

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD AT 6826 AVENUE 240,
TULARE, CALIFORNIA 93274
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
12TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023 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, Dave Martin, Scott Rogers and Mike Thomas. Absent was Director Rick Borges. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller; Beth Holmes Assessor-Collector; Diana Zegarra, Assistant Water Resources Engineer; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Wayne Fox, Superintendent; and James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer. Present via Zoom teleconference roll call Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association. 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: Director Thomas mentioned Gopher Glen Organic Apple Farm, which was a natural micro-climate irrigated apple farm. It was determined that the Apple Orchard was located near Canyon Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA.

Mr. Fukuda brought to the Board attention that is will be Beth Holmes last board meeting, she is retiring. Mr. Fukuda thanked Beth for her 37½ years of service. The Board concurred with Mr. Fukuda that Ms. Holmes will be greatly missed.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of November 7, 2023 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Thomas and seconded by Director Rogers, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of November 7, 2023, were thereupon approved.

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 December 11, 2023, was 130 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 15,534 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 610 CFS; Three-Rivers: 123 CFS; and Dry Creek: 2 CFS.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported on Millerton Lake reporting total inflow as of December 10, 2023, was 989 CFS; Millerton Release - Madera Canal: 185 CFS; San Joaquin River: 363 CFS; and Millerton Storage: 198,079 AF.

Water Supply Outlook: Mr. Crenshaw continued his report by indicating that the TID's current water supply stood at 6,802 AF. The January to November 2023 cumulative diversions to TID were 416,967 AF. The 2023 CVP Supply Contract totaled: 4,802 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that TID's diversions for November stood at 760 AF. The November 2023 spill from TID was 0 AF. Recharge for Exchange with the City of Visalia: 0 AF; Water Delivered to Farm Turnouts: 9 AF; District Groundwater Recharge: 751 AF. He also indicated that 1% of the diversions were delivered to farm turnouts, diversions spilled was 0.0% and diversions delivered to other districts was 0%.

Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw cited precipitation amounts to date at the district yard totaling 0.21" as of December 12, 2023.

Water Management Activities and Issues:

Mr. Fukuda presented for Board discussion the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes, November 11, 2023, 16-day forecast chart. Then, Mr. Fukuda reported on California Reservoir Operations.

Next Mr. Fukuda reported on Friant Allocation. Mr. Fukuda reported the Bureau approved a 12% Carryover and that Friant Staff is working hard to repair the Friant Kern Canal and return to service as soon as possible.

Fall 2023 Groundwater Report - Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: TID Fall 2023 Depth to Groundwater Map; TID Fall 2023 Depth to Groundwater Map; TID 1922-2024 Depth to Groundwater trends; 1993-2023 Depth to Groundwater Fall Measurements; and TID 2017 - 2023 Section 1-3 Averages. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda presented a comparison chart provided Spring 2023-Fall 2023 TID Well groundwater measurements; Fall 2022-Fall 2023 TID Well Groundwater measurements; and Spring 2022-Spring 2023 TID Well Groundwater measurements. Mr. Fukuda reported that across the District the average groundwater level had risen by 24' from Fall 2022.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within the upstream diversion channels. Mr. Fox cited the following: Hauling Rock; Packwood erosion control; Discing Basins; Dredging; Creamline/Swall/Main Canal System is ready; Sand distributed to ditch banks; Mowing; Dredging Creamline Basin; Main Canal bank erosion control; weed control and pre-emergent application.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for November 2023 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for November 2023 was \$15,261,263, which was approximately 85.06% of the revised budget. She next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January totaling \$10,432,197, which was approximately 85.90% of the revised budget. She then went on to present the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$8,690,569. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows were at \$12,099,188. and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$37,189,147. She thereupon cited investment return for the district's eight holding accounts, those being: (1) Local Agency Investment Funds (CA) 3.670%; (2) Tulare County Investment Pool 2.930%; (3) Blupeak Credit Union 5.750%; (4) California Credit Union 5.600% (5) First Foundation Bank 5.300%; (6) Dort Financial Credit Union 5.600%; (7) US Treasury Bills 5,400%; and (8) Citizen's Money Market Fund 0.100%. Lastly, Ms. Artis reported that the district has six months of funds to support operations.

Then, Ms. Artis reported on the following Designated Funds: Water Sale Rate Stabilization, Groundwater Replenishment, and CVP Environmental Charges.

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 Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 55343 through 55435 totaling \$1,011,446.42 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - No Update

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda gave a report on recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda reported on the Kaweah Subbasin Technical Team, reporting on the following: Continued work on setting Minimum Thresholds - (1) Established average annual declines in Groundwater levels; (2) Evaluated 2022, 5X and 10 X levels; (3) MKGSA Advisory Committee requested 6X, 7X, 8X, and 9X analysis - tried to establish breakpoint; (4) Analysis look at the number of wells impacted - not dry; (5)

Refining approach; and (6) Subsidence - limit maximum subsidence to 9'.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) MKGSA Mitigation Plan - working on details of the Plan, and looking at the financing plan; (2) Emergency Ordinance - Tulare County School - Ag Farm is outside of TID. Mr. Fukuda recommends a Master Agreement with Tulare City School District to provide water to the school farm; (3) Kaweah Subbasin Mitigation Program and MKGSA Mitigation Plan awaiting SMC determinations; and (4) Submitted letter regarding Tulare Lake Subbasin Probationary Hearing Draft Staff Report.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on Friant Activities. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) Exeter, Ivanhoe, Stone Corral - Extension of Associate Membership to July 1, 2024; (2) Friant Kern Canal Middle Reach Project - 2 years into the contract - Trimming and paving not going as fast as expected. Transitioning to a bifurcation alternative to keep the schedule on tie-in this winter - \$600,000 additional costs. Change orders at \$4.7 million (2.6% of contract); and (3) FWA Board Offsite.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir. Mr. Fukuda reporting on the following: (1) Completed EIR - reviewing and preparing for public noticing; (2) Will be coordinating with SESPE for Jan/Feb release; and (3) Begin public outreach.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda stated no update on legislation.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported on the following upcoming events: (1) ACWA - November 27-30, 2023 - Met with SWRCB Members and other side meetings to discuss water supply; (2) Almond Board Conference - Incentives (Groundwater Recharge) on December 6th; (3) Upcoming events; and (4) Other Items - California Farm Water Coalition Dues - \$9,435, which the board share support for the paying the 2024 dues.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Resolution No. 23-15 - Resolution Approving Quitclaim Deed: Whitney Farms LLC - Mr. Fukuda presented for Board consideration the following: The District is the lawful owner of certain easement upon parcels of real property in the County of Tulare, identified as APN 155-130-004-000 and APN 155-130-002-000, pursuant to a Grant of Easement dated December 18, 1957. The district has determined that a portion of the Easement is no longer needed for District Purposes. After a lengthy conversation concerning the Quitclaim Deed, by motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously approved by all Board members present, accepting Resolution No. 23-15

approving Quitclaim Deed to Whitney Farms LLC as presented.

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 Thomas reported attending the Wutchumna Water Company meeting on November 8, 2023.

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 return to open session, Mr. Bixler reported no action was 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 January 9, 2024.

Secretary

President