

**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 March 2023, 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
Farmers/landowners/public: Mike Faria, Richard Junio, Zack Faria, Paul Gredanus, Rod Steifvader, Stacie Ann Silva, Jim Costa, Armando Leal, Eric Gredanus, Allison Tristao, Elijah Gredanus

BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the minutes of the February 14, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

WATER RESOURCES

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. Due to recent large storms, Tule River releases from Success are currently at 5,000 CFS including water that began coming over the spillway this past weekend. It is anticipated that releases will increase with storms coming in this week and cause downstream flooding. Friant Water Year 2023 allocation is 100 % Class 1 and 70% Class 2 and the system is currently in Uncontrolled Season. The CVC allocation is currently 35%. No action was taken.

The Board reviewed the current water run and water rates. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved an emergency water rate of \$0, with the landowners receiving credit of 75% of the water as groundwater credits. This is to be in place until the Tule River is under control and the Board directed staff to draft this action into an emergency policy.

The Board considered the 2023 Poplar Ditch allocation. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director MENDONSA and unanimously approved, the Board approved an allocation of 55 acre-feet per share, plus an additional 27.5 acre-feet per share of make up water from previous years.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

LIMAS, reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal operations, the water quality ad-hoc committee activities, subsidence/capacity correction current activities and studies of phase 2 capacity correction options. No action was taken.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

MIKE BATTLES reviewed water operations and canal maintenance activities. In addition to water run related activities, including trash removal in Deer Creek, the Tule River and canals, safety meetings were held, shop and facility inspections were performed. O&M on the Teapot Dome/Pioneer/ Vandalia and Campbell Moreland systems were performed. PWC and Vandalia capital projects are ongoing. Winter maintenance activities are currently on hold to deal with water deliveries. No action was taken.

Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed a damage claim form resulting from a ditch break. After Discussion, on motion by Director PITGLIANO, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board denied the claim and directed staff to submit it to insurance.

The Board reviewed updates to the Employee Handbook. After Discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director TRISTAO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the updated Employee Handbook.

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the month of February. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the financial reports. Staff reported that Standard and Poors recently updated the District's credit rating from A- with a negative outlook to A- with a stable outlook.

The Board reviewed the bills paid for the month of February. On motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the bills paid.

MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES

Tule River Association

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

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

The Board opened a hearing to consider Resolution 2023-3-1 Considering a Resolution of Necessity on APNs 255-130-006,284-020-001,284-020-014 for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director TRISTAO and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2023-3-1.

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 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