

**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 12th day of February 2015, 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 <i>(9 am – 12:00 pm)</i>
Director	Div. 4	2015	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2017	ALEX GARCIA <i>(9 am – 10:30 am)</i>
Director	Div. 5	2017	JOHN ROELOFFS

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

Guests Present: ALEX PELTZER, District Counsel
JENNIFER SPALETTA, Special Counsel (via telephone)

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

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

The minutes of the January 13, 2015 Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director GARCIA, seconded by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

The Board considered the District election process and cycle. District elections are currently held on odd years. The District has received notice from the County of Tulare that it would be one of the few remaining Districts to have its elections on odd years, thereby incurring most if not all, the cost of having an election on an odd year. After some discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board adopted Resolution 2015-2-1, moving all the District elections for all Directors to even years beginning in 2015 which, is now deferred to 2016. A copy of Resolution 2015-2-1 is attached as **EXHIBIT "A"**.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water related activities including a briefing from General Manager VINK on statewide water supply conditions. Conditions continue to be very bleak with no projected weather events in the forecast. It is anticipated that the Friant Division will again receive initial allocation of zero percent, with a final announcement to be made later in the month.

General Manager VINK reviewed with the Board a number of water related activities including a planned trip to Washington D.C. in the month of March to meet with Congressional and Administration offices to review various items including:

- Codifying 13i and recirculation priority for Friant Division Contractors,
 - Passing drought legislation consistent with what was negotiated in 2014,
 - Changes to the San Joaquin River Settlement, making it consistent with the intent of the settlement which includes allocating 200,000 acre feet to Friant Division Contractors before the restoration program receives its initial allocation.
- Included in the discussions was an overall concern about the viability of the restoration program. No action was taken.

The Board then reviewed the recent meetings of the Groundwater Steering Committee and the progress on the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency encompassing the District boundaries.

The Board also had a discussion on Strategic direction related to water supply activities and legislative initiatives No action was taken.

The District has also received its payment from the Angiola Water District under the Cooperative agreement. In 2014, the Angiola Water District pumped 27,695 acre-feet.

The Board then went into Closed Session to discuss anticipated litigation with District Counsel ALEX PELTZER who was present at the meeting. Upon coming out of Closed Session, it was reported that, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the execution of a Joint Defense Agreement with other Friant Contractors and the retention of the Marzulla Law Firm, under the Joint Defense Agreement.

At approximately 10:00 am, the Board re-convene into Closed Session to discuss anticipated litigation with District Counsel PELTZER and Special Counsel SPALETTA. Upon coming out of Closed Session, it was reported that no action was taken.

3. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

The Board reviewed a variety of Construction and Maintenance activities including the Avenue 116 project in Pixley ID and the Riparian Expansion project. No action was taken.

Operations Manager BATTLES reviewed with the Board concerns related to security at the District facilities and the intention of installing cameras at both District facilities.

Administrative Activities

General Manager VINK briefed the Board on a variety of administrative activities.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of January 2015. On motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the January Financials and ordered them placed on file.

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

General Manager VINK reported on a number of other administrative activities including upcoming interviews with Canadian television who is doing a story on the drought and will interview both General Manager VINK and Director ROELOFFS.

General Manager VINK also reported on recent conversations and meetings with Westlands Water District representatives and Board members to discuss cooperative issues between Westlands and Lower Tule River ID.

The Board took a break for lunch

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK provided a brief updated on a variety of Cross Valley canal and contract activities. No action was taken.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the January 21, 2015 minutes of the Tule River Association. The minutes of the Tule River Association meetings were distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

General Manager VINK also reported on a meeting of the TRI-JPIA Executive Committee meeting.

6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the January 29, 2015 minutes of the Friant Water Authority. The minutes of the Friant Water Authority meetings were distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

Considerable time was spent discussing the facilitation process and the changes to both the by-laws and the Joint Powers Agreement along with the facilitation process which to date has cost close to \$100,000.00. The Board expressed significant concerns over that process and the direction the Authority has taken. The Board directed that General Manager VINK prepare alternatives to the Friant Water Authority for representation purposes, and to arrange a discussion on that matter with the Pixley Irrigation District Board at a subsequent meeting.

The Board has also received a monthly call for funds from the Friant Water Authority for \$20,900.00. After considerable discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board authorized payment of the call for funds for \$20,900.00.

7. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

The Board reviewed the January 16, 2015 minutes of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority. The minutes of the Deer Creek and Tule River Authority meetings were distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

8. US 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 – Nothing new to report

There being no further business to be brought to the Board attention, and the meeting was adjourned to February 13, 2015.

**MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED 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 an Adjourned Regular meeting on the 13th day of February 2015, at 3:30pm, at District Counsel PELTZER’S office, located at 100 Willow Plaza Ste. 309, Visalia, California. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President ROELOFFS. It was determined the following Directors were in attendance:

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

District Staff Present: DANIEL G. VINK – General Manager

Guests Present: ALEX PELTZER, District Counsel
JENNIFER SPALETTA, Special Counsel

1. BOARD ADMINISTRATION

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a proposed settlement offer from Sandridge Partners related to the Lower Tule vs. Sandridge Partners litigation.

The Board convened into Closed Session to discuss the litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9. Upon coming out of Closed Session, it was reported that, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board adopted Resolution 2015-2-2, ratifying the settlement with Sandridge Partners on the Lower Tule vs. Sandridge case. A copy of Resolution 2015-2-2, ratifying the settlement between Sandridge Partners vs. Lower Tule River Irrigation District is attached as **EXHIBIT “B”**

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager