

**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
12TH DAY OF March, 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; and Teresa Ortiz, Senior Accountant. Also in attendance was Austin Williams, and via Zoom teleconference Rhett Anderson 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 Agenda Item No. 7.A. to the agenda. Mr. Fukuda noted that Agenda Item No. 7.A. requested after the agenda had been posted, but necessary to consider due to timing. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, it was thereupon approved to add Agenda Item No. 7.A. 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 February 20, 2024 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting of February 20, 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 March 10, 2024, was 641 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 38,289 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 656 CFS; Three-Rivers: 566 CFS; and Dry Creek: 36 CFS.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported on Millerton Lake reporting total inflow as of March 07, 2024, was 1,525 CFS; Millerton Release - Madera Canal: 912 CFS; San Joaquin River: 540 CFS; and Millerton Storage: 352,485

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Water Supply Outlook:

Mr. Crenshaw continued his report by indicating that Kaweah Snow Sensor water content is at 73% of March 10th and 71% of April 1st average. San Joaquin River Sensors snow water content is 98% of March 10th average and 97% of April 1st average. Kaweah River Snow Course Measurements is 78% as of March 1st. San Joaquin River Snow Course Measurements is 85% as of February 1st. Kaweah Runoff Projection latest as of March 8th for April-July is 94%. San Joaquin River Runoff projection is 96%.

Water Management Activities and Issues:

Mr. Fukuda presented for Board discussion the reservoir storage across California. Mr. Fukuda reported that the current allowable carryover was 17% across Friant contractors. Then, Mr. Fukuda reported on the 6-Day Forecast Precipitation for California. Tulare Basin Precipitation is at 17.4 for March. Mr. Fukuda reported on the Spring 2023 depth to groundwater report, noting that the average depth to groundwater was 155 feet.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities and indicated that the staff continues to grade District canals and basins. Mr. Fox indicated that staff was approximately 85% complete with grading operations in the District. Then Mr. Fox reported that staff continued excavating, controlling weeds between rains, and cleaning up at turnouts.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Mr. Fukuda presented the financial statements for February 2024 for the Board's review and consideration. He addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for February was \$118,289 which was approximately 2.31% of the revised budget. The Non-Operating Revenue was \$6,854 which adds up to February Total Revenue of \$125,143. Mr. Fukuda next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses totaling \$866,823 which was approximately 7.97% of the revised budget. He then went on with presenting the total Net Income for February, which was (\$741,680). Mr. Fukuda then presented the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$8,715,503. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Mr. Fukuda reported that Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows were at \$12,659,249, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$35,980,913. Mr. Fukuda reported that Total Assets stood at \$48,640,162. 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.

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 Martin, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 55624 through 55710 totaling \$1,633,209.53 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Investment Policy - Mr. Fukuda presented Tulare Irrigation District Statement of Investment Policy to the Board for review and discussion. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the District Investment Policy as presented was approved.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Munoz are working with DWR on the Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement program. The District is reaching out to landowners that would be interested in a basin project.

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda gave a report on recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda reported revisions to the groundwater level minimum threshold being pursued. He noted that the subbasin is getting close to setting Minimum Thresholds (MTs) and is anticipated by the end of March. Mr. Fukuda next indicated the need to minimize subsidence immediately through projects and management actions. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda noted that the Mitigation Program is nearing completion and is anticipated to finish and bring to discussion in April 2024 with Self-Help Enterprises.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda recommended using the 10X levels - they can manage the cost of mitigation and allow for flexibility to exercise groundwater. MKGSA Advisory Committee met on February 20th & March 5th. MKGSA 2023 and 2024 invoicing have been mailed. MKGSA Pilot Water Market has been delayed to April due to invoicing and coordinating the software.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda reported that the FY 2023 Audit was

completed. New Finance Committee members are Bret McCowen and Arlen Miller (Chris Tantau has stepped down) Mr. Fukuda reported Friant is seeking Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement Grant that will fund temporary liner to accommodate unanticipated subsidence occurring upstream of the Middle Reach Project.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda reported EIR was released on March 1, 2024. It was filed with Tulare County and posted on the District website. It was also published in the Visalia Times Delta, and notices were sent to local landowners and the District notified agencies. It will remain out for public review and comment for 45 days. Congress and Senate passed the appropriation bill with Seaborn Reservoir feasibility funding included. Mr. Fukuda met at Seaborn Reservoir with Valadao and staff to highlight the Seaborn Reservoir.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda stated no update on legislation.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported on the following upcoming events: 1) Mr. Fukuda attended the California Irrigation Institute Conference on February 26th - 27th, and 2) March 28-29 - American Society of Civil Engineers - Recharge efforts.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

San Joaquin River Restoration Recapture Agreement - Mr. Fukuda presented the First Amendment to repayment agreement for recapture of restoration flows in the Lower San Joaquin River. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Thomas, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the agreement 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 April 9th, 2024.

Secretary

President

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