

**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  
20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF February, 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, and Scott Rogers. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; 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 Don Wright with Waterwrights and Johnny Gailey. 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, requested to add Resolution 2024-04 Matters for consideration. Mr. Fukuda noted that staff needed the resolution to apply for a grant due later in the week. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Bixler, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, it was thereupon approved to add Resolution 2024-04 to the agenda. 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 January 09, 2024 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of January 09, 2024 was 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 February 19, 2024, was 382 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 32,664 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 646 CFS; Three-Rivers: 381 CFS; and Dry Creek: 12 CFS.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported on Millerton Lake reporting total inflow

as of February 18, 2024, was 1,908 CFS; Millerton Release - Madera Canal: 262 CFS; San Joaquin River: 541 CFS; and Millerton Storage: 321,368 AF.

Water Supply Outlook: Mr. Crenshaw continued his report by indicating that the TID's current water supply stood at 11,866 AF. The Central Valley Project (CVP) Supply Contract totaled: 4,802 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that TID's diversions for January at 923 AF. The January 2024 spill from TID was 0 AF. Recharge for Exchange with the City of Visalia: 0 AF; Water Delivered to Farm Turnouts: 299 AF; District Groundwater Recharge: 624 AF. He also indicated that 32% of the diversions were delivered to farm turnouts, diversions spilled was 0.0% and diversions delivered to other districts was 0%. Kaweah Snow Sensor water content is at 55% of February 19<sup>th</sup> and 45% of April 1<sup>st</sup> average. Kaweah River Snow Course Measurements is 28% as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. San Joaquin River Sensor Snow Water content is at 83% of February 19<sup>th</sup> and 67% of April 1<sup>st</sup> average. Kaweah Runoff Projection latest February 13<sup>th</sup> April-July is 80%.

Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw cited precipitation amounts to date at the District yard totaling 8.42" as of February 19, 2024.

#### Water Management Activities and Issues:

Mr. Fukuda presented for Board discussion the reservoir storage across California. Mr. Fukuda reported current allowable carryover of 17% across Friant contractors collectively. Then, Mr. Fukuda reported on the 6-Day Forecast Precipitation for California. Tulare Basin Precipitation is at 12.5 for February.

#### O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities and indicated that the staff continues to conduct maintenance and clean-up. Mr. Fox then discussed the following maintenance projects: District staff continue to grade the district canals/basins for weed removal and wash-ins, mowing, and re-enforcing with rock armory in Packwood Creek. The Vehicle Maintenance Crew continues to maintain and repair equipment in the field, yard equipment repairs, and any repairs for the Fleet trucks. The maintenance crew replaced the tires on the Grader.

#### Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Mr. Fukuda presented the financial statements for January 2024 for the Board's review and consideration. He addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January was \$51,176 which was approximately 1% of the revised budget. The Non-Operating Revenue was \$6,417 which adds

up to January Total Revenue of \$57,593. Mr. Fukuda next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses totaling \$392,113 which was approximately 3.60% of the revised budget. He then went on with presenting the total Net Income for January is (\$334,520). Mr. Fukuda then went on to present the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$10,241,536 Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Mr. Fukuda reported that Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows were at \$12,715,427 and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$36,126,739. Total Assets \$48,842,166. She thereupon cited investment return for the district's several holding accounts, those being 3.24% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 4.012 for State LAIF, and 0.100% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

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

Approval of Bill Payments - Mr. Fukuda 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 Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 55512 through 55623 totaling \$733,970.05 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Fukuda provided a report on the Area 21 (DR Horton) project which Provost & Pritchard assisted in the design review and approval was provided. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the Hillman Pipeline project which is a Development on Corvina St.

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda gave a report on recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda attended a SWRCB meeting with staff on February 14, 2024. SWRCB seemed to be engaged and in support of the Mitigation Program and Plan. Kaweah Subbasin provided a detailed schedule with a revised GSP to be delivered in July 2024. Kaweah Subbasin Technical Teams have completed a new analysis on groundwater levels SMCs and will be providing that to committees in the coming weeks. Subsidence work is ongoing and will parallel groundwater levels.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda reported advisory committee set for February 20<sup>th</sup> to review the new Kaweah Subbasin Technical team analysis on groundwater level SMCs. February meeting was cancelled. Annual 2023 and 2024 invoicing are to go out in

February. The MKGSA Pilot Water Market was delayed and is now looking to be end of March and early April.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on Friant Activities. Mr. Fukuda reported the canal is back in service. All dewatering projects are now completed. Mr. Fukuda attended the Mid Pacific Water Users Conference (Jan 24-26). There were several discussions on FKC Full System Repair, water exchanges, BF Sisk, and manager meetings. Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Borges attended the Friant Water Authority (FWA) trip to Washington DC (Feb 4-8). FWA and Arvin Edison Water Storage District (AEWSD) have filed litigation against the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA) for failure to meet the commitments of the settlement agreement.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda is meeting with Congressman Valadao on February 27th. There was a discussion with Valadao and Costa in Washington, DC regarding the Seaborn Reservoir.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda stated no update on legislation.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported on the following upcoming events: 1) January 27<sup>th</sup> - Planning and Conservation League conference - Panel on Irrigation District Conjunctive Use; Water Rights discussion was a warning signal that this will be the legislative agenda. 2) February 13<sup>th</sup> - World Ag Expo SGMA Discussion; Shared panel with Ellen Hanak, Stacie Ann Silva, and Mike Ming. Well attended seminar 3) February 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> - California Irrigation Institute Conference 4) March 28-29 - American Society of Civil Engineers - Recharge efforts.

TID is looking into a data management system to use for the District water operations and other activities. There has been a discussion with P&P to provide the system. It would allow for standardized reports and custom reports for quicker and uniform data reporting. The district has applied for a USBR Grant to cover the cost. In the event we do not get grant funds, Mr. Fukuda recommends starting the work now. The tool will be a scalable and sharable tool with the potential for cost-recovery.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Project Update: McKay Point Reservoir Project - Draft Environmental Impact Report Overview; Direction to Issue Notice of Availability and Public Comment Period - Mr. Fukuda began the report by giving an update on the project status and background into the McKay Point Project. Next, Mr. Graham Stephens from Sespe Consulting provided an overview of the McKay Point Reservoir Project - Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Mr. Stephens highlighted the areas evaluated in the EIR and provided details associated with elements that had a potential for impact and the measures implemented to reduce those

impacts. Thereupon, Mr. Fukuda provided a recommended schedule to release the Draft EIR on March 1, 2024, for a 45-day public review period. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda provided various ways the public could access the Draft EIR for review and provide comments. By a motion of Director Martin, Seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all Board Members present, it was approved to release the Draft Mckay Point EIR for a 45-day public comment period beginning on March 1, 2024.

Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy Document - Stantec Consulting Services Authorization for Additional Services to June 30, 2024 - Mr. Fukuda presented the need to extend the existing contract with Stantec to support the Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously approved by all Board Members present, the extension contract was approved.

District Vacation Accrual Temporary Program - Mr. Fukuda reported that a few District employees still carried a balance of vacation time above the existing District allowable limits. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously approved by all Board Members present, it was approved that the District accrual system was temporarily lifted until June 1, 2024.

Resolution No. 2024-04 - Mr. Fukuda presented Resolution no, 2024-04 authorizing the District to apply for a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation grant. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin, and unanimously carried by all Board Members present, Resolution No. 2024-04 was approved.

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 March 12, 2024.

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Secretary

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President

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