



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 14th day of March 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
ERIC LIMAS – Controller
MIKE BATTLES – O & M Superintendent

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the February 14th, 2006 regular meeting were distributed for review. Following a minor correction on motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the minutes of the February 14th regular meeting were approved as presented and ordered placed on file.

The financial statements for the month of February 2006 were reviewed. On motion by Director SIMONICH, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the financial statements for February 2006 were ordered placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in paying the January bills following the February meeting. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the finance committee in payment of the January bills.



General Manager VINK reported that the appreciation luncheon for retired Board President BEN SERAFIN would be held on the 31st of March at 12:30pm at the Golf Course in Tulare.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water resource issues including the current declaration and water supply available to the District.

There has been considerable precipitation since the February meeting, which based on current levels will allow the District to run uninterrupted from now through much of the summer and if not beyond. In order to do that the District may need to access Section 215 water. Accordingly on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of the 215 Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Board reviewed a variety of water supply activities including the negotiation of a transfer program with F & T Farms in conjunction with Stone Corral Irrigation District and the Deer Creek Tule River Authority.

The District averaged up to ground water was reported at 99 feet for the first quarter of 2006.

The Board then spent considerable time reviewing a modified ground water reporting program that includes the development of contour maps by Provost and Pritchard. The Board concurred that the development of the contour maps are appropriate, and directed staff to pursue a proposal related thereto.

The Board reviewed the Poplar Ditch allocation in light of the recent precipitation, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director SIMONICH and unanimously approved authorized the addition of 20 AF of make-up water from prior years. The 20 AF of make-up water is to be used by June 1st and is additive to the existing declaration of 55 AF of which 35 AF must be used by June 1st.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including an extensive report by O&M Superintendent BATTLES on the Westside Inter-tie project.

The District has also received notice from Engineer JIM WEGLEY, that the Boring project has been completed. Accordingly on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted a notice of completion and ordered the same to be recorded at the county. Thirty –five days after filing of the notice completion the remaining 10% of the contract totaling \$9652.00 will be made available to Pacific Boring.

The Board reviewed a variety of other activities including the equipment purchase plan, which will be presented the Board at the April meeting and the sale of the District trucks at Martello Auction, which netted approximately \$5000.00.

Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed a variety of administrative activities including an Ethics training session for Directors that will be available in June in conjunction with Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District. The Ethics training is mandated by state law and must be completed by the end of 2006.

The District has received notice from Porterville Irrigation District that it has decided begin negotiations with Terra Bella Irrigation District for the joint management of Terra Bella and Porterville Irrigation District.

The District has received letter from the Real Estate Store indicating interest in District property in and around the Woodville area, including approximately 10 acres where the District shop is. After through review and discussion Board directed that staff respond to the Real Estate Store indicating that the property is not currently listed for sale. That the District is willing to entertain offers, however at this time no plans are eminent for sale of any District property.

The District has received its property insurance renewal program from ACWA JPIA in the amount of \$13046.00. After through review and discussion on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES the board authorized the renewal of the property insurance program.

Staff then presented for consideration the Lower Tule River Irrigation District and the Pixley Irrigation District water resources scholarship. The scholarship is a joint project between the two Districts wherein a qualified student would receive up to \$5000.00 for post high school education expenses provided that the course of study was related to water resources. After considerable discussion as to the merits to the scholarship and the need for introducing qualified people into the Agriculture industry, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director FERNANDES a vote was taken

on the approval of the water resources scholarship. The final vote tally was 4 in favor with Director SIMONICH being opposed.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including the Inter-tie construction and various PWRPA activities. No action was taken.

6. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed a number of Tule River Association activities. The Tule River Association Board of Directors met on February 15th, 2006 in a regular meeting.

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

General Manager VINK reported on a meeting held in Sacramento in February with the Corp of Engineers and the local sponsors on the dam safety program. The dam safety program continues to move along at a reasonable pace, although considerable work is still remaining. It was further reported that the Corp does not anticipate a change in operations for 2006 and as such the District would expect reduced amount water available from Success Reservoir.

Success Power Project

Nothing new to report - No action was taken.

Success Reservoir Enlargement

Nothing new to report – No action was taken.

7. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the February 23rd 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 February 23rd 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

General Manager VINK reviewed a number of miscellaneous issues including the Farm Water Coalitions meeting, the Tule River Riparianist's meeting and the DCTRA Board meeting, which was held on the 17th of March.

a. Mid-Valley Water Authority.

Nothing new to report

b. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

Nothing new to report

10. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Nothing new to report.

11. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

12. 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



Lower Tule River
Irrigation District

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