

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE  
9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL 2013 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order:

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, Vice President Rick Borges, Mike Thomas, Scott Rogers and Dave Martin. Staff present at the meeting were J. Paul Hendrix, General Manager and Secretary; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster and Aaron Fukuda, Engineer. The meeting was called to order by President Bixler.

Public Comments:

There were no comments from any members of the public in attendance to come before the Board.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting held March 12, 2013 had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. One error regarding finance reports was noted and, upon the motion of Director Rogers and second by Director Borges, the minutes of the meeting were thereupon approved as corrected.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Operations and Supplies - Mr. Crenshaw indicated that about 53,000 AF is retained in storage in Lake Kaweah at the present time and that dry conditions prevail. He then reviewed the supplies allocated and in storage from the Friant system and Lake Kaweah noting that the Friant Class 1 allocation stands at 55% and that Kaweah supplies could amount to about 18,000 AF. Director Borges then inquired about a transfer to Madera ID and the origin of the water; Mr. Hendrix indicated that this was a sale of water owed to Sun World. Mr. Crenshaw added that Lindsay-Strathmore ID is calling on 9,780 AF per the water exchange agreement therewith. He then indicated that a two-week irrigation run with about 24,000 AF for diversion was in the offing, likely in the late June or early July time frame.

2013 Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw next went over the rainfall to-date and snow depths in the local watersheds. He focused on snow pack data, noting that the Kaweah basin water content was about 33% of the April 1<sup>st</sup> average and the San Joaquin basin at 47%.

Groundwater Report - Mr. Crenshaw then presented tabular and graphical data depicting depth-to-groundwater trends over time. He noted that the average change across the District's service area since last spring has been a drop of 30 ft. He noted too that the average reduction in level has been about 8 in. per year since 1922. A contour map showing depth to groundwater as of spring 2013 was also presented.

Water Management Activities - Mr. Hendrix summarized the transfer and exchange commitments with LSID, involving both LSID's needs from the District as well as transfers of Settlement recapture water projected to be in San Luis Reservoir on behalf of Friant districts.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work, Construction Projects - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within upstream diversion channels. He noted that tree-trimming has been ongoing for about six weeks, with crews now working at the western side of the District. He added that wide-spread tree work hadn't been done in the last 10 to 15 years. He also

made mention of excavation within the Anderson Basin and weed spraying procedures. Mr. Fox cited tail water drains as one of the causes of weed growth and there ensued a Board discussion of its policy regarding the same. The Board directed staff to renew its efforts to bring all water users in compliance with this policy. There was also discussion regarding the existence of private well discharge into the canal system and practices in dealing with these. Lastly, Mr. Fox summarized the SCADA installation work at Swall Basin.

Quarterly O&M Report - Mr. Fox then called the Board's attention to the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter O&M Report, noting that the activities documented therein have for the most part already been summarized in his presentation.

#### Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Mr. Hendrix brought to the Board's attention the financial statements for the month of March 2013 for their review and consideration. He first reviewed the statement of revenue and expense, citing revenues totaling \$11,680 for the month and then reviewed expenses totaling \$209,960 noting some of the exceptional line items therein. Mr. Hendrix then reviewed a listing of District bank account balances, all totaling about \$10.1 million.

Approval of Bill Payments - Mr. Hendrix next presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. He noted a few of the bill payments and Board questions on others were fielded by staff. By the motion of Director Borges and second by Director Martin, the Board accepted the financial statements and check nos. 43654 through 43780 totaling \$639,597.51 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Replacement of Controller - Mr. Hendrix summarized the ongoing search for candidates, noting that 30-day postings on eight web sites had been secured and that five candidates who appear to meet the job qualifications are to be interviewed on April 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Management Staff Reports:

Swall Basin - Mr. Fukuda next described the City of Tulare's need, in concert with Caltrans, for more dirt from the Swall Basin site and the associated plan to dig the basin about 2 ft. deeper. He indicated that the dirt is needed as fill material for the Cartmill Ave. overpass project. He noted too that the City has been apprised by the District of the need to pay for any remedial repairs and invert ripping needed at the completion of the extra two feet of excavation. Inlet/outlet structures will be needing extensions to the lower invert levels as well. By the motion of Director Thomas and second by Director Rogers, the Material Source Agreement with Caltrans was approved for signature, provided that the additional excavation be conducted at no cost to the District and in a manner satisfactory to the District.

