

**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 February 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, Mike Faria, Farmer, David Cardoza, Farmer, Richard Junio, Farmer, Matt Kidder, Farmer, Armando Leal, Farmer 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 January 10, 2017 Regular meeting and January 26, 2017 Special Board meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes of the meetings and ordered them placed on file.

## **2. WATER RESOURCES**

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of water related activities, including Millerton and Success Reservoir flood operations. Success is currently over 62,000 acre-feet in storage, allowable is approximately 11,500 acre-feet and releases are 2,200 cfs. 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. The water rate will be discussed again at the March Board meeting. No Action was taken.

The Board had a discussion on the 2017 Poplar Ditch allocation. There is currently 180 acre-feet per share makeup water owed from prior years. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board set the Poplar Allocation at a full year allocation of 55 acre-feet per share plus 27.5 acre-feet per-share of prior year make-up water.

Assistant Manager LIMAS presented a \$10,500 quote from TruePoint Solutions for software programming to handle the new allocation policy and accounting for those allocations in flood vs. non-flood periods. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the quote was approved for by the Board.

The Board then met as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board. They reviewed Tule Basin MOU Group and Groundwater Planning Commission activities. General Manager VINK presented a draft Groundwater Planning Directive document, outlining the direction and assignments the LTRID GSA Board is giving the Groundwater Planning Commission. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board approved the document.

The Board also reviewed an agreement between the MOU group participants and Deer Creek and Tule River Authority to act as the contracting agent for the Tule Subbasin planning grant from Tulare County. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director BARCELLOS, and unanimously approved, the Board, as the GSA, approved execution of the agreement.

The Board reviewed a cost sharing agreement between all CVC water contractors to share in the cost of a consultant to prepare a NEPA document in support of the CVC long term contract renewal. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board authorized execution of the agreement.

### **3. SOUTH VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION**

General Manager VINK reviewed SVWA activity which has been focused on water supply issues, Federal legislation and Delta operations over the past month. VINK reported on a trip he took to Washington DC last week. VINK and Director COSTA also reported on the SVWA trip to Sacramento on February 1 to meet with various state legislators, the Bureau of Reclamation, US Fish and Wildlife and a member of the State Water Resources Control Board. No action was taken.

### **4. DISTRICT OPERATIONS**

At approximately 10:45 am, the Board went into closed session with General Counsel Peltzer to discuss one possible case of litigation. Upon reconvening into open session it was reported that there was no reportable action taken during closed session.

#### Construction and Operation activities

Operations Manager BATTLES, General Manager VINK and Assistant Manager LIMAS reported on current flood operations and took the Board on a tour of the District to see firsthand the ongoing flood operations in the District. No action was taken.

#### Administrative Activities

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

Assistant Manager LIMAS reported that Standard & Poors completed a review of the District Bond rating. S&P issued a final report of the review, downgrading the District rating from an A+ to A- rating. LIMAS reported that the single most factor influencing that decision was the recent three-year trend of negative cash flow due to the drought. Due to the drought, the District cash reserves have been reduced by approximately \$5.5 million to cover fixed water costs, namely Friant Kern Canal Operations and Maintenance costs, that are normally covered through the District water rates to water users.

**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.

**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