

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE
14TH DAY OF JANUARY 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, 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 Geoff Vanden Heuvel; Edward Henry; Johnny Amaral, Friant Water Authority; and John Gailey, Delta View Water Association. 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:

Mr. Fukuda introduced Johnny Amaral, Friant Water Authority (FWA) Chief of External Affairs, and noted that he was present to discuss Friant Water Authority matters. Mr. Amaral stated that FWA has a whole host of issues to deal with; however the priority was to fix the Friant-Kern Canal (FKC) through the subsided zone. He commented that the FKC fix is speeding up and that a construction contract is anticipated to be awarded in December 2020.

Mr. Amaral stated that Jeff Payne, FWA Director of Water Policy, has left and the organization would be seeking a replacement soon.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of December 10, 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 Borges, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the meeting was thereupon approved.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis then presented the financial statements for December 2019 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January through December 2019 was \$11,510,510, which was approximately 90.26% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January to December 2019 totaling \$12,269,074, which was approximately 103.66% 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 \$11,441.889. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,602,319, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$36,862,022. She thereupon cited investment returns for the District's several holding accounts, those being 2.330% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund and 2.043% 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 Friant Water Authority in the amount of \$90,956.00 for Friant-Kern Canal Operation and Maintenance. After further scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 51544 through 51639 totaling \$747,381.88 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by noting the Lake Kaweah total inflow for the day was 128 CFS and that the storage at Lake Kaweah for the current day was 24,226 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Lake Kaweah was 667 CFS. Lastly, he stated that a flood release from Lake Kaweah had begun, and total diversions into the District for the day were 175 CFS.

Mr. Crenshaw provided a 2005-2019 Kaweah River Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 80% of January 13th Average and 38% of April 1st Average. He then provided a 2005-2019 San Joaquin River Sensors Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 83% of January 13th Average and 38% of April 1st Average.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the District's current water supply stood at 7,981 AF. The projected January 2019 to February 2020 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 332,216 AF. Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the District diverted 313 AF in December with 42% recharged in District basins and 58% recharged in District canals. He then indicated that the District would divert another 6,300 AF in January.

Mr. Crenshaw thereupon noted that the accumulated rainfall at the District's office was 3.31" compared to the average of 3.49".

Winter Water Rate - Mr. Fukuda stated that demand was minimal and at this time, the Winter Water Rate rate would continue to be set a \$49.00 AF.

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

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work, Construction Projects, and 2019 Fourth Quarter O&M Report - Mr. Fox presented the Board with the 2019 Fourth Quarter O&M Report report which highlighted activities conducted by staff in the field. Mr. Fox highlighted the ongoing safety training program, the maintenance operations, vehicle maintenance program, herbicide application program and construction projects.

Assessor-Collector Reports:

Status of First Installment Receipts - Ms. Holmes presented the Assessor's Board Report and noted that 95% of the 1st installment and Environmental Charge had been collected, and approximately 43% of the 2nd Installment and Environmental Charge had been collected, which when taking into account water tolls and 1st installment penalties meant that the District had received

\$1,466,810.36 as of January 13th and \$789,301.13 was yet to be collected. Next, Ms. Holmes noted a list of landowners with water tolls, which totaled \$114,209.36 and delinquent assessments totaling \$19,353.23.

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 reported that District's crews had continued progress on stockpiling excavated material, with South Basin excavation completed, and excavation work has moving to the North Basin. Mr. Barroll stated that Cordeniz Basin would be finished by the March time frame. He then mentioned CalTrans had tested stockpile for use as borrow material for an overpass project. Next, Mr. Barrow reported on the Packwood at Head of 5 Run project, Indicating that the irrigation line adjacent to the site had been backfilled and that rip-rap had been placed.

Management Staff Reports:

SGMA Matters - Mr. Fukuda first started with the Kaweah Subbasin Update - Mr. Fukuda reported on the completion of the Coordination Agreement and approved Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (P&P) contract to complete the first Annual Plan. P&P will begin work on the first Kaweah Subbasin Annual Report that is due to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on April 1, 2020. Mr. Fukuda stated the GSAs' Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) submission deadline is fast approaching January 31, 2020.

Mid-Kaweah GSA - Status Report: Mr. Fukuda reported to the Board that MKGSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) was approved and adopted on December 18, 2019.

Mr. Vanden Heuvel commented that the Mid-Kaweah Advisory Committee should receive recognition for addressing issues head-on, which allowed the MKGSA to meet its deadline on time.

Mr. Henry then commented that credit should be given to Valerie Kincaid, MKGSA Legal Counsel, for her legal counsel and guidance. Mr. Fukuda and everyone present agreed.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda stated that Mr. Amaral had sufficiently covered the major topics during the Public Comment session.

Legislation: - No report provided.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Resolution No. 20-01 - Appointment and Proxies for 2020 - Mr. Fukuda presented the subject resolution and associated listings of appointments, proxies, and representations to be identified as among board members and staff. It was agreed that the current slate of such persons again appropriate for the 2020 year. With no changes, Resolution No. 17-01 was adopted with the motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Thomas, and duly put to a vote and unanimously carried by all board members present.

2020 Preliminary Budget - Mr. Fukuda thereupon reviewed the District budget report as presented to the Board. He cited income of \$8.4 million, O&M expenses of \$10.7 million, and capital costs of \$1.8 million, the combination of which should leave the District in the range of \$11.1 million in cash reserves at year's end. He highlighted essential line items, including an assumed average water year with a set Summer and Winter sales rate of \$55 per AF; capital costs for the Modernization Phase

II and III, Part III Grant Project, Cordeniz Basin construction, FEMA Okieville Basin project and USBR Water Marketing Grant; and an FWA increase in dues due to the new Friant-Kern Canal Subsidence O&M costs. Mr. Fukuda also called attention to the last page of the report depicting the history of the reserve fund highlighting Water Sale Rate Stabilization, Groundwater Replenishment; and Dry-Year Water Purchase. By the motion of Director Borges, second by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all board members present, the 2020 preliminary budget as presented was approved, including the transfer of \$2 million from the Water Rate Stabilization fund with \$1 million to the Groundwater Replenishment category and \$1 million to the Dry-Year Water Purchase category.

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, stating that it was entirely a closed session meeting.

Director Martin reported on activities of the Mid-Kaweah GSA meeting he attended on December 18th. He reported that the MKGSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) was submitted and approved. He mentioned ongoing disadvantaged communities' concerns being addressed at the meeting.

Director Thomas reported attending two Wutchumna Water Company meetings: December 11th noting an assessment of \$375.00, and January 8th observing an assessment of \$350.00. He mentioned an easement dispute over trees was on-going and that Wutchumna had 4.2" of rain.

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 6% merit increase for the position of Watermaster and a \$6,000 bonus for the Superintendent.

Mr. Fukuda noted that the next Board Meeting would be held on February 18, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

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



Secretary



President