

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 10th day of June 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
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 May 13th regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA an unanimously approved the Board approved the minutes of the May 13th meeting with one minor change to reflect the attendance of landowners BOYETT & BRIANO, the minutes were accepted and order placed on file.

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

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

At 9:30am landowner CRAIG and DAVID SILVERIA entered the meeting and requested

the opportunity to address the Board. After approximately 60 minutes of discussion considering a wide variety of District management practices and water resource issues, landowners CRAIG and DAVID SILVERIA left the meeting.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources activities including the current declaration. The current water supply declaration remains at 100% Class I, and 5% Class II.

General Manager VINK provided a status report on the District's overall analysis of groundwater pumping and groundwater monitoring within District and adjacent to District boundaries. General Manager reported that staff and consultants are ready to present their findings in a joint meeting set to be scheduled later in the month with the Pixley Irrigation District.

General Manager VINK reviewed with a the Board a potential sale of Porterville Irrigation District Tule River water to the City of Porterville for recharge in the Porter Slough during summer of 2008. The Board reviewed the proposed program in the context of the agreement the District has with Porterville Irrigation District that provides for Porterville making available to Lower Tule all of their Tule River water in excess of Porterville in-district irrigation needs during that calendar year. It was the consensus of the Board that Porterville be required to make that water available to Lower Tule as per the agreement.

General Manger VINK reported on a variety of other water related activities including:

- Westside deliveries and some ongoing discussions with the Friant Districts on alleviating Westside shortages
- A review of the District summer water run
- Some discussions on the transfer of water to Hansen Ranches under the Taylor Ditch agreement.

No action was taken on any of these items.

The Board then reviewed the current charges for deliveries for non-project water to full cost and excess lands within the District. At present the District provides a blended rate to the landowners who have full cost land. With the District's new billing system the blended rate is no longer a necessity as the District can track deliveries by parcel number. After thorough discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board accepted the staff's recommendation to do away with the blended rate and instead track deliveries by APN.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

District staff reviewed with the Board several construction and maintenance activities.

General Manager VINK reviewed the Tule River Inter-tie canal and recent meetings with the appraisers and real estate acquisition specialists. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board approved a letter of engagement with Gordon Berkhold and HR Macklin for appraisal services on the project for an amount not to exceed \$35,000.00.

Operations Manager BATTLES then reviewed with the Board a variety of construction and maintenance activities including a current review of the Districts channel profiling and current meter reading procedures along with routine summer maintenance activities.

Personnel Matters

Business Manager LIMAS presented to the Board for consideration a contract with AFLAC for supplemental employee insurance coverage. There are no unplanned budget expenditures associated with this item. The District will simply act as the fiduciary agent for the employees in providing the money to AFLAC. The contract for the supplemental insurance will be directly through AFLAC and the employees. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of the fiduciary agent contract.

Legal Matters

The District has received a claim for damages from M. Doyle for an accident that occurred in and around one of the Districts facilities and adjacent to Simonich property. President SIMONICH convened the meeting into a closed session as per Government Code 54956.9. Upon convening the meeting into closed session President SIMONICH recused himself from the meeting due to a potential conflict of interest. Vice President FERNANDES conducted the meeting during closed session. Upon coming out of the closed session it was reported that the Board took action to deny the claim and refer the matter to the Joint Powers Insurance Authority.

Administrative Matters

General Manager VINK reported on several administrative matters including:

- The conversion of the District's water order program and water-billing program to the True Point system, which will also allow for web base water ordering.

- The award of the 2008 scholarships, to Breann Borges and Leslie Friend.
- General Manager VINK also requested the Board start thinking about District wide strategic planning to begin in early fall 2009.

The Board then turned its attention to the Districts turnout installation rates and a break down of costs as prepared by staff. The cost associated with the installation on new delivery turnouts is approximately \$4000.00. The Districts current charge is \$1800.00. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board updated the Districts turn out replacement cost to \$4000.00.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley Canal activities including The expansion on the Inter-tie project, which is essentially completed along with 2007 PWPRRA reconciliation completed as presented by Business Manager LIMAS.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the minutes of the May 21st Tule River Association. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing the State Water Resources Control Board issues as they pertain to River Island.

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

General Manager VINK reported on a stakeholders meeting held at the Corp of Engineers on the Dam Safety Project on the 15th of May. The Corp of Engineers is planning a July 2008 time frame for the alternative selection with the final letter report and ROD to be completed in early to late fall of 2008. That would allow for real estate acquisitions to begin in January 2009.

General Manager VINK reported that a fall meeting in Washington D.C with all the stakeholders was the current course of action.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the May 29th meeting of the Friant Water Users Authority Board.

Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing legal representation and the withdrawal of the Chowchilla Water District from the Authority.

The Board reviewed the recent letter from the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority requesting that Friant begin a strategic planning process to better find the relevance of the

organization to the member Districts. 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 May 29th 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.

8. **MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITY/AGENCY**

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

Deer Creek and Tule River Authority held its meeting on the 16th of May 2008. Considerable time at that meeting was spent discussing Friant Water Users activities, which resulted in the aforementioned letter along with integrated resource water management planning activities.

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

19. **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
- I. Family Farm Alliance
- J. California Farm Bureau
- K. California Special Districts Association

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board the retirement of long time District Counsel DAN DOOLEY from the water business and legal practice in order to pursue a career with the University of California System. After brief discussion the Board concurred that the it would be appropriate for the District to host a dinner with the current and former Board members and special invited guests to honor the service of District Counsel DAN DOOLEY and the work that he did for the District.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager