

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 February 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	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 – Operations Manager
ERIC LIMAS – Business Manager

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the January 8th regular meeting were distributed for review. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director ROELOFFS, and unanimously approved the Board accepted the minutes of the January 8th regular meeting and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of January. Included in the presentation of the Financial Statements was a proposal from Valley Business Bank to lock in the equipment loan rate at 4.15%. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board accepted the Financial Statements and ordered them placed on file and authorized the locking in of the equipment loan rate at 4.15% as well as authorizing execution of the loan documents with VALLEY BUSINESS BANK.

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

The District has received notice from the Upper San Joaquin River Water Power Authority that the District needs to appoint a representative to the Authority to replace former Director DON MCMILLAN. Hearing no objections, President SIMONICH appointed Director ROELOFFS to fill the position of representative on the Upper San Joaquin River Water Power Authority.

2. WATER RESOURCES

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of water resources activities including the 2008 declaration from the Friant division, which remains at 100% Class I. Precipitation is tracking at or near normal to date on most of the water sheds in the Southern Sierras. The Bureau will update the water supply declaration at the March Engineer's Managers meeting.

The District has a small amount (1500 a/f) of 2007 water yet to be delivered. Vink reported that Pixley Irrigation District may have the opportunity to purchase approximately 3000 a/f for a pre-irrigation run in February and perhaps into March. The 1500 a/f of Lower Tule water may allow Pixley to proceed with the run. Considering the fact that 1500 a/f is not enough to run the Lower Tule system, the desire to keep the water in the groundwater basin, and the fact that using the Lower Tule water would allow for more water to be delivered into the collective Districts groundwater area, it was the unanimous consensus of the Board to make the water available to Pixley if they needed it. In the event Pixley cannot make use of the water, it will become 2007 carry over supply for Lower Tule.

The Board spent some time considering a variety of water supply issues including intermittent winter and spring releases from Success Reservoir. Those releases are in part due to the flood control restrictions. The need for the release is exacerbated by the Reservoir restrictions as a result of the Success Dam Seismic problem.

The Board also spent considerable time discussing the groundwater resources issues within the District and directed District staff to meet with consultants to prepare reports for review by the Board on options available to the District to protect and enhance the Districts groundwater.

The Board then spent considerable time reviewing and discussing the water rates for 2008. Given the unknown nature of the water supply and the infant nature of the water year, after considerable discussion the consensus was to defer any action on the water rates to a subsequent meeting and leave the current rate at \$40.00 a/f.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including an update from Operation Manager BATTLES on the Poplar Ditch Relocation project and the purchase of the new equipment under the Air Board grant program. It was reported that the balance of the equipment, primarily the two graders, would be delivered sometime in February or early March. That will complete the delivery of the equipment and the purchase of the equipment under the Air Board grant.

General Manager VINK then presented to the Board a proposal to continue the work on the Tule River Inter-tie project. The proposal was developed in part with consultant engineers PROVOST & PRITCHARD. The work being considered would allow the project to proceed through right-of-way acquisition and design. President Simonich asked if the Board was still committed to pursuing the project. There was unanimous consensus to proceed. After considerable review and discussion, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized proceeding on the Right-of-Way acquisition phase and the construction document phase at a price of approximately \$ 120,000.00. In addition to that would be cost for the appraisal estimated to be between \$10,000.00 and \$15,000.00. General Manager VINK will also be meeting with consultant engineer PROVOST and PRITCHARD and a Right-of-Way acquisition assistant to determine the value of using a Right-of-Way acquisition assistant in the Right-of-Way process.

Personnel

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of personnel matters. No action was taken.

Administrative Matters

The Board reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding for the Tule River Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board took action to reaffirm the District's participation in the MOU. The reaffirmation is a procedural matter following the public hearing that was held in December.

General Manager VINK presented to the Board a proposed U.S Bureau of Reclamation Water Conservation grant application. The Board considered the grant proposal to the Bureau to cover the expenses associated with the stream gage replacement on the Tule River. There are no budget expenditures associated with this action. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized the submittal of the grant application to the Bureau of Reclamation.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK and Business Manager LIMAS updated the Board on a variety of Cross Valley canal activities. No action was taken.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed a variety of activities at the Tule River Association. The minutes of the TRA Board of Directors have been distributed to the Board and are not repeated here.

General Manager reported on discussions with DC representative JOE RAEDER with whom Vink is working on the Success Dam DSAP project and in particular integrating Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN office into the process.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the January 31st 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.

7. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the January 31st 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 Board reviewed the actions of the DCTRA Board at their meeting on the 18th of January. 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
- 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



Approved

- 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