

**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 January 2014 at 9:00 am at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by President FERNANDES. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

Director	Div. 2	2017	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2015	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2015	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2017	ALEX GARCIA
Director	Div. 5	2017	JOHN ROELOFFS (<i>Approx. 10am</i>)

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

Guests Present: ALEX PELTZER – District Counsel

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

On motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes of the December 12, 2013 Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the minutes of the December 12, 2013 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 2014 drought operations. Two thousand thirteen ended the year as the driest calendar year in the past one hundred years, and by all appearances, if the drought were to continue, there would be zero to little allocation of Friant water. If that happens, there is a real potential to have to provide exchange contractors water supply from the Friant Division.

General Manager VINK has been working with contractors trying to bring some water to the Friant Unit via recirculation, in addition to exploring possible ways to acquire water for those in the Friant Division. If conditions hold, Lower Tule would not have an irrigation run of any sort in 2014.

Water Supply

The Board reviewed a variety of Water Supply activities including a discussion on the upcoming Groundwater Task Force meeting. No action was taken.

At approximately 9:30am, President Fernandes moved the meeting into Executive Session to confer with District Counsel ALEX PELTZER on pending or threatening litigation. Upon coming out of Executive Session it was noted no reportable actions were taken.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of Operations and Maintenance activities including an update from Operations Manager BATTLES and Business Manager LIMAS on the Pixley Avenue 116 project. The project is continuing on a good pace, unfortunately benefiting from the dry conditions.

The Board also reviewed other routine Operations / Maintenance and Personnel activities. There were no actions taken.

Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK reported that the Mid Valley Water Authority is proposing to terminate the Joint Powers Agreement. The Mid Valley Water Authority has been around since the 1980's, and was originally purposed to bring water in under the eastside project. The District is still a member; however, has not been attending the annual meetings for quite some time as no work is being done under the JPA.

The Board reviewed a policy prepared by staff on the delinquencies related to the newly detached lands. Several of the detached properties have sales certificates and collectors deeds attached to them. On motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted General Manager VINK'S recommendation wherein the District will collect on the detached properties once they have been refinanced or sold, by continuing to leave the delinquencies attached to each property.

The Board reviewed a strategy piece prepared by General Manager VINK to deal with the 2014 water supply issues. It is a two-prong strategy, which includes the following:

- 1) *To aggressively protect existing supplies, dealing with exchange contractor operations, coordinating operating agreements, and or other contractors or agreements that would be in place for 2014; and*
- 2) *To aggressively pursue additional supplies for 2014 for the Friant contractors, including banking programs, supplies and other local reservoirs.*

There was no action taken.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of December. On motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the December Financials and ordered them placed on file. Included in the action of the Financial Statements, the Board authorized and directed staff to prepare new signature cards for the new Directors and Officers and for those officers to be authorized signers on the Districts financial accounts.

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

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager Vink updated the Board on the status of the Cross Valley Interim Renewal contract. There were no actions; therefore, no actions documented at this time.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the December 18, 2013 minutes of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the Tule River Association meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the December 13, 2013 minutes of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the Friant Water Authority meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting, 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 January 17, 2014 at the District office in Tipton, Ca.

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager