

**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 2nd day of July 2013 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 - ABSENT
Director	Div. 4	2015	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2013	TONY SIMONICH
Director	Div. 5	2013	JOHN ROELOFFS - ABSENT

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

Guests Present: ALEX PELTZER - District Counsel (Via telephone)

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 May 14 Regular and June 5 Special meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the Board approved the minutes of the May 14 Regular and June 5 Special meetings and ordered them placed on file.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed the available water supply. The current declaration from the Friant Division is at 55% Class I. General Manager VINK reported that there are indications of the declaration will increase to 60% and possibly 62% Class I, later in the week.

The Board then held a discussion to set the water rate for 2013. General Manger Vink relayed conversations of a general nature that he had with Directors BARCELOSS and ROELOFFS about the water rate. After thorough review of the available water supply, including a report that both Pioneer Water Company and Vandalia Irrigation District are calling on banked water from their accounts with the Lower Tule River Irrigation District this year, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES, with Director SIMONICH being opposed, the Board set the water rate at \$85.00 an acre foot.

There was also considerable discussion of the water run schedule. No change was made.

The Board reviewed a variety of other water supply related activities including a report from General Manager VINK that District Counsel ALEX PELTZER, Consulting Engineer DAVID DEGROOT and VINK would be meeting later in the month with water districts in southern California as part of the groundwater task force.

The Board then went into Closed Session with District Counsel PELTZER via telephone to review groundwater pumping and groundwater monitoring issues within in the District. The meeting was convened into Closed Session in accordance with Government Code Section 54956.9. Upon coming out of Closed Session it was reported that no action was taken.

The Board reviewed the Riparian distribution system study and a proposal from 4 CREEKS ENGINEER DAVID DEGROOT, to prepare the environmental work related with the expansion in the Riparian area. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of the agreement with 4 CREEKS to prepare the CEQA work at a cost estimate of approximately \$35,000.00.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of Operation and Maintenance activities including an update from Business Manager LIMAS on the Pixley Avenue 116 project. It was reported that

the Avenue 116 project is finalizing the NEPA documentation and the right-of-way acquisition, with an anticipated construction start date for fall of 2013.

Operations Manager BATTLES reviewed a variety of Operations and Maintenance activities. No action was taken.

The Board then received an update from General Manager VINK on a trip to Washington D.C in June, which included District Counsel PELTZER, Director TOM BARCELLOS and himself along with Directors and staff from the Delano Earlimart Irrigation District. The primary focus of the trip was on the San Joaquin River Restoration Program and the schedule related to the implementation, which by all accounts is very unreasonable given the available Federal funding.

Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK reported that the FISH & WILDLIFE Services have begun the appraisal process on the lands within the Rostrada sub-division area. The appraisals and price will be reviewed at a subsequent meeting for to sale of the land to the FISH and WILDLIFE services.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of May and June. On motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the Financials for both May and June, and ordered them placed on file. Included in the actions of the Financial Statements was authorization to modify the sweep accounts, which included closing the money market account at CITIZEN'S BANK and moving that money to VALLEY BUSINESS BANK and into various CD accounts per recommendations from Business Manager LIMAS.

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

Business Manager LIMAS presented for consideration the detachment of lands within the District under the LAFCO process. Lands that are being detached are small incidental properties that do not receive District water. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2013-7-2, accepting Application Requesting LAFCO to take Proceedings of Notice of Exemption under CEQA for Districts Boundary Adjustment. A copy of Resolution 2013-7-2 is attached as **EXHIBIT "B"**.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager Vink reported that the Cross Valley canal deliveries would begin likely in July or August.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the June 19 minutes of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed for review and as such are not repeated here.

6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the June 27 minutes of the Friant Water Authority Board of Directors meeting. 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 19th day of July. Considerable time at that meeting is to discuss the Irrigated Lands Program.

Association of California Water Agencies

General Manager VINK presented for consideration 2013-7-1, nominating Director TOM BARCELLOS to the Region 7, ACWA Board. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2013-7-1. A copy of Resolution 2013-7-1 is attached as **EXHIBIT "A"**.

Tule River Improvement Joint Powers Authority

General Manager VINK also reported on the recent TRIJPA Executive meeting. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

8. U.S DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Nothing new to report.

9. MEETINGS, HEARINGS & NOTICES

General Manager VINK also reported that the Tule River Stakeholders would be meeting with the Corp. of Engineers on the 15th day of July.

10. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- A. Association of California Water Agencies
- B. California Farm Water Coalition
- C. Family Farm Alliance
- D. Tulare County Farm Bureau

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager