

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 December 2006, at 9:00 am at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President MACMILLAN. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2009	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2007	DONALD MACMILLAN
Director	Div. 4	2007	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2009	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2009	JOHN ROELOFFS

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

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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

The minutes of the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 regular meeting were distributed for review. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 minutes were accepted and ordered placed on file.

The financial statements for the month of November 2006 were reviewed. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the financial statements for the month of November 2006 and ordered them placed on file.

The District has received an auditing engagement letter from Adair, Evans, and White et al in the amount of \$6050.00 to complete the Districts 2006 audit. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board authorized execution of the engagement letter with the auditor.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in paying the October bills following the November meeting. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in their payment of the October bills.

**2. WATER RESOURCES**

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources activities including the current supply available from the Friant Division. The District has approximately has 6000 AF of Friant - Kern water remaining. Of that amount, approximately 3000 AF will be delivered for recharge to the Creighton Ranch this fall.

The District has received the 2007 interim renewal contract for its Cross Valley contract supply. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of the interim renewal contract and approved all documents related thereto.

The Board gave considerable discussion to water deliveries to rented land and reviewed a draft policy as prepared by staff. After thorough review and discussion, considering particularly the need to secure payment of all water deliveries, the Board deferred the matter to the January Board meeting.

**3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including an update from O&M Superintendent BATTLES on the Westside inter-tie construction and the Poplar Ditch relocation project. The Westside inter-tie construction is progressing as planned with construction to continue for another 2-3 months. The Poplar Ditch relocation project is in the early portion of Phase I.

The Board considered a proposal from staff to modify the Districts payroll structure. The modification more specifically, would adjust the maintenance, equipment operator and the water systems operator positions to be more reflective of competing industries. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the

adjustments to the Districts grade schedule for the positions outlined by staff. In addition the Board authorized a 3% Cost of Living for all non-exempt employees.

The Board spent sometime discussing the NRDC v Rogers settlement. No action was taken.

#### Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK updated the Board on several administrative activities including a report from ACWA-JPIA on the status of the Districts risk assessment. The District has received excellent scoring from ACWA-JPIA.

General Manager VINK reported on an upcoming meeting to be held with Porterville Irrigation District and Poplar Ditch Company Boards to discuss the Tule RIVER Inter-tie. That meeting was schedule for December, but was deferred to January to accommodate Porterville Irrigation District's schedule.

The Board spent considerable time discussing the need to update the Districts Water Accounting program. The District has received a proposal and draft contract from TRUE POINT, a firm that has considerable experience in water accounting software. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH an unanimously approved, the Board authorized execution of the contract and payment of the services. The total cost will be approximately \$30,000.00 with 2/3'rds to be shared by the Lower Tule River Irrigation District and 1/3 rd to be shared by the Pixley Irrigation District.

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

The Board reviewed a number of Cross Valley Canal activities including an update from General Manager VINK on the Cross Valley Canal expansion. The final form of agreement will be taken up for action in January.

#### **5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Tule River Association Board. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing Reservoir Enlargement and Dam Safety projects.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on meetings that have been held to discuss the Dam safety project and including a November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting that was held in Washington D.C that was hosted by Congressman DEVIN NUNES. The meeting was the third annual meeting to bring the effected parties along with the affecting agencies

together. General Manager VINK also updated the Board on the 2007 and 2008 funding. Considerable concern has resulted over the continuing resolutions in Congress on the 2007 funding and how that might affect the project.

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

Success Power Project

Nothing new to report.

**6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Friant Water Users Authority did not meet in the month of November due to the holidays and will be having it's meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

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**8. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

The Board reviewed the November meeting of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority. The minutes of the DCTRA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

Mid-Valley Water 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**

A. Association of California Water Agencies -

The District has also received its request from ACWA in the amount of \$ 9590.00. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of support for the ACWA dues as well.

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 District has received a request for support from the California Farm Water Coalition in the amount of \$7260.00. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the Board authorized payment of the Farm Water Coalition dues.

I. Family Water Alliance.

J. California Farm Bureau

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink