

**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 6th day of March 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
Director	Div. 4	2015	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2017	ALEX GARCIA
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

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 February 12, 2015 Regular and February 13, 2015 Adjourned Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

2. WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water related activities including an extensive briefing from General Manager VINK on the statewide water allocation, which remains at zero percent.

The Board then discussed a variety of other legal activities.

The Board then convened into Executive Session, to discuss litigation matters with District Counsel Peltzer. Upon coming out of Closed Session, it was reported that on motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board had adopted a revised 2015 Political and Legislative Strategy relating to the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

General Manager VINK also reported on the stipulated judgment with Sandridge Partners, which the courts signed.

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.

Operations Manager BATTLES reviewed with the Board on maintenance issues including security concerns 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 including the General Manager's service contract for final consideration. After some discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, seconded by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved the Board authorized execution of the contract.

General Manager VINK and District Counsel Peltzer discussed a variety of other policy related items, particularly relating to the San Joaquin River Restoration Program. No action was taken.

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

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

General Manager VINK reported that he and Director ROELOFFS would be meeting with Canadian television reporters later in the month to talk about drought and farming impacts to the Central Valley.

4. CROSS VALLEY CANAL

General Manager VINK updated the Board on a variety of Cross Valley canal activities. No action was taken.

5. TULE RIVER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the February 18, 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.

The Board reviewed the February 24, 2015 minutes of the Tule River Riparian's meeting. The minutes of the Tule River Riparian meetings were distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

6. FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Board reviewed the February 26, 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.

In addition to the minutes the Board spent considerable time discussing the recent changes made at Friant Water Authority, particularly the By-Laws. The Board expressed their displeasure with the changes to the By-Laws and overall concern about the direction of the Friant Water Authority.

The District has also been asked to take action on the recent changes to the Joint Powers agreement. After considerable discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, seconded by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board voted against any changes to the Friant Water Authority By-Laws, expressing specific concern related to long-term cost that would withdrawing members might be responsible for.

The District 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 BARCELLOS and unanimously approved the Board authorized a one month payment of the call for funds for \$20,900.00.

7. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

Deer Creek and Tule River Authority will be holding its meeting March 20, 2015.

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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel G. Vink
General Manager

