

**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 October 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: ALEX PELTZER – District Counsel (11:30am)

**1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

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

The minutes of the September 10, 2013 Regular 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 September 10, 2013 Regular meetings and ordered them placed on file.

## **2. WATER RESOURCES**

The Board reviewed a variety of Water Resource related activities including a briefing on the Friant declaration, which remains at 62% Class I.

The Board then discussed a groundwater usage test program as recommended and requested by the Groundwater Task Force committee. The proposed test would place well meters on various wells throughout the District to get a better calculation of the total volume used by crop and time. After considerable discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board authorized expenditures for the test. It will cost the District approximately \$20,000 for metering and metering installation.

At approximately 11:30am, District Counsel ALEX PELTZER entered the meeting to review with the Board a variety of legal matters. President SIMONICH convened the meeting into Executive Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9. Upon coming out of Executive Session, it was reported that no action was taken.

## **3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

### Construction and Operation activities

The Board received a briefing on the Avenue 116 project; even though the project is constructed primarily in Pixley, there will be a portion used through Lower Tule's facilities for delivery. Operations Manager BATTLES provided a report and it was noted that the project is estimated to be completed sometime in 2015 with construction having just commenced following the contracts and environmental documentation. The Board then discussed general maintenance activities and the use of District equipment to haul sand from the dipping areas to the grower's lands. No action was taken.

### Administrative Activities

The Board then reviewed a variety of administrative activities including an update on the LAFCO detachment. A hearing was held October 9, at which time no one appeared to protest the detachment. There will now be a 30-day waiting period for written protest. After the waiting period, the detachment will become effective.

The Board then spent considerable time reviewing the 2014 O & M budget and the General District budget as prepared by staff and distributed prior to the meeting. After

considerable discussion, both the O&M and General District budgets were approved. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved the Board adopted the 2014 budgets and ordered them placed on file. The water portion of the budget will be revisited once there is a better understanding of the 2014 water year.

The Board then considered adoption of collector's deed on APN 237-180-003. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board adopted Resolution 2013-10-1 without setting a collectors deed on APN 237-180-003. A copy of Resolution 2013-10-1 is attached as **EXHIBIT "A"**.

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

Business Manager LIMAS reported to the Board the Districts in need of a new copy machine, on motion by Director FERNANDES, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board authorized the purchase of a new copy machine in the financial activities for September.

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

#### **4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL**

General Manager Vink reported that the Districts Cross Valley water has been pumped from the Delta with a portion of it being stored in San Luis Reservoir while the remainder has already been delivered to Del Puerto Water District. Del Puerto Water District is in the process of making payment for the full amount of the water.

#### **5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION**

The Board reviewed the September 18, 2013, minutes of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed for review and as such are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK updated the Board on the Success Reservoir Enlargement project. At which time the Board discussed its willingness to participate in the SRE project per the request of the Tule River Association. It was the consensus of the Board to still favor participation in the SRE project if there was strong indication from the Corp and the Department of Water Resources that there would be funding. The Board held its position at all local participations should pay their respective share of the flood control portion of the project along with the allocated storage benefits of the project. Although, it was noted the District would be more than willing to pick up any unwanted portion of the storage benefits

**6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Board reviewed the September 26, 2013 minutes 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 Board reviewed the September 20, 2013 minutes of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority. The minutes of the meeting have been distributed and as such are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK presented for review the Irrigated Lands Program Special Project agreement adopted by DCTRA. The Irrigated Lands Special Program Project agreement creates the Tule Basin sub-water quality coalition, which is a venue for landowners to participate in the Irrigated Lands Program both surface and groundwater. After thorough review and discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director FERNANDES and unanimously approved the Board ratified the approval of the special project agreement by the Deer Creek & Tule River Authority Board.

**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