received a dues request from the Farm Coalition in the amount of \$ 9,950.00. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of the dues for the Farm Water Coalition recognizing the value of the Farm Water Coalition in getting information out to the State of California as a whole.

The District has also received a request from the Family Farm Alliance for dues in the amount of \$ 35.00. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director



FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment to the Family Farm Alliance dues in the amount of \$ 35.00.

- 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 to the Friday January 21, 2005, at 9:00am at which time the Lower Tule Irrigation District Board will reconvene to discuss various water supply matters.

*****Adjourned Regular Meeting *****

January 21st, 2005

On Friday January 21st, 2005 at 9:00am the regular meeting of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board was reconvened to discuss water supply matters. 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

The Bureau of Reclamation has recently notified the District that additional Class II water has been made available. The Board spent considerable time reviewing long term water forecasting relative to pricing and deliveries reflecting the need to recover the cost associated with delivery of District water to it's landowners on a long term basis.

On motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board set the water rate at \$40.00 per AF beginning February 1st, 2005. It is anticipated that is rate will continue until May 1st, at which time the rate will be adjusted for the summer rate, which at this time is expected to be approximately \$60.00 per AF.

General Manager VINK also updated the Board on ongoing discussions with Friant developers relative to a long-term water supply partnerships involving the Districts Friant supply. Those discussions have accelerated and are to the point were a memorandum of understanding is ready to be prepared.

General Manager VINK reviewed the terms and conditions of the agreement with the Board and noted the consensus of all in attendance.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink