

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
11TH DAY OF MAY 2021 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

Mr. Fukuda reported due to the Governor's Executive Order (N-29-20) and the declared state of emergency, including current social distancing directives as a result of the threat of the COVID-19 virus, the Tulare Irrigation District (TID) Board members and TID staff attended this meeting remotely. There was no physical location for this meeting. Members of the public and other officials participated in the Open Session portion of the meeting remotely via Zoom teleconference.

Directors present at the meeting held at the date and time above designated were President David Bixler, 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; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; and Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer. Also present via Zoom teleconference roll call; Don Wright, Water Wrights; Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group; Doug Reynolds, Santa Fe Aggregates; Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association; and Richard Zack. 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:

Richard Zack commented that the district's two safes are being stored in a local Visalia Safe Warehouse at no rental fee.

Mr. Fukuda welcomed and introduced James Fisher, newly hired TID Water Resources Engineer to the Board. Mr. Fisher gave an overview of his life and educational background.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 13, 2021 and the special meeting of April 22, 2021, were distributed and asked if there were any errors or omissions noted therein. By the motion of Director Borges and seconded by Director Martin, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of April 13, 2021, and April 22, 2021 meetings were both 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 435 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 54,453 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus Reservoir was 61 CFS.

Thereupon Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that the Millerton Lake total inflow was 977 CFS and that the entire storage at Millerton Lake was 229,920 AF. He reported that the total daily release from Millerton was 535 CFS.

Mr. Crenshaw presented an October - April Kaweah Runoff chart representing data from 1904-2021. Mr. Crenshaw highlighted 2021 is the lowest on record for Kaweah River October-April runoff.

Mr. Crenshaw, thereupon provided a 2001-2021 Kaweah River Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 3% of the May

10th Average. He then provided a 1990-2021 San Joaquin River Sensors Snow Water Content Chart, which showed the watershed was currently at 0% of the May 7th Average.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that the District's current water supply stood at 1,765 AF. The projected January 2021 to May 2021 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 10,755 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw reported that the District diverted 950 AF in April (City of Visalia Tertiary Water) with 53% recharged in District basins, 25% recharged in District canals, and 22% diverted to farm turnouts.

Management Activities and Issues:

Fukuda reported on the Lindsay-Strathmore Irrigation District (LSID) Agreement; drought conditions; and the average price per acre-foot in the Kaweah Subbasin being approximately \$1,700.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox provided an update on operations and maintenance activities highlighting: spreading sand at the Martin Basin; TID and Evans Ditch Company preemergent herbicide applications; discing; building maintenance; SCADA maintenance, and solar panel maintenance.

Vehicle Purchase - Mr. Fukuda reported that TID's Equipment Committee met and requested Board consideration and approval to purchase a new Ford F-150 Truck for the District Watermaster. The Board discussed the annual usage and particulars of the truck. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the Board approved the purchase of a new F-150 Ford Truck for the Watermaster.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for April 2021 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for April 2021 was \$302,538, which was approximately 3.61% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from April totaling \$2,281,663, which was approximately 27.26% 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 \$12,013,198. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,103,040, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$33,967,703. She lastly cited investment return for the District's several holding accounts, those being 1.290% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 0.339% with the State LAIF, and 0.350% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

Next, Ms. Artist reported on the Citizens Business Bank loan providing a 10-year Amortization Schedule.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. Ms. Artis highlighted payment to Capitol Core Group in the amount of \$17,525.00 for funding requests for the McKay Point Reservoir Project. After scrutiny of particular bills, the Board, by the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 52847 through - 52928 totaling \$451,026.39 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Long-Range Financial Plan - Update:

Mr. Fukuda reported working with Fieldman Rolapp & Associates on a Long-Range Financial Plan Model of TID's finances. He shared with the Board a Capital Improvement Plan that TID Staff had prepared to be incorporated in the Plan.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Barroll provided an update on miscellaneous crossings and parcel Reviews, an update on the Caltrans Paige and 99 proposed plans, and an update on the Water Marketing Strategy.

Management Staff Reports:

COVID-19 District Plan - Update - Mr. Fukuda informed the Board that the June 8, 2021 TID Regular Board of Directors meeting would be an in-person, Board members only meeting. He indicated he would be prepared to allow public access to the meeting via Zoom.

