

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
HELD AT 6826 AVENUE 240,  
TULARE, CALIFORNIA 93274  
AND VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE  
9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF April, 2024 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, Director Rick Borges, Dave Martin, Scott Rogers, Mike Thomas. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Wayne Fox, Superintendent; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; Diana Zegarra, Assistant Water Resources Engineer; Jorge Munoz, Assistant Engineer; and Teresa Ortiz, Senior Accountant. Present via Zoom teleconference roll call was Paul De Jong and Public attendee was Austin Williams. 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:

There were no public comments to come before the Board.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Borges then noted that the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of March 12, 2024 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of March 12, 2024 were approved with edits.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations - Mr. Crenshaw reported on Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw reported the Terminus Reservoir total inflow as of April 8, 2024, was 752 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 70,049 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 6 CFS; Three-Rivers: 723 CFS; and Dry Creek: 51 CFS. There was a minimal water release on March 11, 2024.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported on Millerton Lake reporting total inflow as of April 06, 2024, was 2,755 CFS; Millerton Release - Madera Canal: 793 CFS; San Joaquin River: 551 CFS; and Millerton Storage: 441,152 AF.

### Water Supply Outlook:

Mr. Crenshaw continued his report by indicating that the TID's current water supply stood at 27,611 AF. The Central Valley Project (CVP) Supply Contract totaled: 47,518 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that TID's diversions for March at 7,191 AF. The March 2024 spill from TID was 0 AF. Recharge for Exchange with the City of Visalia: 0 AF; Water Delivered to Farm Turnouts: 527 AF; District Groundwater Recharge: 1,740 AF. He also indicated that 23% of the diversions were delivered to farm turnouts. Kaweah Snow Sensor water content is at 79% of April 8<sup>th</sup>. Kaweah River Snow Course Measurements is 94% as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. San Joaquin River Sensor Snow Water content is at 96% of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Kaweah Runoff Projection latest March 8<sup>th</sup> April-July is 98%.

Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw cited precipitation amounts to date at the district yard totaling 10.71" as of April 8, 2024.

### Water Management Activities and Issues:

Mr. Fukuda presented for Board discussion the reservoir storage across California. Mr. Fukuda reported on the 6-Day Forecast Precipitation for California. Tier 1 Block A URF released: TID purchased 4,024 AF and purchased other contractors for a total of 4,652 AF. Tulare Basin Precipitation is at 86% as of April 7th. Mr. Fukuda reported entering the most restrict SLR Pumping period and anticipate in taking recapture water in SLR with reduced risk of spill.

### O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox continues to conduct a series of safety meetings during the week to keep employees mindful of safety precautions and the proper operation of equipment. Safety meetings were held on how to use an emergency eyewash station, utility knife safety and basics of electricity. Mr. Fox then discussed the following maintenance projects: continue to grade the district canals/basins for weed removal and wash-ins, mow canal banks with boomer mowers, disc basins for weed control, dredge and haul the sand out of Cameron Creek and clean up/remove trees from Hopper Ditch. We also replaced corrugated metal culvert pipe on Northwest Ditch at Road 28. The Vehicle Maintenance Crew has been busy maintaining and repairing construction and maintenance equipment. The maintenance issues that have been addressed with daily service and repair of equipment, yard equipment repairs, 90-day DOT inspections and repairs to fleet trucks.

### Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial

statements for March 2024 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for March was \$190,665 which was approximately 3.72% of the revised budget. The Non-Operating Revenue was \$30,702 which adds up to March Total Revenue of \$221,367. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses totaling \$1,810,529 which was approximately 16.64% of the revised budget. She then went on with presenting the total Net Income for March, which was (\$1,589,162). Ms. Artis then presented the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$8,584,808. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows were at \$12,581,029 and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$35,237,996. Ms. Artis reported that Total Assets stood at \$47,819,025. He thereupon cited investment return for the district's several holding accounts, those being 3.24% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 4.122 for State LAIF, and 0.100% 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. After scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 0055711 through 055768 totaling \$480,984.08 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Tulare Irrigation District Personnel Handbook Update - Ms. Artis presented to the Board for review and discussion Tulare Irrigation District Personnel Handbook update request. The latest version was updated in 2017. We would like to use the services of Paychex HR Partner Plus in order to update the handbook for a monthly fee. We can discontinue the services with Paychex HR Partner Plus once the handbook is completed. By the motion of Director Thomas, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the Personnel Handbook to be updated as presented was approved.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Fukuda reported Kaweah River Siphon which is submission for Community Funding Project. We have a Highway 99 / Paige Ave. Overpass meeting to discuss alignments. Roche family has been notified in regards to property alignments. Mr. Fukuda looking to put pipelines in corridors with maintenance access and walkways for the public. Mr. Fukuda has met with several developments and also coordinated with City of Tulare.

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda gave a report on recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin.

Mr. Fukuda reported consensus on groundwater levels SMCs. The 10X levels has been agreed upon. The MO is set at 5X for MKGSA and GKGSA; EKGSA has set the MO at the 2017 GW levels. There will be a transition area of approximately 3 miles. Mr. Fukuda next indicated the approach for subsidence is taking shape. We will need to minimize subsidence immediately through projects and management actions. Measurable objective set at rate of 0 subsidence per year. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda noted that the Mitigation Program and Plan is almost completed. Drafts are being reviewed with GSA Boards. A letter of intent to contract with Self-Help Enterprises being considered. Mr. Fukuda discussed sample undesirable results is based on the representative monitoring network outlined in section. Qualify potential impacts to critical infrastructure value at 7 feet of subsidence.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda reported MKGSA Advisory Committee met on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. And recommended proceeding with subsidence approach set at 7' maximum subsidence, MO set at zero and immediate projects and management actions to avoid future subsidence. MKGSA is preparing for revised Emergency Ordinance and considering reserve policy to manager excess funds; Emergency Reserves - \$75,000, Groundwater replenishment (bases on GW Usage); mitigation cost (\$1.55 Million) and set target levels, replenishment, and authorization for use of funds.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda reported MOU was approved with San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority which incorporates to agree upon changes that SLDMWA and FWA have been working on for approximately a year. Friant will get a seat on the SLDMWA board of directors on issues impacting FWA. There will be a planning committee that will oversee all extraordinary O&M cost greater than 50% of the current routing O&M. Middle Reach will have temporary plugs installed to operate old and new canals at lower levels and permanent plugs to be installed by late April.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda reported EIR was released on March 1, 2024. Public comment period will close on April 15<sup>th</sup>. We have received 3 comments/questions. All have been responded to regarding their particular questions. EIR is posted on TID website and EIR is also available for public review at Tulare ID Admin office. No updates for Seaborn Reservoir.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda reported AB 2079 Bill Bennett from Ventura County request all high capacity - 8" Dia. Pumping greater than 2 AF. Local Agency must post online and notify landowners within 1 mile. No new wells within ¼ mile of a domestic well. We are currently coordinating this to avoid issues and providing mitigation. No new wells in areas that have seen 0.5' of subsidence (upper aquifer wells) Exempts domestic wells, community wells, and public wells which will create a problem. Mr. Fukuda's position recommendation is opposition. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present, to opposed this bill.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported March 28-29 - American Society of Civil Engineers - Recharge efforts had folks interested in the amount of momentum we have created around recharge. The following upcoming events: 1) April 9<sup>th</sup> - Tulare County Voices; 2) April 24<sup>th</sup> - Sustainable Conservation; and 3) May 7-9 ACWA in Sacramento.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

April 2024 - 1) Mr. Fukuda discussed Resolution No. 24-04 -URF Contract sign the new URF contract with proposed changes. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously carried by all Directors present, to sign new URF contract; 2) By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors present, approval Quitclaim deed - Hillman Pipeline; 3) By the motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present, approval on Easement - New Hillman Pipeline.

San Joaquin River Association - Mr. Martin reported notes from prior meeting; discussed water release and water quality. There were two inspections; one in the Tule River and other in Kings River. Growers need to make sure to do IOLP reports to avoid inspections.

Board Member Reports of Meetings:

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

Director Bixler then moved the meeting to Closed Session.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon adjourned 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, Director Bixler reported 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 to the next regular board meeting reported to be on May 14, 2024.

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Secretary

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President

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