Expansion of Enterprise Basin - Mr. Fukuda then informed the Board of the latest discussions with Dr. Kumar concerning a possible realignment of the Serpa Ditch on his property to serve Enterprise Basin and the interest of KDWCD in participating in a land purchase to expand the basin size. He indicated that KDWCD would be willing to contribute \$8,000 per acre to the land purchase provided that the District undertakes all construction work and associated costs. Further Board discussion ensued concerning alternate means to provide water deliveries to the basin. At the conclusion of discussions concerning the project, the Board directed staff to seek to acquire the Cordeniz 60-acre parcel with KDWCD's participation, devote 20 acres towards expanding the adjacent Enterprise Basin, and to determine how to proceed with the remaining 40 acres at a later time.

McKay Pt. Reservoir Project - Mr. Hendrix next briefed the Board on the status of negotiations with CEMEX on the sharing of project

development costs, particularly those dealing with dewatering during the excavation phase and during ultimate reservoir operations. Mr. Fukuda added that the project EIR is about 25% complete.

Grant Projects Status - Mr. Fukuda reviewed the projects/studies underway utilizing grant monies from the DWR, NRCS and USBR. He then described his preparation of a grant application to the NRCS which proposes a pilot program to test the usefulness of a new telemetry communication device for District canal SCADA operations being marketed by Recon Dynamics. The device, the communications with which will emanate from the District's existing radio tower, may also have applications with water users for on-farm operations. At the conclusion of discussions with the Board, staff was advised to pursue the pilot project with the prime focus on how such instrumentation may advance the efficiency of the District's water facility operations.

#### Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Agreement for Common Use - Mr. Fukuda described the need to consider a common use agreement for the District's West Side pipeline easement alongside West St. near the old office site. The City intends to place landscaping over the pipeline and within the District's right-of-way therefor. Upon the motion of Director Borges and second by Director Martin, authorization was given to execute such a document.

Amendment to IRWMP MOU - Mr. Fukuda lastly explained the need to approve an amendment to the Kaweah IWRMP participation MOU to permit the City of Farmersville to sign on as a member. With the motion of Director Martin and second by Director Rogers, such approval was given by the Board to execute said amendment.

#### Board Member Report of Meetings:

Director Bixler asked if any Directors have reports on meetings they attended or wished to discuss at this time.

Director Borges proceeded to summarize the conduct of the Kaweah Sub-watershed Coalition and K&SJRA board meetings held on April 4<sup>th</sup>. He first highlighted the water supply and liability insurance matters dealt with at the Association meeting. He then covered the various topics of the Kaweah Sub-watershed meeting, including the EIR lawsuit and other general order issues, Stone Corral monitoring results, and other south Valley Coalition issues.

Director Borges then made note of the Tulare IC quarterly meeting held April 8<sup>th</sup> and that a \$45 assessment was levied and an update was provided on uses of the Ketchum Ditch.

Director Borges next noted the highlights of the last Friant WA board meeting held on March 28<sup>th</sup>. He cited a discussion of San Luis & Delta Mendota WA costs to Friant, USBR's water supply report, a visitation by USBR's new Regional Director, restoration activities, the Friant-Kern Canal capacity correction project, and grant monies per Part III of the Settlement legislation.

Directors Bixler and Martin then provided highlights of the Evans DC special meeting held on April 8<sup>th</sup>, including a \$25 assessment and shareholder request for a new turnout.

Director Thomas lastly noted the highlights of the Wutchumna WC board meeting held March 13<sup>th</sup>. He made note of an assessment of \$250 per share, repair status of the automatic gate at the Ragle diversion, the St. Johns WC diversion status, and a consultant analysis of low-head hydro potential at the Bravo Lake diversion structure.

The Board then adjourned to a closed session per Gov't. Code §54956.8. Upon returning to open session, it was noted that no reportable actions had been taken in the prior closed session.

There being no other items to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned.

J. Paul Hendrix  
Secretary

David G. Bule  
President