

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE
18TH DAY OF February 2020 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, and Mike Thomas. Director Scott Rogers was absent. 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 was Edward Henry. 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:

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 14, 2020, had been distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. By the motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the January 14, 2020 meeting was thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by indicating that he was predicting a dry Summer, mentioning that we are having a historical dry February. He noted that historical records show only two other such dry years were on file. He informed the Board that due to an expected limited supply and the TID/Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District agreement, he is predicting no irrigation deliveries for the 2020 irrigation season. Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that a minimal pre-irrigation delivery will start as soon-as-possible and will continue until the end of February.

District staff and the Board discussed in detail concerns over the anticipated well pumping, double cropping, and groundwater reduction. Mr. Crenshaw stated the District water deliveries could be sectioned into three sections: Packwood Creek, Cameron Creek, and the Main Canal. Director Martin questioned which had the most water users and most wells. Mr. Crenshaw stated that the Packwood Creek system had the most users, and the Cameron Creek system had the deepest groundwater levels. Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw indicated that the total wells within the District was unknown, but estimated to be around 800 wells.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported that the Lake Kaweah total inflow for the day was 167 CFS and that the storage at Lake Kaweah for the current day was 26,931 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Lake Kaweah was 100 CFS. Lastly, he stated that a flood release from Lake Kaweah had begun, and total diversions into the District for the day were 15 CFS.

Mr. Crenshaw provided a 2001-2020 Kaweah River Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 60% of February 16th average and 44% of April 1st average. He then provided a 1991-2020 San Joaquin River Sensors Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 55% of February 16th average and 41% of April 1st average.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the current water supply for the District stood at 6,640 AF. The projected January 2020 to February 2020 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 11,741 AF. Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the District diverted 6,102 AF in January with 85% recharged in District basins and 15% recharged in District canals.

Mr. Crenshaw then reported on rainfall for the area and noted that the accumulated rainfall at the District office was 3.71" compared to the average of 5.14".

Winter Water Rate - Mr. Fukuda stated that the Winter Water Rate would continue to be set a \$49.00 AF unless the Board had any direction to change the rate. The Board did not see a need to change the price.

Management Activities and Issues - Mr. Fukuda noted that as of the previous day, the Tulare Irrigation District purchased 2,900 AF from other Kaweah River units, which was intended to be delivered during the ongoing pre-irrigation.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work, Construction Projects - Mr. Fox provided an update on operations and maintenance activities highlighting mowing, grading, application of preemergent herbicides ahead of the rain, placement of sand on canal banks across the District, turnout work, and the progress on the new water truck. Mr. Fox mentioned Construction in progress jobs consist of the Cordeniz Basin and Serpa Ditch Realignment.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for January 2020 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January 2020 was \$14,901, which was approximately 18% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January totaling \$678,916, which was approximately 6.31% 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 \$10,886,175. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,444,618, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$49,763,516. She thereupon cited investment returns for the District's several holding accounts, those being 2.360% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund and 1.967% 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 payments to the Banc America Leasing in the amount of \$356,078.13 for the lease payment, including \$121,955.35 of interest. After further scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by

said motion, check nos. 51640 through 51747 totaling \$701,517.18 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Assessor-Collector Reports:

Assessment Correction for APN 149-010-017-000 - Ms. Holmes presented the Assessor's Board Report reporting that the California State Department of Transportation (CalTrans) purchased APN 149-00-017-000 from Satvinder K. Brar, 1.62 Acres, which closed escrow on December 17, 2018. In 2019 the parcel was assessed to Mr. Brar in error and not paid due to the owner being CalTrans, which resulted in the parcel receiving a 2019 Tax Sales Lien. The parcel was again assessed in error on November 1, 2019. By the motion of Director Thomas, second by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all board members present, Ms. Holmes was directed to remove the current 2020 assessment charges and the 2019 Tax Sales Lien on APN 149-010-017-000.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities within the District. He first reported on the progress at Cordeniz Basin and the Serpa Ditch Realignment project. He stated that District's crews had continued progress on stockpiling excavated material, and Hoffman Engineering hauled out 15,000 CY of material. Mr. Barroll next reported that pipe was placed for turnouts, an overflow on the north side of the distribution structure was installed, and the final backfill/compaction around distribution structures was in process. Lastly, Mr. Barroll reported to the Board that North Basin excavation is complete, and crews were fine-grading basin bottoms.

Management Staff Reports:

Kaweah Subbasin Update - Mr. Fukuda first started with the Kaweah Subbasin activities reporting that the Coordination Agreement was submitted to the Department of Water Resources, and the first Annual Report was being drafted by Provost & Pritchard. Next, Mr. Fukuda reported that the Greater Kaweah GSA had issued a Request for Qualification (RFQ) for engineering, hydrogeology, Prop 2018, and other SGMA related services.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency Update - Mr. Fukuda reported to the Board that MKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) was submitted with the Kaweah Subbasin Coordination Agreement. Next, Mr. Fukuda brought to the Boards attention that J. Paul Hendrix, MKGSA's General Manager, gave notice of resignation and that the MKGSA Management Team will take into consideration the job requirements and conduct a search to fill the position with a qualified applicant. Mr. Fukuda also mentioned that Mid-Kaweah GSA is in search of a qualified consultant needed to implement the 2020 GSP and negotiate the 2025 GSP successfully. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda reported on Tulare Irrigation District's Water Marketing Grant, stating that Jeremy Barroll has started making presentations to GSAs.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda commented on the Temperance Flat Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Report, the progress of the Friant Kern Canal Subsidence Correction, and Friant Water Blueprint highlighting the alarming economic and social impact report.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda presented a legislative update on the 2020 Water Resiliency Portfolio and the Governor's Budget.

Strategic Plan Update - Mr. Fukuda stated the Tulare Irrigation District Strategic Plan is 50% done.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

LAFCO Case No. 1547-T-166 Annexation/Detachment Consideration - Mr. Fukuda announced that notice had been given by the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) that a Resolution of Application for annexation to the City of Tulare and detachment from Tulare Irrigation District for approximately 143.42 acres had been received. By motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all board members present, a support position for LAFCO Case No. 1547-T-166 was approved, and Mr. Fukuda was directed to send a notice to LAFCO and the City of Tulare indicating District support if required.

LAFCO Case No. 1549-T-1676 Annexation/Detachment Consideration - Mr. Fukuda announced that notice had been given by the Tulare County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) that a Resolution of Application for annexation to the City of Tulare and detachment from Tulare Irrigation District for approximately 18.10 acres had been received. By motion of Director Thomas, seconded by Director Martin, and unanimously carried by all board members present, a support position for LAFCO Case No. 1549-T-1676 was approved, and Mr. Fukuda was directed to send a notice to LAFCO and the City of Tulare indicating District support if required.

Resolution No. 20-02 - Execution of Contract with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for Purchase of URF Water - Mr. Fukuda presented the subject resolution and described the details of the contract. Resolution No. 20-02 was adopted by the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin, and duly put to a vote and unanimously carried by all board members present.

Resolution No. 20-03 - Execution of Contract with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for Purchase of Section 215 Water - Mr. Fukuda presented the subject resolution and described the details of the contract. Resolution No. 20-03 was adopted by the motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin, and duly put to a vote and unanimously carried by all board members present.

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.

Director Borges reported attending the January 9th Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association meeting, noting higher numbers of individuals did not renew their membership and that sixty-nine memberships were revoked for non-payment.

Director Thomas reported attending two Wutchumna Water Company meetings: January 8th assessment of \$350.00 and January 11th assessment of \$250.00.

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 returning to open session, it was reported by Director Bixler that by a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously approved by all board members present, the Board acted to approve a 2.5% merit increase for Vicki Baker, Senior Accountant.

Mr. Fukuda noted that the next Board Meeting would be held on March 10,

2020.

There being no other items to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was then adjourned.


Secretary


President