

**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 13th day of November 2012 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	2015	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2015	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

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the October 9th Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes of the October 9^h Regular meeting and ordered them placed on file.

2. WATER RESOURCES

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a variety of water resource related activities including the declaration from the Friant Division, which remains at 57% Class One. The Board also reviewed a variety of other water supply related activities including a recent

meeting of the Poplar Ditch Company in which there was a minor change to the Poplar Ditch Company boundaries. It is anticipated that those changes will have minimal impact on the Irrigation District.

General Manager VINK, Directors ROELOFFS and BARCELLOS reviewed the recent landowner meetings held to discuss groundwater and groundwater conditions in the area. A follow-up meeting will be held on the 20th of November at the District office.

The Board convened into Closed Session to review with Counsel pending or threatening litigation in accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9. Upon coming out of Closed Session it was reported that on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized terms and conditions for negotiation of a Groundwater Settlement Agreement with the Angiola Water District.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of Operation and Maintenance activities including an update from General Manager VINK, Business Manager LIMAS and Operations Manager BATTLES on the Pixley Avenue 116 project. No action was taken.

The Board then received an update on routine maintenance activities and other maintenance related activities from Operations Manager BATTLES. BATTLES reported that the recent sale of the Districts backhoe grossed approximately \$36,000.00 through auction. It was further reported that the District will be looking for two new tractors in 2013 to replace the existing water tractors that the Districts use for watering canal banks. The need for replacement is driving in large part by Air Board regulations.

Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed a variety of Administrative activities including an update from General Manager VINK on discussions with the Bureau of Reclamation and Fish & Wildlife Services on the potential sale of District property on the westside of the District to the Fish and Wildlife Service. The discussions are in the preliminary stages and no action was taken.

The Board considered entering into an agreement with Four Creeks Engineering to complete a study that would look at the water delivery to the Riparian areas that are unable to receive District water outside of the river systems. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director BARCELLOS with Directors SIMONICH and COSTA abstaining for Conflict of

Interest reasons, the Board authorized execution of the study with Four Creeks Engineering in the amount not to exceed \$5,500.00.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of October. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the Financial Statements and ordered them placed on file. Including in the authorization to accept the Financial Statements was a direction to place \$350,000.00 from the 2012 Riparian operations into a special account for in the use in the Riparian area to improve distribution systems. The dollar amount was a result of an operational agreement General Manager Vink made with the Riparians to capture the loss water in 2013 and make it available to Lower Tule River water users.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the bills for the month of October. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the October bills.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK reported that the balance of the Districts Cross Valley water was delivered for 2012. A final reconciliation will be available at the December meeting.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the October 17, 2012 the meeting of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

Success Power Project

The Board received a report from General Manager VINK on the Success Dam Stakeholder briefing held on the 11th of October at the District office. The focus of that meeting was an update from the Corp of Engineers on the Baseline Risk Assessment and the Operating Restriction for 2013 and beyond. There is some optimism that the Operating Restriction for 2013 and beyond may be lifted.

6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the October 25, 2012 meeting of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

7. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES/AUTHORITIES

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

The Deer Creek and Tule River Authority will be holding its meeting on the 16th of November. Considerable time at that meeting is expected to be spent discussing the Irrigated Lands program.

8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Nothing new to report.

9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

Nothing new to report.

10. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- A. Association of California Water Agencies - Nothing new to report
- B. California Farm Water Coalition - Nothing new to report
- C. Family Farm Alliance – Nothing new to report
- D. Tulare County Farm Bureau – The District has received a request for support of its Scholarship Program. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized support for the Farm Bureau scholarship in the amount of \$500.00 as per past practice.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager