

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE
10TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2019 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 and Treasurer; Beth Holmes, Senior Administrator and Assessor-Collector; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; and Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer. Also present at the meeting were Ikailke Ramos, Rain for Rent; Ed Henry; Jason Phillips, CEO Friant Water Authority; John Gailey, Delta View Water Association; Don Wright; and Joel Hastings. 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:

Mike Thomas announced Tulare Irrigation District was recently mentioned in the November 27, 2019, California Farm Bureau Ag Alert magazine for receiving a U.S. Bureau of Reclamation water marketing strategy grant. The article said that the Tulare Irrigation District would develop a water marketing strategy to address overdraft in the Kaweah Groundwater Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda explained to the Board the implications of a water market.

Mr. Fukuda introduced Jason Phillips, CEO Friant Water Authority, and noted that he was present to address ongoing matters facing the Friant Water Authority and its members.

Mr. Phillips began by noting that the Temperance Flat Reservoir project has transferred all responsibilities from the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority over to the newly formed Temperance Flat Reservoir Authority.

Next, Mr. Phillips updated the Board on the subsidence issues facing the Friant Kern Canal. He discussed the urgency of the Friant-Kern Canal subsidence fix due to the drastically reduced recharge capacity experienced during the last several wet years. Thereupon he updated the Board on recent activities to identify funding to fix the canal, which included WIIN Act funding, Part III funding, and a local cost share of \$50 million.

Mr. Henry inquired about questions and concerns received from growers in regards to the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Mr. Fukuda addressed questions and concerns.

Director Martin mentioned recently finding at home an old Friant Division Central Valley Project pamphlet his mom saved after attending a school field trip to Friant Dam back in 1966. He found it interesting that the article mentioned that Friant's primary duty was for agriculture.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the special meeting of

November 14, 2019, had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. By the motion of Director Thomas and seconded by Director Rogers, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the meeting was thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by noting Terminus Reservoir total inflow for the day was 322 CFS and that the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the current day was 21,900 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus Reservoir was 27 CFS. Lastly, he stated that total diversions into the District for the day were 0 CFS.

Mr. Crenshaw provided a 2005-2019 Kaweah River Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 165% of December 9th Average and 31% of April 1st Average. He noted that a dry year was predicted before the recent storms and that conditions were looking better, with more snow water equivalent (SWE) than past wet years. Mr. Fukuda stated that current conditions did not justify the pre-use of Class 2 supplies from Millerton Reservoir. Mr. Crenshaw then noted that the accumulated rainfall at the District's office was 2.3" compared to the average of 1.8".

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the District's current water supply stood at 6,088 AF. The projected January 2019 to January 2020 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 328,096 AF. Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the District diverted 00 AF in November.

Management Activities and Issues - Mr. Fukuda noted that there was nothing to report at the time.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within upstream diversion channels. He cited ditch bank mowing, gate repair, application of preemergent herbicides, and the preparation for winter weather. Mr. Fox indicated that construction work at the Cordeniz Basin continued with two scrapers, with anticipation of completing the South cell soon.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis then presented the financial statements for November 2019 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January through November 2019 was \$10,986,558, which was approximately 86.16% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January to November 2019 totaling \$11,565,664, which was approximately 97.72% 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 \$11,382,242. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,600,917, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$36,826,262. She thereupon cited investment returns for the District's several holding accounts, those being 2.31% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund and 2.103% with the state LAIF. Ms. Artis also noted that there were sufficient funds for six months of expenses.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. She noted two payments to the State Water Resources Control Board in the amount

of \$180,788.76 for SWRCB Water Right Fees. After further 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. 51479 through 51543 totaling \$438,477.46 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities within the District. He stated District crews had continued progress on excavating and stockpiling material at the Cordeniz Basin project with roughly 200,000 CY left to excavate. Thereupon, Mr. Barroll updated the board on the Modernization project noting that the Packwood at 5 Run farmer line had been patched by Phase 1. He then stated that Phase 1 continues to work on fixing dimensional incongruities on the Watte Outlet Measuring Structure. Mr. Fukuda mentioned that the District would be holding Phase I Construction Company's progress payment until issues with the structure were addressed.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Assessment Adjustment for APN 149-230-014-000 - Tina Fernandez-Macedo requested that the Board provide an adjustment to her 2020 Statement of Assessment. On August 22, 2019, she deeded a portion (2.85 Acres) of APN 149-230-014-000 to the City of Tulare. Tulare County recorded Deed: Doc. No. 2019-0046012. By the motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, APN 149-230-014-000, 2020 Statement of Assessment would be credited \$91.20 representing the 2.85 acres deeded to the City was thereupon approved.

Management Staff Reports:

Mid-Kaweah GSA - Status Report: Mr. Fukuda stated nothing significant to report. He noted that the MKGSA was adjusting the GSP based upon comments received from the public.

Legislation: - No report provided.

Strategic Plan Workshop - Mr. Fukuda provided a workshop presentation to assist in the development of a Strategic Plan for the District. He began by noting the reason for the plan was to update the vision statement, mission, and goals of the District; to maximize and improve District resources to avoid wasting time and money; to understand ways State and Federal laws and policies will impact the District in the coming years; To designate short-term/long-term project goals; and to establish the plan to implement projects and activities, including identifying the costs and funding required.

Mr. Fukuda covered the following topics during the workshop: 1) Water Supply; 2) District Capital Improvements; 3) SGMA Compliance; 4) District Staffing; 5) District Financials; 6) Regulatory Framework; 7) Strategic Plan implementation. For each subject, Mr. Fukuda presented background data, goals, objectives, and projects and management actions designed to achieve the District goals. The Board and staff engaged a discussion on each of the items, which will be incorporated into a Strategic Plan.

Mr. Fukuda lastly noted that the goal is to have a draft Strategic Plan by February for review and comment by the Board.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered 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.


Secretary


President