

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 13th day of October 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 September 8th, 2009 Regular Meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved with one minor change, the Board accepted the September 8th, 2009 Regular Meeting minutes and ordered them placed on file.

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

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the August bills following the September 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 August bills following the September meeting.

**2. WATER RESOURCES**

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources activities. General Manager VINK provided an accounting of total Friant deliveries for all Friant and Madera canal contractors for 2009 to date.

There was also some speculation that some additional water could be made available in the fall or spring based on higher than normal reservoir conditions in Millerton Lake.

General Manager Vink also updated the Board on a variety of other water resource related activities including:

- Ongoing discussions with Angiola Water District representatives and the cancellations of meetings by the Angiola Water District representatives.
- Meetings with Riparianist to discuss operational guidelines and the final drafting of the operational guidelines between the Riparianist and the District
- YOKOHOL VALLEY water management program
- The Poplar Ditch annual meeting and;
- Update on the banking program between Pixley and Delano-Earlimart Irrigation Districts

### **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

#### Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of District Operations activities. General Manager VINK presented an update on the Tule River Inter-tie canal project.

At approximately 10:30am the meeting was convened into closed session with District Counsel JIM KOONTZ on the phone to discuss Right of Way acquisition. Upon coming out of closed session it was reported that no action was taken.

Operations Manager BATTLES provided an update on the construction timeline and pipe and cement awards. The project is presently going through the environmental review phase with the Bureau of Reclamation.

Operation Manager BATTLES expressed the need to replace tire changers at both the Lower Tule and Pixley shops. After considerable review, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved the Board authorized the replacement of the tire changers at both shops.

#### Assessment Conversion

The Board reviewed recent meetings held with landowners to discuss the current assessment structure and the consideration of proceeding with a Proposition 218 election, shifting some of the cost of the water onto land in recognition of the potential conversion of the Districts Friant contract to a 9d repayment contract. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed ahead with the development of the plan and possibly schedule additional landowner meetings in the next month.

#### Administrative Matters

General Manager VINK and Business Manager LIMAS presented for review the 2010 budgets. The budgets included the Joint Operations and Maintenance budget with Pixley Irrigation District, as well as the Lower Tule River Irrigation District general budget. The budgets were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted the 2010 General District budget and the 2010 Joint Operations & Maintenance budget with Pixley Irrigation District. A copy is attached as **EXHIBIT "A"**.

**4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley canal activities including an update from Business Manager LIMAS on various PWRA activities. No action was taken.

**5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the September 12th meeting of the Tule River Association. Major activities at the Tule River Association include the Del Oro pumping issue and the Water master succession. The Board spent some time discussing possible settlement on that. It was the consensus of the Lower Tule River Irrigation District Board to try and reach a consensus settlement on the Del Oro issue and expends considerable resources fighting over just a few acre-feet of water.

**6. SUCCESS POWER PROJECT**

Nothing new to report.

**7. FRIANT WATER USERS' AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 22nd regular meeting of the Friant Water Users Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

The District has also received a call for funds from the Friant Water Authority in the amount of \$36,428.00. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment for the call for funds.

**8. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 22nd 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 also received a call for funds from the Friant Water Authority in the amount of \$29,735.00. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment for the call for funds.

**9. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES/AUTHORITIES**

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority.

The Board reviewed the September 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Deer Creek & Tule River Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

**10. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

Nothing new to report.

**11. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES**

Nothing new to report.

**12. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

- A. Association of California Water Agencies – The Board reviewed the upcoming ACWA Region 7 meetings.
  
- 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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink  
General Manager