

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE  
13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER 2018 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order:

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, Vice President Rick Borges, Dave Martin, Scott Rogers, and Mike Thomas. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Bill Sario, District Engineer; and Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer. President Bixler asked if there were any changes, additions or deletions to the Agenda, of which Mr. Fukuda reported there were none. The meeting thereupon was called to order by President Bixler.

Public Comments:

No public comments were made.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the special meeting of October 5, 2018, had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. By the motion of Director Martin and second by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the meeting were thereupon approved as presented.

Watermaster Report:

Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw noted that lake Kaweah storage was at 10,603 AF with only 38 CFS of inflow. Thereupon he reported that 500 AF of Kaweah water was transferred from Rocky Hill to the District.

Groundwater Report - Mr. Crenshaw next presented the recent Fall 2018 depth to groundwater data that showed a decrease of four feet on average across the District. Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Crenshaw provided a recent depth to groundwater contour map and a change in depth to groundwater comparison.

Russell Jordan Bill Dispute - Mr. Crenshaw thereupon provided an update on a request by Russell Jordan to provide a rebate for water he felt was overcharged in 2017. Based on the findings, by a motion of Director Thomas and seconded by Director Rogers, unanimously carried by all Directors present, it was approved to issue a credit of \$3,056.73 to Mr. Russell against his 2018 water tolls.

Water Management Activities - Mr. Fukuda presented a Draft Exchange agreement with Rocky Hill that was discussed and will be submitted to Rocky Hill for consideration. Next Mr. Fukuda reviewed a recent exchange agreement with the Wheeler Ridge-Maricopa Water Storage District that was executed to transfer the remaining San Joaquin River recapture/recirculation water for the remainder of the year.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox provided an update on operations and maintenance activities for the third quarter of 2018. Mr. Fox highlighted grading operations were moving east across the District, the application of pre-emergent herbicides, safety training meetings, and maintenance of District vehicles and construction equipment.

Mr. Fox next provided an update on construction activities at the Cordeniz Basin project noting that due to maintenance operations there was very little work completed. Mr. Fukuda reported on several recent conversations with Bureau of Reclamation staff overseeing the grant for the project and their insistence to see the project completed by June 2019. Mr. Fukuda indicated that working with Mr. Fox and Mr. Sario a plan had been established to hire three temporary staff members to assist with the project. The Board provided direction that they would like to see District staff working on the project and temporary staff infilling for maintenance operations as much as possible. The Board directed staff to pursue the hiring of up to three temporary staff to ensure that the project is completed by June 2019.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis then presented the financial statements for October 2018 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January through October 2018 was \$5,578,957, which was approximately 56.61% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items but reporting expenses from January to October 2018 totaling \$7,576,216, which was approximately 84.97% 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 \$10,238,350. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$11,659,888 and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$36,130,271. She thereupon cited investment returns for the District's several holding accounts, those being 1.88% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund, 2.14% with the state LAIF, and 0.50% with CalTRUST.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis next presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. After further scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Borges, second by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 50248 through 50364 totaling \$786,980.82 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Accounting Software Trial - Ms. Artis presented a proposal to pursue the implementation of Quickbooks as our accounting software. She indicated that the District is experiencing significant costs associated with the current accounting system, noting this year's costs of approximately \$15,000 for licensing and consultant fees. The anticipated costs to pursue Quickbooks was reported by Ms. Artis to be roughly \$1,700 annually. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously approved by all Directors present, it was approved to purchase and implement Quickbooks as a trial.

Engineering Report:

Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities within the District. He noted the completion of repairs to the St. Johns River siphon vent, completion of the measurement station on Evans Ditch, the training of growers for the application of tertiary treated water, and the progress of District map improvements.

Mr. Sario next presented a request for a new turnout by Oak Valley Ranch and the current policy stating that the District would cost-share in the installation of the new turnout. The Board discussed the current policy and the need to make adjustments in the future to

reduce the cost exposure to the District for new turnouts to properties that were currently being served District surface water. However, given the timing of the request by Oak Valley, the Board agreed that the current policy should apply to this request.

Modernization Project Contract Award - Mr. Sario presented bid results for the construction of three measurement stations for the Modernization Phase 2 Project. Mr. Sario reported that six contractors were contacted, however, only two bids were received. Based on the results the lowest responsible bidder was Phase 1 Construction. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously approved by all Directors present it was approved to award a contract to Phase 1 Construction for the installation of three water measurement stations as a part of the Modernization Phase 2 Project.

#### Management Staff Reports:

Mid-Kaweah GSA - Mr. Fukuda began his report with an update on the Kaweah Subbasin activities noting that the Groundwater Communication portal was now available for interested parties to enroll. Next, he indicated that recent discussion are revealing that there is consensus on the water accounting framework and the Kaweah Sub-basin model is being updated and coordinated with adjacent basins. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda shared that the discussion of the measurable objective and minimum thresholds has started and the SkyTEM data collection was underway.

Thereupon, Mr. Fukuda provided an update on activities at the MKGSA. He offered a copy of the recent Position Statement Regarding Sub-Basin Groundwater Budget Apportionment and the importance of the document. He also provided a discussion of measurable objectives and minimum thresholds and an approach shared by the Paul Hendrix, General Manager of the MKGSA.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda began his report with an update on the progress of the Temperance Flat Project. He noted the progress made on the Temperance Flat Reservoir JPA and the transition of duties from the San Joaquin Valley Infrastructure Authority. Next, Mr. Fukuda reported that a response from the Bureau of Reclamation regarding questions on Title Transfer of the Friant Kern Canal to the Friant Water Authority was received, and noted that cost estimates for Title Transfer were higher than expected.

Mr. Fukuda delivered a presentation on the recent activities regarding the alternatives being analyzed for the subsidence area of the Friant Kern Canal. He presented the alternatives that were developed by consultants, noting that other options to expand the existing canal or building a new parallel canal were selected to move towards 30% design plans and further analysis.

Lastly, Mr. Fukuda reported that the Friant Water Authority was holding a Board Retreat the last week of November and reported on some of the topics that were to be discussed at the retreat.

Board and Staff Tablet Update - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with a report on the status of tablets that are anticipated to be used by staff and board members. The Board directed Mr. Fukuda to bring alternative sizes in the future for selection by Board members.

#### Matters for Consideration of Board Action

Sustainable Conservation Subscription Service for Groundwater Assessment Tool - Mr. Fukuda presented a request by the Sustainable Conservation for a subscription service to receive updates and continued support of the GRAT tool. Upon discussion, the Board instructed Mr. Fukuda to determine if there would be support from our MKGSA partners to cost-share the subscription service fees in the future.

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. It was noted that no items of interest needed to be shared.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered into closed session under §54956.9(a) of the Government Code. Upon returning to open session, it was 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.



Secretary



President