

**MINUTES OF ADJOURNED 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
3rd DAY OF May, 2023 AT THE HOUR OF 8: 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, Rick Borges, Dave Martin, and Scott Rogers. Absent Director Mike Thomas. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Kathi Artis, Controller, Beth Holmes Assessor-Collector; Diana Zegarra, Assistant Water Resources Engineer; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Wayne Fox, Superintendent; and Jorge Munoz, Assistant Engineer. Also present was Austin Ewell, KAN Ventures Inc. Present via Zoom teleconference roll call were Don Wright representing Water Wrights; Alan Doud - Partner Young Wooldridge LP; Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group; and Johnny Gailey, representing Green Acres Ag Consulting, Inc. 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 Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 11, 2023 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Rogers and seconded by Director Borges, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 11, 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 began his report by noting the Terminus Reservoir total inflow as of May 1, 2023, was 4,804 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 40,828 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 3,550 CFS; Three-Rivers: 4,269 CFS; and Dry Creek: 79 CFS. Mr. Crenshaw highlighted TID Diversions from Kaweah River Sources totaled 837 CFS; Spills 59 CFS; with 91 turnouts on.

Thereupon, Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that the Millerton Lake total inflow was 14,439 CFS and the entire storage at Millerton Lake was 162,248 AF. He reported that the total daily release from Millerton was 11,904 CFS.

Water Supply Outlook: Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the district's diversions for April stood at 45,949 AF, highlighting that this was a new record for the district. The April 2023 spill from TID was 3,329 AF.

Water Management Activities and Issues:

Statewide and Local Conditions - Mr. Fukuda first presented for board discussion NASA Earth 2020/2021/2022/2023 pictures showing Sierra Mountains Snow Pack comparison.

Next, Mr. Fukuda reported on Current California Reservoir Operations.

Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the following: (1) Friant Allocations: Class 1 (100%) and Class 2 (70%); and Uncontrolled Season through July; (2) Airborne Snow Observatory (ASO) - San Joaquin estimate 3.45 million acre-feet (MAF).

Mr. Fukuda next reported on the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Current Water Reservoir Conditions reporting: Shasta Reservoir stood at over 4 million AF and Millerton Lake was down due to releases to reduce storage and make room for the spring/summer runoff.

Mr. Fukuda presented for discussion the following: California Nevada River Forecast Center (May 2, 2023 - May 8, 2023) 6-Day Forecast Precipitation; and Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, as of April 29, 2023.

Then, Mr. Fukuda informed the Board his main concern is the California Snow Water Content reporting as of April 28, 2023, Percent of April 1st Average: North: 219%; Central: 253%; South: 336%. Mr. Fukuda comparing: 1968-1969 Daily Precipitation (Wettest) 56.3 inches; 1982-1983 Precipitation (2nd Wettest) 56.2; Current Precipitation: 51.2 inches.

Lastly, Mr. Fukuda presented a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Monthly Volume Exceedance Values on the Kaweah-Terminus Dam forecast chart for the period 04/29/2023-04/1/2024 based on current conditions as of April 29, 2023. Mr. Fukuda highlighted Exceedance Probability: May: 2,500 AF; June: 175,000 AF; and July: 125,00 AF.

Water Rate - Mr. Fukuda opened for discussion the need to revise the water price for the current irrigation run, given the current water supply and demand conditions.

Mr. Fukuda updated the board on the following: (1) April 2023 the Board set the water sales rate at \$42 effective April 17th to be reevaluated in May; (2) 2023 Water Sales Revenue projection; (3) 2023 (April-December) Diversion Projections Totaled: 280,525 AF; (4) Budget; (5) CPI Index; (6) 2024 Assessment; and (7) possible Grant income.

Mr. Fukuda recommended the following water sales rate options: (1) Leaving the rate at \$42 AF to be reevaluated in June; (2) Half-Step water sales rate in the middle of May to be reevaluated in June; (3) Setting the rate at \$52 AF starting in June; Mr. Fukuda highlighted the maximum set rate could be \$55.00 AF. After Board deliberations concerning the price of irrigation water the board, by the motion of Director Martin, second by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all board members present, approved setting the irrigation rate at \$52 per AF beginning Monday, May 15, 2023.

Spring 2023 Groundwater Report - Thereupon, Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Crenshaw provided a Spring 2023 Depth to Groundwater Report presenting a Depth to Groundwater Contour map for Spring 2023. Mr. Fukuda reported average depth to groundwater across the district was 176 feet.

Assessor-Collector Report:

APN 174-010-013 Second Installment. Ms. Holmes provided for Board consideration a copy of Chicago Title Company, April 13, 2023, Escrow Order No. FWVI-4272200642 Grant Deed documentation. Ms. Holmes reported that Rodger Catron sold his parcel to the City of Tulare APN: 174-010-013, 5.21 Acres, described as 1089 S. West Street, Tulare, CA. Ms. Holmes stated the City of Tulare was Government Exempt and recommended Board cancel the Tulare Irrigation District 2023 2nd Installment in the amount of \$174.53. By the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors present, TID 2023 Assessment, APN: 174-010-013, 2nd

installment in the amount of \$174.53 was canceled.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for April 2023 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for April 2023 was \$1,759,862 which was approximately 12.68% of the revised budget. She next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January totaling \$2,856,470 which was approximately 26.33% 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 \$7,797,965. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,490,416, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$31,677,884. She thereupon cited investment return for the district's several holding accounts, those being 1.860% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 2.831% with the State LAIF, and 0.100% with Citizen's Money Market Fund. 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 Borges, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 54823 through 54877 totaling \$304,778.72 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

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. He cited the following work: Lagomarsino Farm's pipeline turnout repair; Weed Control; Running and Servicing, twice a day, two Swall Basin pumps maximizing recharge; Then, Mr. Fox mentioned having hired two temp workers and is in the process of hiring three maintenance workers.

Ditch Truck Purchase - Mr. Fox first updated the board on the failure to receive a Ford truck ordered in 2022. Mr. Fox stated he placed an order with Will Tiesiera Ford. Mr. Fox mentioned Ford Motor Company's short supplies and production issues. Mr. Fox met with the District's Equipment Committee on May 2nd. Mr. Fox expressed the need and desire to purchase a new 2023 Chevrolet Pickup. Upon the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously approved by all Directors present, Mr. Fox was directed to purchase a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 pickup.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Fukuda provided an update on engineering, reporting on several projects that would impact the district. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following three projects: (1) Liberty Culvert Under Railroad project; (2) Paige/I Street Industrial Development project; and (3) Department of Water Resources (DRW) Flood Reduction Program.

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda summarized recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) Kaweah Subbasin Technical Team

is working on addressing DWR comments on Kaweah Subbasins Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP); (2) Meeting with the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on May 3, 2023; (3) Approach for Chronic Lower of groundwater levels; and (4) Initial schedule to address the DWR comments on the MKGSA GSP.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda and Mr. Fisher briefed the Board on the following: (1) MKGSA May meeting was canceled; (2) Revised Invoices have been sent out; (3) Invoice Payments are being received and processed; (4) Advisory Committee applications have been received; (5) and Staff is working on Rules and Regulations.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on Friant Activities. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) Delano-Earlimart ID and Shafter-Wasco ID have both come back to Friant Water Authority; (2) FWA pursuing Bureau Grant to help pay for ASO Flights; (3) Fiscal Year 2022 Audit Completed; (4) TID to receive approximately \$100,000 FWA refund; and (5) Middle Reach Project is recovering from flooding.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on the McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir Project. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) Finalizing the Draft Reclamation Plan; (2) Finalizing the Environmental Impact Report (EIR); and (3) Tentative Schedule.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the following legislation: AB No. 429 (Bennett); AB No. 1563 (Bennett); AB Bill No. 560 (Bennett); AB No. 460 (Bauer-Kahan); AB No. 1337 (Wicks); SB No. 389 (Allen); and AB Bill No. 30 (Ward). Mr. Fukuda reporting the Water Rights Bills are moving through Committees and he has provided ACWA with notification of our opposition to the bills TID has taken a position on.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported his focus has been on three events: (1) Testifying at the Committee on Natural Resources meeting; (2) California Water Commission Presentation; (3) the Collaborative Action Plan Presentation; (4) Attending Cal Poly BRAE Advisory Board meeting.

Then, Mr. Fukuda reported on four Upcoming Activities. Mr. Fukuda mentioned: (1) ACWA Spring Conference, Monterey, California, May 9-11; (2) California Groundwater Coalition Board Meeting - May 9th; (3) League of Woman Voters of Tulare County, Moderator: Mark Keppler, The Maddy Institute - Water Panel - May 16, 2023; (4) Stanford University - Discussion on Ag, technology, and the issues we face.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Consider Provost & Pritchard (P&P) Main Intake Canal Siphons Proposal: Surveying, Engineering, Planning and Biological Services for the Tulare ID Main Intake Canal Siphon Project, Tulare County, California. Mr. Fukuda and Matt Klinchuch presented for Board consideration a P&P Consultant Service Agreement for the Project Title: Main Intake Canal Siphon Project, Proposal No. 21-307. Mr. Fukuda presented for discussion the details of the Consultant Service Agreement reporting on the following: (1) District Staff has worked with P&P to prepare a Scope of Work and Budget to begin the design, environmental work, and permitting for the Main Intake Canal Siphon replacement; (2) Scope of work includes: Surveying, Designs, Property Easement/Acquisitions, Environmental Documentation, and Biological Resources Review; (3) Estimated Proposed Fee: \$280,000; (4) Proposed Project Schedule; (5) TID Budget. By the motion of Director Borges and seconded by Director Rogers, unanimously carried by all Directors present, approving the Provost & Pritchard Tulare ID Main Intake Canal Siphon Project Consultant Services Agreement, Proposal No. 21-307 as presented.

Resolution 23-07 - Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement with California Department of Water Resources for Reimbursement of Pumps to Increase Groundwater Recharge and Reduce flooding. Mr. Fukuda presented the subject resolution and described the details of the resolution. Resolution No. 20-07 was adopted by the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all Board members present, authorizing General Manager Fukuda to complete the negotiation and execute the grant funding agreement.

Shepherd Engineering Search - Recruiting Services Agreement. Mr. Fukuda expressed the need to hire a full-time, in-house Engineer. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously approved by all Board members present, the Shepherd Engineering Search Recruiting Services Agreement was approved as present.

Board Member Reports of Meetings:

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

Director Bixler reported attending the Wutchumna Water Company Board meeting on April 12, 2023.

Director Borges reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association (KBWQA) Board meeting on May 4, 2023. Mr. Borges also reported attending the Kaweah Water Foundation (KWF) Board meeting on April 24, 2023.

Director Martin reported attending the MKGSA Board meeting on April 11, 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, it was reported that no reportable actions were made by the Board.

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 June 13, 2023.



Secretary



President