

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD
ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
8TH DAY OF December 2020 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mr. Fukuda reported due to the Governor's Executive Order (N-29-20) and the declared state of emergency, including current social distancing directives as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 virus, the TID Board members and TID Staff attended this meeting remotely. There was no physical location for this meeting. Members of the public and other officials participated in the Open Session portion of the meeting remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, Rick Borges, Dave Martin, and Mike Thomas. Absent was Director Scott Rogers. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller and Treasurer; Beth Holmes, Senior Administrator and Assessor-Collector; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer; and Riley Nolan, Engineering Intern. Also present were Geoff Vanden Heuvel; Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association; Doug Reynolds, Santa Fe Aggregates; and Joseph Gallegos, Umida Ag. Mr. Bixler thanked everyone for attending and announced that there was a full quorum of the Board of Directors present. President Bixler asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the agenda, of which Mr. Fukuda reported there were none. The meeting was thereupon called to order by President Bixler.

Public Comments:

Mr. Fukuda, at this time, noted that the meeting was being recorded.

Mr. Fukuda commented that the meeting would move into closed session to work with legal counsel's schedule, and the goal was to return to regular session at 10:30 A.M.

Mr. Fukuda brought to the Board's attention that JPIA presented the H.R. LaBounty Safety Award to Wayne Fox after being nominated by staff for being instrumental in the implementation of safety features at the District.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 10, 2020 had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. By the motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting was thereupon approved.

President Bixler then moved the meeting to Closed Session.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered into closed session under §54956.8, §54956.9(a), §54956.9(b), §54956.9(c), §54957.6, §54957, and 54956.95 of the Government Code.

Upon returning to Open Session, President Bixler noted that there were no actions taken in Closed Session.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by noting Terminus Reservoir total inflow for the day was 37 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 10,179 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus

Reservoir was 28 CFS.

Thereupon Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that the Millerton Lake total inflow was 372 CFS and that the entire storage at Millerton Lake was 177,977 AF. He reported that the total daily release from Millerton was 425.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the District's current water supply stood at 1,244 AF. The projected January 2020 to December 2020 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 48,198 AF. He stated the Friant Kern Canal was shut down for repairs.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw presented a TID Fall 2020 Depth to Groundwater Map that provided depth to groundwater contours across the District. Mr. Crenshaw then provided for Board discussion a 1993-2020 Fall Depth to Groundwater Fall Measurements chart. Mr. Crenshaw reported that the 2020 depth to groundwater measurement average totaled 161 feet, showing an 18-foot decrease from Fall 2019.

Management Activities and Issues - Mr. Fukuda noted that there was nothing to report at this time.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox thereupon reported the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within upstream diversion channels. He cited ditch bank mowing, meter repair, grading work, dozer work, dredging, basin discing, rip-rap replacement, maintenance projects, construction projects, pre-emergent herbicide applications, and maintenance of District vehicles and construction equipment.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for November 2020 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January-November 2020 was \$4,552,956, which was approximately 57.85% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from November totaling \$8,898,657, which was approximately 86.46% of the revised budget. She then went on with presenting the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$9,052,521. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,103,280, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$36,870,453. She lastly cited investment return for the District's several holding accounts, those being 2.3300% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund, 0.685% with the state LAIF, and 0.350% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. Ms. Artis noted payment to the State Water Resources Control Board in the amount of \$191,405.20 for water rights fees. She also noted payment to the United States Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$71,166.84 for May thru November water. After further scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 52433 through 52491 totaling \$467,466.16 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Assessor-Collector Report:

Status of Assessment - Ms. Holmes presented the Assessor's Board Report and noted that 49% of the 1st Installment and Environmental Charge had been collected, and approximately 29% of the 2nd Installment and Environmental Charge had been collected. As of December 7, 2020, the District had received \$813,632.74, and \$1,282,832.92 was yet to be collected. Ms.

Holmes provided a list of Landowners with Water Tolls, which totaled \$11,704.59, and Delinquent Assessments totaling \$26,561.00.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities within the District. Mr. Barroll first reported dirt haulers are taking a break from hauling from Cordeniz Basin.

Then Mr. Barroll reported on Serpa Headworks Replacement mentioning the existing Serpa headgate, which was 30", was removed, and a new headgate structure, which was 48", was being installed.

Next, Mr. Barroll briefed the Board on Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy Committee, reporting applications for Committee seats have been distributed. The first subcommittee meeting will occur next week.

Lastly, Mr. Barroll reported on the Internet Installation noting that the Project engineer for Comcast explained that they have been shopping for the best contractor quote to complete the existing fiber line's physical extension as cheaply as possible.

Management Staff Reports:

COVID-19 Response Plan Update - Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the COVID-19 District Response Plan, reporting that the district has no employee exposures for November. Mr. Fukuda provided a chart documenting Tulare County's new positive case rate.

Mr. Fukuda reported that the current COVID-19 Response Plan would expire on December 31, 2020, and recommend the board consider a revision and extension to the COVID-19 Response Plan. Mr. Fukuda noted that he would bring an updated COVID-19 Response Plan before the board in January for review and consideration.

SGMA Matters - Mr. Fukuda summarized recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda first updated the Board on the Kaweah Subbasin Managers Report mentioning the following: development of a scope of work for a Data Management System; Kaweah Subbasin MODFLOW Model; and Preparation of the 2020 Annual Plan.

Proposition 68 Implementation Grant - Mr. Fukuda provided an update on Proposition 68 Implementation Grant. He noted that the Proposition 68 Implementation Grant application deadline is January 8, 2021, and that the Okieville Recharge basin would be included in the grant application.

Mr. Fukuda provided a report on the activities of the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA). Mr. Fukuda first reported the MKGSA General Manager application deadline was December 15, 2020 and at the time, there were seven applicants.

Mr. Fukuda thereupon reported DWR has signed off and approved the completed Prop 1 Deliverables, but in order to close out the report more information is required.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided a summary on the topics covered at the Friant Water Authority (FWA) November Board Retreat covering the following: Strategic Plan; Governance; Blueprint; FKC Canal Capacity Principles; Biggest Question: How to pay for the FKC Middle Reach; and lastly reported on the Reserve Plan. Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Borges both attended, and both agreed the FWA Retreat was successful.

McKay Point Reservoir Project - Mr. Fukuda reported on the McKay Point Reservoir Project (MPRP), beginning with a report on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) stating they had received and accepted two late comments from Santa Fe Aggregates and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Plans are to incorporate those comments into the review process. Next, Mr. Fukuda mentioned they have secured all sub consultants

needed to complete EIR sections and are working with West Coast Sand and Gravel (WCSG) on refining the operations plan.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda reported on legislation noting that Capital Core Group was tracking Federal Infrastructure Bills with a hope for infrastructure bill sometime soon.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

California Farm Water Coalition (CFWC) 2021 Membership - Mr. Fukuda reported to the Directors the request to submit membership dues to the CFWC for 2021. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present approval for payment in the amount of \$9,435 for the 2021 CFWC 2021 Membership Dues was approved.

Quitclaim of Easement on APN 168-020-021 - Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Crenshaw presented a request from D.R. Horton CA3, Inc. to Quitclaim a Tulare Irrigation District Easement on APN 168-020-021. Mr. Crenshaw and Mr. Fukuda provided history and concur that the easement had been abandoned by the District. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present approval to Quitclaim of Easement on APN 168-020-021 to D.R. Horton CA3, Inc. was approved.

Quitclaim of Easement on APN 155-130-002 - Mr. Fukuda presented a request to Quitclaim a Tulare Irrigation District Easement on APN 155-130-002. Mr. Crenshaw and Mr. Fukuda provided history and concur that the easement had been abandoned by the District. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present approval to Quitclaim of Easement on APN 155-130-002.

Board Member Report of Meetings:

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

Director Borges reported on the Kaweah and St. Johns River Association (KSJRA) Board of Directors meeting held December 3, 2020, mentioning the following: Water Report; State predicting below 75% snowpack and dry spring; New approved James & Clarissa Henderson Riparian Agreement; Meeting with Terminus Hydroelectric/Eagle Creek Renewable Energy the new owners of the Power Plant; and possible purchase of Hot-Spot Ag Scada System and Cost Share between KDWCD & KSJRA units.

Director Borges also reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association (KBWQA) Board of Directors meeting held on December 3, 2020. Commenting on the following: Growers workshops & outreach; INMP Grower Self Certification continuing education videos and cost-share; 2021 Growers remote meetings; and Groundwater Testing - 24 monitoring wells: 10 cleared and 14 with nitrates.

Director Borges then reported attending the newly formed Kaweah Water Foundation (CV-Salts issue) meeting. Commenting on the following: 2021 Budget; March 2021 Deadline; Legal Counsel Attorney Engagement Letter; Special Legal Counsel engagement letter with Theresa (Tess) Dunham for State and Federal issues; new advisory committee applications; Out-Reach Census; and still in the process of hiring a new administrator.

Director Thomas mentioned attending the Wutchumna Ditch Company (WWC) Board meeting on November 11, 2020 reporting that the recent assessment was set at \$375.00 per share.

President Bixler moved the meeting to Closed Session.

Mr. Fukuda mentioned that due to the unexpected time to return to open session. Mr. Fukuda mentioned providing he would provide Doug, Johnny, and Don with a closed session report of action email if unable or willing

to report back after the close session ended.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered into closed session under §54956.8, §54956.9(a), §54956.9(b), §54956.9(c), §54957.6, §54957, and 54956.95 of the Government Code.

Upon returning to Open Session, President Bixler noted that there were no actions taken in Closed Session.

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

Secretary

President