

**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 10th day of January 2017, at 9:00 am, at the District office in Tipton, California. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President ROELOFFS. 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 (9:15)
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, Ted Greidanus, Farmer, Pres Brittain, Pacific Resources, Paul Greidanus, Farmer, Mike Faria, Farmer, Eric Greidanus, Farmer, Danny Faria, Farmer, Richard Junio, Farmer, Todd Fernandes, Farmer, 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 December 13, 2016 Regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the minutes and ordered them placed on file.

During the Public Comment period, landowner Mike Faria asked about the District's position on HR 23 recently introduced by Congressman Valadao and landowner Todd Fernandes asked about groundwater recharge as it relates to an individual farmer's abilities to recharge water and the possibility of getting credits under SGMA. The questions spurred

discussion among the Board members and the landowners. No action was taken.

2. WATER RESOURCES

General Manager VINK reviewed a variety of water related activities, including Delta and San Luis Reservoir operations and current flood operations on both the Tule River system and the Friant system. No Action was taken.

The Board had a discussion on the water rate for the current flood water in the District distribution system. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director ROELOFFS, and unanimously approved, the Board approved a winter water rate of \$25 per acre-foot.

The Board then met as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board. They reviewed Tule Basin MOU Group activities and Semi Tropic Water Storage District's Tulare Lake Basin Storage Project. Also reviewed was a request by a landowner to be annexed in to the District to be covered for SGMA purposes. The Board directed staff to research alternative ways to cover the land for SGMA purposes without annexing them into the District. The Board also reviewed the agreements with Tipton CSD, Poplar CSD and Woodville PUD. The agreements call for the LTRID GSA to ratify the agreements, as the GSA. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board, as the GSA, ratified the agreements.

At approximately 10:15, the Pixley Irrigation District Board of Directors joined the meeting. General Manager Vink presented an overview of legislation (HR 23) recently introduced by Congressman Valadao. Vink also reviewed a recommended draft letter of support from South Valley Water Association supporting the legislation. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board authorized sending the letter of support.

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

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. No action was taken.

4. DISTRICT OPERATIONS

Construction and Operation activities

Operations Manager Battles reported that District staff has been focused on flood releases and running water. No action was taken.

Assistant Manager LIMAS reviewed Resolution 2017-1-1 to approve applying for a grant to complete Phases 2 and 3 of the Riparian Area Expansion Project. The total project cost is approximately \$3,000,000 and the grant application would be to cover \$1,000,000 of those costs. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2017-1-1.

Assistant Manager LIMAS reviewed Resolution 2017-1-2 to accept the grant to complete Phase 1 of the Riparian Area Expansion Project from the Department of Water Resources and authorize Assistant Manager Limas to sign the grant contract. The total project cost is approximately \$2,800,000 and the grant application would be to cover approximately \$1,400,000 of those costs. After discussion, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, and unanimously approved, the Board approved Resolution 2017-1-2.

Administrative Activities

The Lower Tule and Pixley Water and Power Authority was formed in the 1990's and used the Lower Tule Federal ID number to transact business. There has been no activity in many years for the Authority. The District was recently contacted to claim uncashed checks and stock in the Authority's name. In order to do so, authorized signers need to be updated. After discussion, on motion by Director COSTA, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the Board authorized the Officers of the Board, the General Manager and the Assistant General Manager to sign on behalf of the Authority.

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of December 2016. On motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the December Financials and ordered them placed on file.

The Board reviewed the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the December bills. On motion by Director GARCIA, second by Director BARCELLOS and unanimously

approved, the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payments of the December bills.

Assistant Manager Limas presented the Audit engagement letter from Paul Klippenstein to perform the annual audit in the amount of \$12,000. After review, on motion by Director BARCELLOS, second by Director GARCIA and unanimously approved, the approved execution of the audit engagement letter.

The Board reviewed a request from a landowner to waive penalties on an assessment bill. The payment was due on 12/20/16, was postmarked on 12/30/16 and received on 1/3/17. The landowner statement said that it was dropped off at the post office on 12/2/16, with no explanation or evidence as to why it did not get postmarked until 12/30/16. After discussion, on motion by Director, BARCELLOS, second by Director COSTA, the Board unanimously voted to deny the request.

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