

# MINUTES OF A SPECIAL 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 15th day of May 2023, at 12:00 pm. 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 Kirk Masters, Water Resources Superintendent

#### Others Present:

Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
Farmers/landowners/public: Richard Junio, Paul Gredanus,
Eric Gredanus, Vince Sola, Rod Steifvader, Johnny Gailey,
Brandon Dykstra, Jace Vander Ham

#### **BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

On motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO 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 April 11, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

# **WATER RESOURCES**

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. Tule River releases from Success are currently at 1,350 CFS. The major damage from the March flooding on the Tule River and District canal system is about complete. 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 100%. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed the monthly water delivery report. LIMAS also reviewed the annual water supply and delivery summary for Water Year 2022. No action was taken.

The Board reviewed the current water run and water rates. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director TRISTAO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the summer water rate of \$85 per acre-foot.

The Board reviewed a request from the Poplar Ditch Company Board for an increased allocation of makeup water, bringing the total allocation to 160 AF/share for the water year. After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved an increase of the Poplar allocation of 77.50 AF/share, bringing the total allocation for the water year to 160 AF/share.

### FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

LIMAS, reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal operations, the water quality policy activities, subsidence/capacity correction current activities, ACWA conference meetings, 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 and flood operation 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. There are still long term bank repairs to the system that are needed. BATTLES also reported that there is an issue with the Dozer, currently believed to be a head gasket issue. No action was taken.

LIMAS reported that the District received a grant for metering the District turnouts from the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Board considered a proposal from QK Engineering to perform Design, Preconstruction, Construction, Post Construction services for the CalTrans roundabout project where a portion of the Poplar Ditch system must be relocated at Hwy 190 and Road 208. QK also provided the same services at the previous CalTrans roundabout project that was just completed. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director TRISTAO, the QK proposal was approved in the amount of \$251,800.

# **Administrative Activities**

The Board considered a draft update to the Policy Regarding Method of Administering Riparianist Entitlement Calculation. After discussion, and a coin flip to resolve a conflict issue, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director BARCELLOS, and approved by a vote of Directors BARCELLOS, GARCIA and TRISTAO, with Directors MENDONCA and PITIGLIANO abstaining, the Board approved the update to the policy.



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

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

# **MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES**

# **Tule River Association**

The Board considered Resolution 2023-5-1 considering a grant application to the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation for Snow Water Supply Forecasting Program, with Lower Tule being the lead agency for the members of the Tule River Association. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director TRISTAO, the Board approved Resolution 2023-5-1.

LIMAS gave an update on the Success Power Project including contract renewal activity. 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.

# Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

LIMAS reported that DCTRA held its last meeting in May. Staff and general counsel are taking the final actions to close out the JPA. No Action was taken.

LIMAS reported on flood damages and plans to repair the Deer Creek basins.



# **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