

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 August 2008, at 9:00 am at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President SIMONICH. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2009	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2011	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2011	GARY FERNANDES - <b>(Arrived at 9:30am)</b>
Director	Div. 1	2009	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2009	JOHN ROELOFFS

District Staff Present: DANIEL G. VINK – General Manager  
MIKE BATTLES – Operations Manager  
ERIC LIMAS – Business Manager

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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

The minutes of the July 2<sup>nd</sup> special meeting and the July 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting were submitted for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the July 2<sup>nd</sup> Special meeting minutes and the July 8<sup>th</sup> Regular meeting minutes and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of July 2008. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board accepted the Financial Statements for the month of July and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in paying the June bills following the July meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the June bills following the July meeting.

The Board spent a brief amount of time reflecting on the recent dinner held for long

time District Counsel DAN DOOLEY. All in attendance expressed their appreciation of the evening.

## **2. WATER RESOURCES**

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources activities including the current supply and allocation, which remains at 100% Class I and 5% Class II. General Manager VINK reported that 5% Class II allocation should remain for the year.

The District completed its summer water run on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of August. Final totals for the run will be available at the September meeting.

General Manager VINK reported on recent meetings with the Regional Director of the Bureau of Reclamation. Meetings were held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June and the 25<sup>th</sup> of July to try and expedite the delivery of the Cross Valley canal water this fall and summer. At present 100cfs of the Districts Cross Valley Canal water is being delivered on the Westside. It is anticipated that those delivery amounts will ramp up sometime later in the month.

The Board also discussed various groundwater pumping and groundwater monitoring issues within the District. No action was taken.

## **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

### Construction and Operation activities

General Manager VINK and Operation Manager BATTLES reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including:

- The Tule River Inter-tie canal and various right-of-way acquisition activities
- BATTLES updated the Board on a recent claim settled by the insurance company with Southern California Edison in the amount of \$42,000.00 to cover damage done to SCE utility poles during an incident involving routing District maintenance activities.

BATTLES and VINK presented for review the equipment replacement plan as previously reviewed by the Board, which indicated the replacement of a dump truck within the 2009 budget year. The Board concurred with the need to replace a dump truck and directed staff to obtain cost estimates accordingly.

### Personnel Matters

General Manager VINK reviewed several personnel activities including the development of a contract for the General manager.

The Board also discussed the PERS contract valuation and the potential merger of the Lower Tule and Pixley contract. In order to bring all of the employees under one standard set of retirement provisions, the Board concurred that a 2% @ 55 plan for the Pixley employees and the effective merger of the two plans retroactively was acceptable. Staff will begin working on the documents and the final cost analysis with PERS representatives. Final approval of the plan will be subject to Board ratification.

#### Legal Matters

General Manager VINK reported on a variety of legal issues including the San Joaquin River Settlement matter and the recent Grand Jury request for information and the related response as submitted by General Manager VINK.

#### Administrative Matters

General Manager VINK reviewed several administrative matters including:

- District wide strategic planning scheduled this fall
- Conversion of the Districts water billing and assessment to the TRUE POINT software

The Board then discussed a legal representation agreement and considered adopting a Conflict of Interest waiver allowing MR. ERNEST CONANT to represent the Friant Water Users Authority on various general counsel matters. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized signature to the Conflict of Interest waiver.

The District has received its 2009 liability premium from JPIA in the amount of \$45,749.00. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of the premium and renewal of the policy.

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

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including the Expansion and the Inter-tie project, along with other reports. No action was taken.

**5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the July 16th Tule River Association. The minutes of the TRA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

Considerable time at that meeting was discussing TRA transition issues.

General Manager VINK reported on recent discussions with the Dam Safety Project manager. No action was taken.

**6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the July 24th meeting of the Friant Water Users Authority Board. The minutes of the FWUA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

Friant Water Users Authority has been spending a significant amount of time on strategic planning efforts. It is anticipated that a strategic plan will be available for review by the Board sometime in September or October.

**7. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the July 24th meeting of the Friant Water Authority Board. The minutes of the FWA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

**8. MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority had it's meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July 2008. The minutes of the DCTRA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

**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 - The District has received a request for contribution from the Farm Water Coalition for a statewide media outreach effort. The purpose of the effort is to educate the people of California on the need for water supply improvements. The Board reviewed the request for contribution and on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, considering the Districts budget for outreach and education, the Board authorized a joint contribution with the Pixley Irrigation District in the amount of \$10,000.00
  
- I. Family Farm Alliance
- J. California Farm Bureau
- K. California Special Districts Association

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink  
General Manager