

**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 on the 11th day of December 2018, 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	2022	JIM COSTA
Director	Div. 3	2020	TOM BARCELLOS
Director	Div. 4	2020	GARY FERNANDES
Director	Div. 1	2022	ALEX GARCIA
Director	Div. 5	2022	JOSH PITIGLIANO

***District Staff present:***

- Eric Limas, General Manager
- Mike Battles, Operations Manager
- Dan Vink, Senior Policy Advisor (via telephone)

***Guests Present:***

- Alex Peltzer, General Counsel
- Mike Faria, Farmer
- John Roeloffs, Farmer
- Richard Junio, Farmer
- Anil Kumar, Farmer
- Ramen Grewal, Farmer
- Jace Vanderham, Farmer
- David Gill, Farmer
- Pres Brittain, Pacific Resources
- Clifton Lollar, Sun World, Inc.
- Dennis Tristao, JG Boswell
- Geoff Vandenhuevel, Milk Producers Council
- Soua Lee, Kings River Conservation District

**BOARD ADMINISTRATION**

The Board reviewed the agenda. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the agenda was approved.

The Board reviewed the slate of officers and committee appointments for 2019. On motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO, and unanimously approved, Director BARCELLOS was elected to the vacant seat of Vice-President of the Board of Directors. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS, and unanimously approved, the remaining officers were elected to fill the same positions for 2019 (President – Director FERNANDES, Treasurer – Manager LIMAS, Secretary – Manager LIMAS, Assessor/Collector – Beth Grote-Lewis). After discussion and recommended changes, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the **committee appointment list attached** for 2019.

The minutes of the November 13, 2018 regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

### **WATER RESOURCES**

Manager LIMAS reviewed current water conditions. The Friant Class 1 allocation is 88% Class 1. CVC exchange deliveries were completed in early-November. Delivery of recirculation water to water banking facilities in Kern County are ongoing. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed activities related to the Friant Kern Canal Water Quality policy, subsidence/capacity correction and Temperance Flat studies. No action was taken.

The Board then met as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board. LIMAS reviewed discussions and issues that have been taken up by the GPC. The Board reviewed dates scheduled for January for landowner meetings. No action was taken.

The Board reviewed Tule Basin MOU Group activities, including work on the basin coordination agreement, basin groundwater flow model and discussions related to subsidence. The Board then reviewed a proposal from Thomas Harder & Co to perform an analysis of the cause of subsidence at and near the Friant Kern Canal on behalf of the Tule Subbasin. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the proposal.

### **SOUTH VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION**

SVWA Executive Director VINK reviewed the South Valley Water Association executive director memo and notes, including updates on a potential extension of the WIIN Act and ongoing activity and discussions related to Voluntary Settlement Agreements and State Water Resources Control Board on the Lower San Joaquin River. No Action was taken.

LIMAS also reviewed the 2019 SVWA workplan and draft Budget. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the 2019 workplan and Budget.

### **DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

#### **Construction and Operation activities**

Operations Manager BATTLES reviewed ongoing maintenance activities, including a review of safety meetings, facility safety inspections, the need to update lighting at the Pixley shop, grading, canal maintenance and the Riparian pipeline project activities. BATTLES also reviewed potential equipment purchases per the budget and equipment replacement plan. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board accepted bids of approximately \$74,000 for purchase of a tractor and \$125,000 for the purchase of a Dump truck.

At approximately 10:30 a.m. the Board went into closed session with General Counsel PELTZER. Upon reconvening the meeting in open session, at approximately 11:00 am, it was reported that there were no reportable actions taken during closed session.

#### **Administrative Activities**

The Board reviewed Resolution 2018-12-1, terminating the property owner's right of redemption on parcel 300-030-114. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS, and unanimously approved, the Board adopted Resolution 2018-12-1.

LIMAS reviewed a proposed agreement with Vandalia Water District for Lower Tule and Pixley to provide Management, Administration and Operation services to VWD. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, the Board approved execution of the agreement, subject to final review by the General Manager and attorney Jennifer Spaletta and approved execution of a conflict waiver for attorney Alex Peltzer.

The Board reviewed the Financial reports for the month of November 2018. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the November Financials and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the District Investment Policy. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board re-adopted the District Investment Policy.

LIMAS presented an engagement letter for Adair & Evans to perform the 2018 audit. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the engagement letter.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the November bills. On motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director PITIGLIANO and unanimously approved, the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payments of the November bills. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS, and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the purchase of a \$5,000 gift card for the prior General Manager Dan Vink in recognition of his service to the District.

LIMAS presented a Consumer Price Index analysis for the Board's consideration of a Cost of Living Adjustment for employees for 2019. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board approved a COLA of 2.5% for 2019.

### **MISCELLANEOUS AGENCIES & AUTHORITIES**

#### **Tule River Association**

LIMAS gave an update of the Success Reservoir Enlargement Project activities, including weekly project team meeting updates and progress on updates of the environmental documents and the Project Cooperation Agreement between the local sponsors and the Corps. of Engineers. Also reviewed was a draft agreement between Lower Tule as the lead local agency and the other Tule River Association members. No action was taken.

LIMAS reviewed a draft 2019 Success Power Plant Budget. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the budget and recommended it to the TRA Board of Directors.

LIMAS presented a request for funding from the California Farm Water Coalition for 2019. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved the request for funding.

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,

Eric Limas  
General Manager