



Approved

MINUTES OF A REGULAR 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 in a regular meeting on the 8th day of March 2011 at 9:00 am at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President SIMONICH. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2013	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2011	TOM BARCELLOS - ABSENT
Director	Div. 4	2011	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2013	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2013	JOHN ROELOFFS

District Staff Present: DANIEL G. VINK – General Manager  
MIKE BATTLES – Operations Manager  
ERIC LIMAS – Business Manager

Others Present: District Counsel – ALEX PELTZER

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

On motion by Director COSTA second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the February 8, 2011 Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

The Financial Statements for the month of February 2011 were reviewed by the Board. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the Financial Statements and ordered them placed on file.

Approved

The Board reviewed the February bills. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board ratified payment of the February bills following a more detailed review by the Finance Committee.

The Board then reviewed three separate miscellaneous items:

1. Adjustment of the 2011 General District Budget to reflect the principal and interest charges related to the November 2011 bond financing.
2. The renewal of the 2010-2011 liability insurance program and;
3. Payment of and back sales tax owed to the State of California associated with the purchase of the Langaman Gates. The gates were purchased from a company in Canada and the company did not remit State of California taxes, which resulted in the District being charged for back taxes and interest.

On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board ratified the three referenced actions.

#### **4. WATER RESOURCES**

The Board reviewed a variety of water resources activities including a review by General Manager VINK on the water supply declaration. At present, the District is running uncontrolled season flood release water from the Friant Division. In addition, the District has been purchasing RWA water from willing sellers in the Friant Division. Based on current conditions, the RWA water and the uncontrolled season will last through March and into April although the conditions are changing daily.

The Board then reviewed a variety of other water related activities including the Annual Riparian meeting and delivery of the Districts 2011 Westside Cross Valley water. The Cross Valley water will not likely be able to be pumped given the high declaration of State and Federal water supplies for 2011.

The District has also received a letter from the Porterville Irrigation District requesting partnership with Lower Tule River ID on the PID distribution system expansion study and various other matters. The Board reviewed the letter in detail and directed General Manager VINK to response accordingly.

The District has received a Section 215 contract offer from the Bureau of Reclamation for purchase of surplus supplies above and beyond the Districts contract supply. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously

Approved

approved the Board authorized execution of the 215 contract. A copy of Resolution 2011-3-1 approving the Section 215 contract is attached as **EXHIBIT “A”**.

The Board then considered the Friant Ranch agreement and Resolution 2011-3-2, approving the option and long-term water transfer agreement by and between the Lower Tule River Irrigation District and Fresno County Waterworks District #18. The Board went into closed session to discuss potential litigation matters. Upon coming out of closed session it was reported that there was no reportable action.

The Board then further discussed the Resolution presented to them. General Manager Vink and Counsel Peltzer provided verbal report and the Board reviewed the processes to date. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board adopted Resolution 2011-3-2. A copy of Resolution 2011-3-2, approving the option and long-term water transfer agreement between Lower Tule River and Fresno County Waterworks District # 18 is attached as **EXHIBIT “B”**.

## **5. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

### **Construction and Operation activities**

The Board reviewed a variety of operational activities including an update on the Tule River Inter-tie canal.

District staff presented for consideration the purchase of three half-ton vehicles from the State of California General Services Bid process. There are no unplanned budget expenditures associated with this item as the purchase of three trucks was part of the District’s 2011 budget. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized purchase of the three vehicles, including the purchase of the extended warranty package for each vehicle.

All other District operations matters were deferred to a subsequent meeting as a result of a funeral that a number of the Directors needed to attend.

## **6. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

The Board reviewed a variety of Cross Valley canal activities. No action was taken.

## **7. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

Approved

The Board reviewed the February 16, 2011 minutes of the meeting of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK spent a brief amount of time discussing the Success Dam mitigation project.

The Board then opened the public hearing related to the 1602 permit for Channel Clearing on the Tule River. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board accepted the findings and adopted the mitigated Negative Declaration for the project. A copy of the Negative Declaration is attached as **EXHIBIT "C"**.

#### **8. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the March 3, 2011 meeting of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

#### **9. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES/AUTHORITIES**

##### Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority will be holding its meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March.

#### **10. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

Nothing new to report.

#### **11. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES**

Nothing new to report.

#### **12. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

- A. Association of California Water Agencies
- B. Central Valley Project Water Association
- C. California Water Resources Association
- D. National Water Resources Association
- E. California Chamber of Commerce

Approved

- F. Ag Water Committee
- G. Water Education Foundation
- H. California Farm Water Coalition
- I. Family Farm Alliance
- J. California Farm Bureau
- K. California Special Districts Association
- L. Ag Leadership
- M. Tulare County Farm Bureau

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink  
General Manager