

**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 14th day of May 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
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

Guests Present: Mark Aguiar – Landowner  
David DeGroot – Engineer, 4 Creeks Engineering  
Alex Peltzer, District Counsel  
Eric White – Auditor, Adair & Evans

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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

The minutes of the April 9<sup>th</sup> Regular and April 18<sup>th</sup> Special meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the minutes of the April 9<sup>th</sup> Regular and April 18<sup>th</sup> Special meetings and ordered them placed on file.

The Board had a brief discussion about the June and July Board meetings. General Manager VINK and Director BARCELLOS will be in Washington D.C representing the District during the normal time of the regular June meeting. As such the Board concurred that the June

meeting be rescheduled to coincide with the July meeting and held on July 2<sup>nd</sup> instead of July 9th. A June Special meeting would be held if needed, to discuss water supply operations.

The District has received a resolution from the Tulare County Board of Supervisors to consolidate the Districts 2013 fall elections with the County general elections. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board adopted Resolution 2013-5-1, to consolidate the District elections to be held with Tulare County general elections. A copy of Resolution 2013-5-1 is attached as **EXHIBIT "A"**.

The District has received the final version of the contracts from the HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY. The contracts would reimburse the District for any expenses related work that would need to be done for the placement of the high-speed rail on District facilities. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of those contracts.

General Manager VINK also provided an update on other Board administrative matters. No action was taken.

## **2. WATER RESOURCES**

General Manager VINK reviewed the current declaration from the Friant Division. The current declaration from the Friant Division has been reduced to 45% Class I. That would give the District approximately 37,000 to 38,000 acre feet of water including the Tule River water, which would equal about 14 days total run throughout the whole District. There was considerable discussion relative to whether the run should consist of the whole delivery system or only parts of the system due to the shortage of water supply. No consensus was reached; the Board decided it would defer any action until the final water declaration was provided by the Bureau of Reclamation.

The Board also reviewed the 2013 Poplar Ditch allocations. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved, the Board set the 2013 Poplar Ditch allocation at 15 acre feet per share.

The Board welcomed ENGINEER DAVID DEGROOT from 4 CREEKS ENGINEERING to provide a feasibility study on a distribution system in the Riparian area per previous authorization by the Board. After thorough review and discussion, the Board accepted the report and ordered it placed on file. General Manager VINK reported that District staff will continue to work with ENGINEER DEGROOT in the development of the CEQA documents, as well as look for available grants.

The Groundwater Task Force committee will be meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of May at 10:00am to review additional matters related to groundwater monitoring and preservation of groundwater within the region.

The District has received its quarterly report from the Angiola Water District. The Angiola Water District reported that approximately 8,000 acre feet of water was pumped in the first quarter of 2013.

The Board went into Closed Session with District Counsel ALEX PELTZER to discuss groundwater and groundwater pumping and monitoring within the District. The possible adjournment to Closed Session was in accordance with *Government Code Section 54956.9*. Upon coming out of Closed Session it was reported that one action was taken, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized the retention of Special Legal Counsel, JENNIFER SPALETTA.

### **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

#### **Construction and Operation activities**

The Board reviewed a variety of Operation and Maintenance activities including an update on the Pixley Avenue 116 project.

General Manager VINK then reviewed with the Board the compensation of the Business Manager position. After considerable discussion, including recommendation by General Manager VINK, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board authorized a 10% salary adjustment for the Business Manager position to be effective June 2013.

#### **Legal Matters**

General Manager VINK reported that the Part III, grant funds have been awarded. The District was not successful in obtaining the Part III funding for the Koslov basin project which was a joint project with Porterville ID. However, the Pixley Irrigation District was successful in receiving \$5M for the Pixley / Delano-Earlimart Irrigation groundwater banking program.

General Manager VINK reminded the Board that he and Director BARCELLOS and District Counsel PELTZER would be traveling to Washington D.C, along with other representatives from the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, on June 10-13, 2013, to visit with members of Congress and staff on San Joaquin River issues.

Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK reported that the sale of land to the FISH & WILDLIFE Services has been approved by the FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE and appraisals will commence this summer. Final acceptance by the District will be predicated upon acceptable appraisal prices.

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

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

The Board then welcomed AUDITOR, ERIC WHITE and representatives from ADAIR & EVANS to review the Districts 2012 Audited Financial Statements. After thorough review, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board accepted the 2012 Audited Financial Statements and ordered them be placed on file.

**4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

Nothing new to report.

**5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the April 17<sup>th</sup> minutes of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

**6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the April 25<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup> day of May 2013.

**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
- 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