

**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 March 2017, 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	2018	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2020	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2020	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2018	ALEX GARCIA
Director	Div. 5	2018	JOHN ROELOFFS

District Staff Present: DAN VINK – General Manager
MIKE BATTLES – Operations Manager
ERIC LIMAS – Assistant General Manager

Others Present: Alex Peltzer, General Counsel, Pres Brittain, Pacific Resources, Rod Stefvater, Pacific Resources, Mike Faria, Farmer, Richard Junio, Farmer, Matt Kidder, Farmer, Armando Leal, Farmer/Farm Advisor, Ted Greidanus, Farmer, Paul Greidanus, Farmer, Eric Greidanus, Farmer, Gustavo Magara, Farm Advisor and Dave Dorrance, Sunworld

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 February 14, 2017 Regular meeting distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

2. WATER RESOURCES

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of water related activities, including Millerton, San Luis and Success Reservoir flood operations and subsidence issues on the Friant-Kern canal. Both the San Joaquin and Tule basins are tracking among the wettest years on record.

Assistant Manager LIMAS presented the monthly water delivery report. The current water rate is \$25/acre-foot for the first acre-foot per acre and then \$15/acre-foot for anything over one acre-foot per acre applied. LIMAS reviewed the potential water supply for 2017 and financial model associated with the costs of that water. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board set the water rate at \$60 per acre-foot beginning April 1 and \$85 per acre-foot beginning June 1.

The current rate of \$15 per acre-foot will remain in place for the month of April and re-evaluated on a monthly basis for water applied in excess of 1 acre-foot per acre, considered as recharge water.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2017-3-1, authorizing execution of a Temporary Water Service Contract (215 Contract) with the Bureau of Reclamation. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the agreement.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2017-3-2, authorizing execution of a Unreleased Restoration Flow Water Contract with the Bureau of Reclamation. After discussion, on motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director ROELOFFS, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the agreement.

At 9:55 a.m. the Board opened a Public Hearing to hear comments on the CEQA document on a project to build 160 acres of recharge basins on Ave 152. Assistant Manager LIMAS reviewed comments received by mail. No comments were provided by anyone in attendance. The Public Hearing was closed at 10:05 a.m.

The Board reviewed Resolution 2017-3-3, adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 160 acre recharge basins project on Ave 152. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the Mitigated Negative Declaration with additional mitigation measures and follow up letter to address comments received.

The Board then met as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board. They reviewed Tule Basin MOU Group and Groundwater Planning Commission activities. No Action was taken.

3. SOUTH VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION

The February Steering Committee packet was distributed prior to the meeting. General Manager VINK reviewed SVWA activity which has been focused on water supply issues, Federal legislation and planning an April tour of California water operations with several legislative staff members over the past month. No action was taken.

VINK reviewed a recommendation from the steering committee for the SVWA to form a Joint Powers Authority, rather than continuing to operate under the current MOU structure. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the JPA document.

VINK presented an agreement for Lower Tule River and Pixley Irrigation Districts to provide Administrative and Executive Director Services to SVWA. After discussion, on motion by Director ROELOFFS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the agreement.

4. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

Operations Manager BATTLES reviewed a variety of construction and maintenance activities, reporting that District crews have been busy with Deer Creek flows and Tule River flood releases. BATTLES reported that staff will be looking to fill 1 or 2 of the 4 open staff positions, since there will be a long water run this year. BATTLES reported that there is a leak under County Road 168, that is temporarily fixed and hopefully will make it through this year's water run. He also reported there has been trouble getting enough water into the Koslov Basins, since they have been expanded. BATTLES received a quote to rent pumps for \$11,000 per month as a temporary solution. After discussion, no action was taken.

Personnel

The Board reviewed a draft addendum to the General Manager's Employment Contract. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the addendum to the contract.

Administrative Activities

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of February 2017. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second 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 GARCIA, second by Director ROELOFFS and unanimously approved, the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payments of the February bills.

5. 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. No action was taken.

General Manager VINK presented a timeline for the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project, under 3 different pathways. The pathway that will be followed will be dictated by whether an initial study by the Corps. of Engineers determines a validation report and updated environmental documentation are needed. None of the pathways can begin until there is funding in the Federal budget for the project.

6. MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES

Deer Creek & Tule River Authority

The minutes of the Deer Creek & Tule River Association meetings are distributed for review prior to the meeting, and as such, are not repeated here.

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

Respectfully Submitted



Daniel G. Vink, Secretary

Approved