

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 April 2009, 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 ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the March 10th, 2009 regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board accepted the March 10th, 2009 minutes and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of March 2009. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board accepted the Financial Statements for the month of March and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in paying the February bills following the March 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 February bills following the March meeting.

2. WATER RESOURCES

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a variety of water resources activities including the current water supply update from the Bureau. At present the Bureau has made 85% Class I available. It is also projected that the Tule River April – July runoff is approximately 28% of normal.

While conditions indicate a below normal water year, General Manager VINK reported that the Bureau has been very conservative in the declarations as a result of statewide water conditions. There was further speculation that the San Joaquin River runoff could be closer to 850,000 acre feet, which would mean 100% Class I water. There is also some discussion and speculation of operational spills occurring later in the month of April or early in May depending on snowmelt conditions and weather events. The District will be prepared to receive any water as result of flood control operations on both Millerton and the Tule River.

The Board then turned its discussion into the 2009 water rates and timing of the deliveries. Considerable discussion was given to both issues. At present Success Reservoir may determine the beginning of the first water run in mid to late May. It was a consensus of the Board then to split the run into two runs terminating the first run sometime in June, and the second run beginning in the later of July. Final timing on the water run and water rate was deferred to the May meeting.

The Board reviewed the 2009 Poplar Ditch allocation. Considering the previous year's make-up water and the current year run off, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board set the 2009 Poplar Ditch allocation at 55 acre feet with no split season allocation.

Groundwater

The Board reviewed and discussed a variety of groundwater pumping and groundwater related issues and recent meetings with Angiola Water District. No action was taken.

General Manager VINK reviewed a report from staff on a variety of issues including:

- Riparian operational guidelines
- 2009 groundwater readings
- Potential east to west water exchanges for 2009. It was the consensus of the Board to participate in any exchanges that can be developed provided

the District could get its water back on schedule for summer delivery.

- YOKOHL VALLEY water management program
- FRIANT RANCH water management program and;
- Toledo Basin project.

No action was taken on any of these matters.

3. **DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

A. Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities including updates from Operation Manager BATTLES on Air Board requirements for on road vehicles.

The Board then reviewed the construction and the planning for the Tule River inter-tie canal. General Manager VINK reported on the timing for construction and potential funding sources available to the District under the Bureau of Reclamations 2009 Stimulus funding.

At 10:00am President SIMONICH opened the hearing on the Resolution of necessity. Landowner VONDA TAUSSIG was present to discuss the matter with the District. General Manager VINK explained discussions he has had with other various landowners and provided a full staff report on the project, including the purpose for the canal and the status of the Right-of-Way negotiations. After considerable discussions, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2009-4-1, determining the need for the property was necessary and authorized filing the necessary eminent domain actions. A copy of Resolution 2009-4-1 is attached as **EXIHBIT "A"**.

General Manger VINK also reported on discussions with landowner ERIC BORBA. The Board had considerable discussions related to the BORBA issue. No action was taken.

B. Personnel Matters

At approximately 10:30am President SIMONICH convened the meeting into Executive Session to review with the Board and District Counsel ALEX PELTZER a contract with the General Manager as per Board action in January 2009.

Upon coming out of closed session it was reported by President

Approved

SIMONICH that on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of a personnel employment contract with the General Manager.

C. Legal Matters

The Board spent time reviewing the San Joaquin River Settlement and water management and remediation sessions along with 9d conversion and financing.

At approximately 11:30am the meeting was again convened into closed session with District Counsel ALEX PELTZER to discuss the Angiola Water District issues and meetings with Angiola Water District representatives. Upon coming out of closed session it was reported that no action was taken.

D. Administrative Matters

General Manager VINK reported a variety of administrative matters. No action was taken.

The District has received a cropping pattern use date proposal from PROVOST & PRITCHARD Engineering to provide historical cropping pattern evolutions and consumptive use and needs data for the District. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board accepted the proposal and authorized the execution. The purpose of the study is to further and better define the Districts cropping patterns and related water needs. A copy of the proposal and contract is attached as **EXHIBIT "B"**.

The District has received Resolution 2009-4-2 from the County of Tulare setting the Districts fall elections coterminous with the Tulare County elections. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2009-4-2. A copy is attached as **EXHIBIT "C"**.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK and Business Manager LIMAS reviewed with the Board a variety Cross Valley and PWPRAs activities. No action was taken.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the March 18th meeting of the Tule River Association. The

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

Staff updated the Board on activities related to the Tule River including the river automation program, reservoir management software and the various activities to the dam safety project.

General Manager VINK also reported on the Executive Committee meeting on the Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Agreement.

6. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 26th regular meeting of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

The District has received a call for funds from the Friant Water Users Authority in the amount \$47,720.00. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved the Board authorized the payment of the call for funds in the amount of \$47,720.00.

7. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 26th regular meeting of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

The District has received a call for funds from the Friant Water Users Authority in the amount \$37,611.00. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized the payment of the call for funds in the amount of \$37,611.00.

8. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES/AUTHORITIES

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

The Board reviewed the March 19th meeting of the Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. The minutes of the DCTRA Board of Directors meeting 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
- I. Family Farm Alliance
- J. California Farm Bureau
- K. California Special Districts Association

L. Ag Leadership – The District has received a request from the Ag leadership program for sponsorship on upcoming events. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized a \$1000.00 contribution to the California Ag Leadership program.

The meeting was adjourned to the 22nd of April 2009, at which time the Board will meet to review matters related to the Tule River Inter-tie.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager