

**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 12th day of September 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

Others Present:

Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
Thomas Harder, Thomas Harder and Company (via video conference)

Farmers/landowners/public: Eric Gredanus, Vince Sola, Mike Faria, Paul Gredanus, Elijah Gredanus, Nader Malakan, Geof Vanden Huevel, Travis Millwee, Susan Long, Allison Tristao

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 August 8, 2023, meeting were approved as presented.

WATER RESOURCES

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. Friant Water Year 2023 allocation is 100 % Class 1 and 15% Class 2. Uncontrolled Season ended on July 29. The CVC allocation is currently 100%. No action was taken.

The Board discussed the water run and the amount of water requested by landowners to recharge in District facilities. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed the monthly water delivery report. No action was taken.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

LIMAS reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal operations, water policy activities, subsidence/capacity correction current activities, studies of phase 2 capacity correction study, and upcoming FWA Board retreat. No action was taken.

The Board considered Resolution 2023-9-1 A Resolution Adopting Responsible Party Agency Findings Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and Approving the Cooperative Agreement for the Implementation of the New Guidelines for Accepting Water into the Friant Kern Canal. After discussion, on motion by Director PITIGLAINO, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2023-9-1.

DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

MIKE BATTLES reviewed water operations and canal maintenance activities. In addition to water run activities, safety meetings were held, shop and facility inspections were performed, and canal maintenance and spraying were performed. O&M on the Teapot Dome/Pioneer/ Vandalia and Campbell Moreland systems were performed. BATTLES gave updates on the SPP, Pixley Lateral 4 project and winter maintenance planning. No action was taken.

MIKE BATTLES presented proposals for the purchase of a backhoe. After discussion, on motion by Director TRISTAO, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved purchasing a Caterpillar Backhoe, in the amount of \$175,511.

MIKE BATTLES and MARK GREENALL presented options for pickup purchases as well as leasing options. No action was taken.

Administrative Activities

MARK GREENALL presented an amortization schedule showing the potential of opening a Trust account and prefunding future Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB). After discussion, on motion by Director MENDONSA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board authorized staff to open a Trust account with CALPERS.

GREENALL reported that the District will be losing the current Dental insurance provider at the end of the year. GREENALL also reviewed options for both Dental and Vision Insurance coverage going forward. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the staff recommendation of going with Ameritas Dental and Vision Insurance.

The Board reviewed the financial reports for the month of August. On motion by Director PITIGLIANO, second by Director TRISTAO and unanimously approved, the Board approved the financial reports.

The Board reviewed the bills paid for the month of August. On motion by Director PITIGLIANO, 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 activity. LIMAS also presented a draft Interconnection Agreement with required Interconnection Facilities upgrades of approximately \$100,000. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the Interconnection Agreement.

LIMAS reported on the progress of the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project reimbursements, construction and real estate purchase activities. 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