



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 13th day of September 2005, at 9:00 am at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President 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 - <b>ABSENT</b>
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

Also present at the meeting was landowner and candidate for the Division 5 election, JOHN ROELOFFS and landowner and candidate for the Division 2 election, Jim Costa.

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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

The minutes of the August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 regular meeting were reviewed. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved, the minutes of the August 16<sup>th</sup> regular meeting were accepted and ordered placed on file.

The financial statements for the month of August was reviewed and on motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the financial statements for the month of August were accepted and ordered placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the finance committee in paying the July bills following the August meeting. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by

Director MACMILLAN, second by Director BOWMAN and unanimously approved, the Board ratified the actions of the finance committee in payment of the July bills.

## **2. WATER RESOURCES**

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of water resource issues, including the current declaration of 100% Class 1 and 0% Class 2.

The District is completing the 2005 irrigation season with water terminating to all canals sometime around September 15<sup>th</sup>. A complete summary of the 2005 irrigation run will be available at the October meeting.

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

- Poplar Ditch shareholder meeting
- Various non-project exchanges and
- The potential for delivering some Cross Valley Canal water to the Wildlife Refuge, per agreement with U.S Bureau of Reclamation sometime in October

## **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

### Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities. Considerable time was spent discussing the Westside Inter-tie and receiving a status report. Part of the project includes a road crossing at Ave 144. That project will involve boring under Road 144 and will need to go out to bid accordingly. On motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board accepted the bid documents as prepared by staff and consultants and authorized the project to be submitted for public bidding.

The Board went into closed session to discuss real time property negotiations. The property negotiations are specific to acquiring additional right-of-way necessary for the Westside Inter-tie project. Upon coming out of closed session it was reported that the Board had provided the Districts staff with parameters for which to negotiate right-of-way purchase.

The District has received an easement from Cal Trans relative to the Poplar Ditch relocation project. On motion by Director MACMILLAN, second by

Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved the Board accepted the easement and ordered it recorded at the County.

#### Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a variety of other administrative activities including continued discussion on the long-term fiscal stability of the District.

The District has received a notice from the Bureau of Reclamation that its website upgrade grant proposal has been accepted and approved by the Bureau of Reclamation. The website upgrade will begin this fall under the grant from the Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$25,000.00.

The District has received a claim for damages from TONY JORGE for some damage done to down hay as a result of a canal break. On motion by Director BOWMAN, second by Director MACMILLAN and unanimously approved, the Board authorized payment of the damages as submitted by TONY JORGE and ordered the claim be submitted to the Districts insurance carrier ACWA JPIA. A copy of the claim is attached as **Exhibit "A"**.

Staff reviewed with the Board a draft budget proposal for fiscal year 2006. The Board submitted comments to staff and for further review of the budget. A final draft of the budget will be presented at the October meeting.

At 10:00am President SERAFIN adjourned the meeting and open the Board of Equalization hearing. Staff reported only one change to 2005 assessment as result of land reclassifications the total increase was less than \$2,000.00 in the gross assessed value. No one was present to review or discuss the changes in the assessed value. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director BOWMAN and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2005-9-1, levying on all lands within the Lower Tule River Irrigation District for the year 2006 and assessment rate of 0.8% of the aggregate value of all lands in the District. President SERAFIN closed the Board of Equalization hearing and reconvened the Districts regular September meeting. A detailed copy of the changes is attached as **Exhibit "B"**. Resolution 2005-9-1 is attached as **Exhibit "C"**.

At approximately 12:00pm the Board adjourned into closed session to receive an update from District Counsel DAN DOOLEY on the NRDC vs. ROGER'S litigation. Counsel DOOLEY dialed in by phone. Upon coming out of closed session at approximately 12:30pm it was reported that no action was taken.

**4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities.  
No action was taken.

**6. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the August 2005 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

Nothing new to report.

Success Dam

General Manager reported on a variety of dam safety activities associated with the replacement of the dam at Success Reservoir. The Corp of Engineers has issued a preliminary report on its findings relative to the roller compacted concrete dam, which indicate that the roller compacted concrete dam will not suffice as a replacement and as such the Corp of Engineers will be looking more closely at a earthen dam.

General Manager VINK reported that Congressman NUNES has organized meetings in Washington D.C for the end of the month to further review the project with the Corp of Engineers and OMB. General Manager VINK will attend the meeting to represent the District along with other various members of the local sponsors.

**7. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the August 25th 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.

**8. The Friant Water Authority**

The Board reviewed the August 25th 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.

**9. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

- a. Mid-Valley Water Authority.

Nothing new to report

b. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority will be having their meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of June.

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

Nothing new to report.

**11. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES**

Nothing new to report.

**12. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

Nothing new to report.

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