



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
PIXLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

The Board of Directors of the Pixley Irrigation District met in a regular meeting on the 9th day of March 2017, at 9:00 a.m. at the District office in Tipton, California.

The meeting was called to order by Board President Junio. It was determined the following Directors were present:

Director Div.3	Randy Parreira
Director Div.2	Bill DeGroot
Director Div.5	Frank Junio
Director Div. 1	Neal Westbrook
Director Div.4	Rusty Schott

District Staff present:

Eric Limas, Assistant General Manager
Mike Battles, Operations Manager
Dan Vink, General Manager (telephone)

Guests Present:

Armando Leal, Farmer/Farm Advisor
Gustavo Magara, Farm Advisor
Brandon Spain, Farm Manager

BOARD ADMINISTRATION

On motion by Director Westbrook, second by Director Schott and unanimously approved, the Agenda was approved as presented.

The Minutes of the February 9, 2017 regular meeting were distributed for review prior to the meeting. On motion by Director DeGroot, second by Director Parreira and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the meeting minutes and ordered them placed on file.

WATER RESOURCES

The Board reviewed a variety of water related activities including Deer Creek flows, possible summer water run and current Friant flood operations. No action was taken.

Assistant Manager Limas reported that demand has started picking up and as that trend continues more Friant water will be ordered to meet that demand. The Board had a discussion on water rates. After discussion, on motion by Director Westbrook, second by Director Parreira and unanimously approved, the water rate will go from \$25 per acre foot to \$40 per acre foot beginning April 1. The \$15 rate for recharging water will also end on March 31.

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

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 Parreira, second by Director Westbrook, and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the agreement.

SOUTH VALLEY WATER ASSOCIATION

The Board reviewed the February steering committee meeting packet that went out in the Board packet prior to the meeting. No action was taken.

Assistant Manager Limas 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 DeGroot, second by Director Schott and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the JPA document.

Limas 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 DeGroot, second by Director Westbrook and unanimously approved, the Board approved execution of the agreement.

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 then gave an update of the Ave 116 extension project. The pipe for the project has been ordered and construction is slated for May or June, depending on water operations.

Personnel

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

Administrative Matters

The Board reviewed the Financial Statements for the month of February 2017. On motion by Director Westbrook, second by Director DeGroot and unanimously approved, the Board accepted the Financial Statements 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 Degroot, second by Director Parreirat, and unanimously approved, the Board ratified the actions of the Finance Committee in the payment of the bills.

SOUTH VALLEY WATER BANKING AUTHORITY

Assistant Manager Limas gave an update on the project. No action was taken.

Approved

MISC. AUTHORITIES/AGENCIES:

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
General Manager