

**MINUTES OF A 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 on the 14th day of December 2021, at 9:00 am. The meeting was called to order by President BARCELLOS. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2022	JIM COSTA - ABSENT
Director	Div. 3	2024	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2024	FRANK MENDONSA
Director	Div. 1	2022	ALEX GARCIA
Director	Div. 5	2022	JOSH PITIGLIANO

District Staff present:

Eric Limas, General Manager
Mike Battles, Operations Manager
Mark Greenall, Controller
John Michael Domondon, Engineer

Others Present:

Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
Stanley Franks, public
Aaron Henderson, Agricare
Steve Jackson, Agricare
Mike Faria, Famer
Rod Stiefvater, Pacific Resources
Jace Vanderhamm, farmer
Allan Becker, Renewable Resources Group

BOARD ADMINISTRATION

On motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director MENDONSA and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

On motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the minutes of the November 9, 2021, meeting were approved as presented.

Manager LIMAS presented the current slate of officers and committee assessments. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director MENDONSA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the same slate of officers for 2022.

WATER RESOURCES

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. The Friant allocation is 25% Class 1. The CVC allocation is currently 0%. The SWP initial 2022 allocation is 0%. LIMAS also reviewed activities related to CVC contract conversion. No action was taken.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

LIMAS reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal operations, the annual Board retreat, San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority projects, and subsidence/capacity correction activities. No action was taken.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

MIKE BATTLES reviewed ongoing canal maintenance activities. Safety meetings were held, shop and facility inspections were performed, and the Deer Creek Structure project is ready to divert water. Replacement of the Seitz pipeline in Lower Tule is ongoing. O&M on the Teapot Dome/Pioneer/ Vandalia and Campbell Moreland systems were performed. Construction projects have started at Teapot Dome and Vandalia. Two of the three pickups ordered earlier this year have been delivered and gave an update on the Pixley Lateral 4 Canal Project. The District has several open positions currently and staff is working to try filling them. No action was taken.

BATTLES led a review of the Woodville School facility and their request to expand 25 feet to the south onto District property. Staff was directed to continue to work with the school staff. No action was taken.

Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed 2021-12-1, Supporting the Water Infrastructure Act of 2022. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2021-12-1 and directed staff to work with local CSDs and PUDs to try and gain their support as well.

LIMAS presented calculations and analysis of a 2022 Cost of Living Adjustment for employees. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved a 4.25% COLA.

Controller GREENALL reviewed an Audit Engagement letter from Cattone and Mastro for the 2021 audit services. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the Audit Engagement Letter.

GREENALL presented the District Investment Policy with recommended updates. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the updated Investment Policy as presented.

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the month of November. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the financial reports.

The Board reviewed the bills paid for the month of November. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARICA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the bills paid including the annual membership dues to the California Farm Water Coalition and the support for the Tulare County Farm Bureau scholarship program in the amount of \$500.

MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES

Tule River Association

LIMAS gave an update on the Success Power Project and reviewed the draft 2022 budget for the project. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the 2022 SPP budget.

LIMAS reported on the progress on the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project construction and real estate purchase activities. No Action was taken.

The Board opened a hearing regarding Resolution 2021-12-2, a Resolution of Necessity for APN 284-770-004 for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project. Landowner Stanley Franks provided comments during the hearing. Following discussion and closing the hearing, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director MENDONSA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2021-12-2.

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

LIMAS reviewed DCTRA activities, the minutes of the meetings are distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here. No Action was taken.

OTHER MATTERS

The Board then went into closed session. Upon reconvening into open session, it was reported that the District has executed a long term Water Supply Cooperation Agreement with the Pixley Irrigation District. It was also reported the Board approved salary increases for the General Manager and the Assistant Manager, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved.

There being no further business to be brought to the Board attention, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric Limas
General Manager