

# 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 13th day of December 2022, 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	2026	LOUIE TRISTAO
Director	Div. 3	2024	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2024	FRANK MENDONSA
Director	Div. 1	2026	ALEX GARCIA
Director	Div. 5	2026	JOSH PITIGLIANO

# District Staff present:

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

### Others Present:

Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
Jennifer Spaletta, Special Counsel
Mike Faria, Farmer
Stacey Ann Silva, Altum, Aqua Logic
Richard Junio, Farmer

### **BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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



On motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director MENDONSA, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the November 8, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

The Board reviewed the 2022 officer and committee appointment list. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved Director BARCELLOS as President, Director PITIGLIANO as Vice-President and the same slate of other officer positions and committee appointments for 2023.

# **WATER RESOURCES**

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. The Friant Water Year 2022 initial allocation remains at 30% Class 1. The CVC allocation is currently 0%. No action was taken.

### FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

LIMAS, reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal operations, the water quality ad-hoc committee activities, and subsidence/capacity correction activities. LIMAS also reported on the Friant retreat held in November. No action was taken.

### **DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

# Construction and Operation activities

MIKE BATTLES reviewed water operations and canal maintenance activities. Safety meetings were held, shop and facility inspections were performed. BATTLES



reported on well permits that have been reviewed. O&M on the Teapot Dome/Pioneer/ Vandalia and Campbell Moreland systems were performed. Canals are being sprayed and graded. Turnouts are being repaired and installed in various locations. BATTLES also provided an update on the CalTrans Hwy 190/Westwood siphon extension project. Other winter maintenance currently happening are: installation of structures and turnouts for the Deer Creek Basin, Poplar Ditch right of way cleanup, Tule River and Deer Creek channel clearing projects, and high speed rail projects across District facilities. BATTLES also gave an update on the following Pixley projects; Deer Creek Basin, Lateral 4, and Eastside capacity improvement projects. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed an amendment to an easement agreement for an easement on the Casa Blanca Canal. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director PITIGLIANO, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the amended easement agreement by the General Manager.

# Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed the authorized bank account signatories. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director MENDONSA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the following authorized signers for the accounts at Valley Strong Bank: President Barcellos, Vice President Pitigliano, General Manager Limas and Controller Greenall.

The Board reviewed an employee Cost of Living Adjustment for 2023. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved a 5% Cost of Living Adjustment with an additional review prior to July 1, 2023.

The Board reviewed the District's Investment Policy. After review, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director TRISTAO and unanimously approved, the Board re-approved the investment policy for 2023.

LIMAS presented an engagement letter with Cattone & Mastro to perform the 2022 financial statement audit. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second



by Director MENDONSA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the engagement letter.

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the month of November. On motion by Director PITIGLAINO, second by Director MENSDONSA 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 GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the bills paid, including the California Farm Water Coalition 2023 membership fees and payment in full of the Friant O&M Budget True-up in the amount of \$725,757.75.

# **MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES**

# **Tule River Association**

LIMAS gave an update on the Success Power Project including contract renewal options. No action was taken.

The Board reviewed a draft SPP budget for 2023. On motion by Director PITIGLAINO, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the 2023 SPP Budget.

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

### 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.

LIMAS presented an amendment to terminate the DCTRA Joint Powers

Agreement. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director



MENDONSA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the termination agreement.

Manager LIMAS presented the Resolution 2022-12-1, Amendment to terminate JPA Upper San Joaquin River Water & Power Authority. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the resolution 2022-12-1 to terminated Upper San Joaquin River Water & Power Authority JPA was approved as presented.

# **OTHER MATTERS**

The Board then went into closed session. Upon reconvening into open session, it was reported that there were no reportable actions taken during closed session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Limas

General Manager