

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE
13th DAY OF AUGUST 2013 AT THE HOUR OF 8:00 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 and Dave Martin. Director Scott Rogers was absent. Staff present at the meeting were J. Paul Hendrix, General Manager and Secretary; Kathi Artis, Controller; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Aaron Fukuda, Engineer and Beth Holmes, Assessor-Collector. 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 July 9, 2013 had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. There being none, upon the motion of Director Borges and second by Director Rogers, the minutes of the meeting were thereupon approved as presented.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations - Mr. Crenshaw noted that inflow to the lake is down to 10 cfs with storage at 25,000 AF. The Wutchumna WC system is still running, but no other units downstream thereof. He then indicated that most of the District's CVP and Kaweah supplies have been exchanged or transferred to others, with about 330 AF of river water set aside for future disposition. Mr. Crenshaw then reviewed the total supplies that were ultimately available to the District this summer noting that, after obligatory exchange returns, the irrigation run supply for diversion would have amounted to about 24,600 AF. He added that this would have afforded about 18 days for the run, only 4 more than was the outlook in May when the CVP supply stood at 45% Class 1.

Water Management Activities - Mr. Hendrix then summarized the water transfers and exchanges being pursued to make use of the District's 2013 water supplies in the aftermath of the Board's decision in May to not hold a summer run. He indicated that a number of transfer and exchange agreements have been processed and that net revenues from such arrangements will amount to some \$6.5 million. He added that with obligatory return water and wet-year purchases in future years, a exchange return ratio of 5:1 is achievable.

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 named a short piping project on the S-4 Ditch west of Enterprise St, a new turnout for the County off of Cameron Creek at Mooney Grove Park, weed spraying and canal invert tilling. He added that weed mowing efforts will commence soon with rental tractors. Mr. Fox then indicated that the used Ford F-550 had recently been acquired and retro-fitted for its intended uses.

He and Mr. Fukuda summarized the wrap-up work underway to complete the Swall Basin project, naming a flow connection between cells 1 and 3, electrical work for SCADA equipment, and planned perimeter fencing around the property. Mr. Fox noted that a yard break-in had recently occurred with about 550 gal of diesel fuel having been stolen and, as

a result, tighter security measures are to be evaluated by staff. He closed with a brief summary of the finish-up work being preformed at Swall Basin and laser-leveling of the bottom of Tagus Basin.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis brought to the Board's attention the financial statements for the month of July 2013 for their review and consideration. She noted the assessment collections, indicating that one-half is booked as revenue now from the previous December collection and the other half collected in June will be booked later in November. She then reviewed expenses and some discussion ensued regarding payments made to LSID. Ms. Artis summarized with noting net operational income to-date of \$1.55 million, with additional funds of about \$.77 million devoted to capital outlay and loan principal reductions. She then proceeded to review the statement of net assets and investment yields at both the County pooled fund and state LAIF. She lastly summarized the status of recent loan payments and associated amortization schedules.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis next presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. She highlighted billings from engineering consultants, legal counsel, McKay Pt. property lease distributions and reservoir project expenditures. Mr. Fox noted and explained several maintenance-related billings. By the motion of Director Borges and second by Director Thomas, the Board accepted the financial statements and check nos. 44129 through 44239 totaling \$705,637.23 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Assessor-Collector Report:

Ms. Holmes proceeded to summarize the June assessment collections and cited a 99% received percentage, an amount higher than in recent years. She then explained a procedure by which the District may elect to pass on it's uncollected tax sales to the County for inclusion into property tax assessments thereby. The Board expressed support for the use of such County assistance and staff indicated that District Counsel will be consulted prior to any conclusion to proceed. Ms. Holmes also summarized two particular property owners and their delinquent assessments, and the Board felt that their tax-sale amounts could likewise be passed on to the County for collection.

Management Staff Reports:

IWRM Planning Grants - Mr. Fukuda briefed the Board on the status of the state IWRM grants for the Swall Basin and Visalia Pipeline projects. He stated that a contract between KDWCD and the state is now ready for execution, which contract will secure the funds for both projects. He noted that about \$1.1 million will be forthcoming for the basin project and \$.7 million for the pipeline project. Mr. Fukuda went on to discuss some of the details of the pipeline project, noting that additional archeogeological work will be necessary for NEPA compliance.

Computer Server Maintenance Needs - Mr. Hendrix commented that the District had previously relied largely on in-house staff time to maintain the office computer server and that outside services are now being pursued. Mr. Fukuda then summarized three quotes received for server re-configuration and upkeep, noting that the lowest and most suitable was from California Consulting. The up-front cost will be \$3,600, with a monthly fee of \$340 thereafter.

Web Site Updates - Mr. Fukuda next outlined plans to update the District's web site and add a link to public relations information regarding the McKay Point Reservoir project. He also commented that, with the updates and new software platform, District staff will be able to more easily upload new information periodically to the site without having to rely on the web site host.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Evans Ditch Co., Agreement for Services - Mr. Hendrix noted that this matter has been tabled.

Establishment of Board of Equalization - Mr. Hendrix summarized the roll of the Board of Equalization, its purposes related to District assessment levies, and its members consisting of the District's Board of Directors. By the motion of Director Borges and second by Director Thomas, the Board was hereby established as a Board of Equalization, which board will sit for a ten-day period beginning September 10th to hear any objections made to the valuation, acreage, or any other matter pertaining to the levy of assessment.

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 July 11th. He stated that the irrigated lands issues are likely being moved to a third-party administrator and that consultants are probably going to be involved in the conduct of related work. He noted too that the Kaweah Sub-watershed general order is supposed to be finalized in late September. Mr. Borges then summarized the conduct of the Association portion of the meeting, highlighting the river report and snow sensor repairs and installations.

Director Borges next summarized the key matters dealt with at the July meetings of the FWA. A special session was held July 15th with a report given by the new USBR Regional Director and a closed session update on water rights issues on the San Joaquin River involving Westlands WD. At the July 25th regular meeting, Mr. Borges listed the new membership of the City of Fresno, a water supply update, Temperance Flat dam site tour, human resource decisions, and Settlement-related updates regarding Water Management Goal funding decisions and the announcement of a new Restoration Administrator.

Director Bixler then noted a special meeting of the KRPA, at which a resolution was passed in support of his pending service on the ACWA Region 7 board and an update was given on the protocol for use of consultants and other matters by the new manager.

Director Thomas lastly briefed the Board on the key agenda items of the Wutchumna WC board meeting held on July 10th. He noted an assessment levied of \$225 per share to be accompanied by a draw down from the power revenue enhancement trust account. He also mentioned a recent survey of property owned by the Company surrounding the Wutchumna Ditch diversion off the Kaweah River, a DWR Safety of Dams inspection of Bravo Lake, and parcel splits along the west side of the Lake, in part to accommodate CalTrans work on Hwy 245.

The Board thereupon adjourned to closed session per Gov't. Code §54956.8. No reportable actions were taken in closed session and the Board then returned to open session.

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


Secretary

David J. Lenter
President