SGMA Matters - Kaweah Subbasin Update - Mr. Fukuda presented for discussion an update on the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: Proposition 1 - Planning Grant; MODFLOW Model; Second Interbasin Coordination Meeting noted within his report the Annual Report Results: range from 50 TAF to 1.3 MAF change in storage (numbers need work); Proposition 68 Implementation Grant; Notified DWR of TID intention to received funds; and Total DWR Funding to Kaweah Subbasin: \$5,776,000.

SGMA Matters - Mid-Kaweah GSA - Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: beginning to prepare FY 2021-22 Budget mentioning Revenue (call of funds) of \$550,000 and Expenses of \$630,000; Preparing a review schedule for the year; Monitoring Network being evaluated by Montgomery & Associates (M&A); developing a dynamic Projects and Management Actions list; Waukena School District potential monitoring well; and that the City of Visalia and City of Tulare city managers have announced their retirements.

Lastly, Mr. Fukuda brought to the Boards attention a meeting with Land IQ, to provide evapotranspiration data to the District based upon prior direction from the Board. Mr. Fukuda noted that the cost for such service is estimated to be approximately \$53,000 per year. The Board discussed the information and instructed Mr. Fukuda to work with Land IQ to prepare a scope of work and budget for consideration at a future meeting.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the Friant-Kern Canal Middle Reach Capacity Correction Project (FKCMRCCP) reporting on the following: the Cost Share Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation was completed and signed; new Chief Financial Officer Wilson Orvis was hired; Friant his hired GSI - Bill Mouk to monitor subsidence on the FKC; and Friant holding Strategic Planning Workshop in June.

McKay Point Reservoir Project (MPRP) - Mr. Fukuda reported on the MPRP reporting on the following: reviewing chapters is ongoing; scheduling a meeting with the California Water Commission (DWR), and scheduling meetings with other divisions of DWR.

Seaborn Reservoir Project (SRP) - Update - Mr. Fukuda next updated the Board on the progress of the Seaborn Reservoir Project reporting TID and Provost & Pritchard conducted a site visit to better understand the geography and the project components.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda provided a legislation update on Senate Bill 599. The Board discussed the merits of the bill. By the motion of Director Borges and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, Board approval letter of support for Senate Bill 559.

Next, Mr. Fukuda presented for Board discussion a new funding proposal (May 10, 2021) presented by California Governor Gavin Newsom. Mr. Fukuda stated Governor Newsom announced a \$5.1 Billion Package for Water Infrastructure and Drought Response as part of \$100 Billion California Comeback Plan. The package includes billions for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure, with a focus on small and disadvantaged communities.

Lastly, Mr. Fukuda mentioned CA Senator Dianne Feinstein introduced new legislation (April 29, 2021) called the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Bill, which authorizes more than \$35 billion to update and repair aging infrastructure.

Dry Year Water and Operations Update: Mr. Fukuda reported that the California state-wide water systems was trending drier than earlier forecasts. Northern California runoff projections were 400-500 TAF drier than expected, which now presented a risk of a call on Friant water to meet the needs of the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors. Next, Mr. Fukuda reported to the board that the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) sent a letter to the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project indicating they violated their permits.

Mr. Fukuda thereupon reported that groundwater levels could create a significant strain on DAC and rural resident wells and that he was coordinating with Self Help Enterprises to assist in drought emergency services within the District. Mr. Fukuda requested Board consideration, questions, and directions. The Board of Directors had no objection to providing assistance during the drought to landowners within the District via coordination with Self-Help Enterprises.

General Manager Report:

Mr. Fukuda brought to the Boards attention his desire to hold Grower Outreach meetings in May to discuss the following topics: An update on our inability to have a Summer 2021 irrigation run due to the current dry conditions; An update on the activities of the MKGSA and the path towards groundwater sustainability; and the future of the district and upcoming actions the District is contemplating on behalf of the growers.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action

No actions were taken.

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.

First Director Borges reported Friant Water Authority would be holding Ethics Training on May 27, 2021.

Director Borges reported on the Kaweah and St. Johns River Association (KSJRA) Board of Directors meeting held May 6, 2021, mentioning ASO Run-Off Reports and the Hotspot Monitoring Systems.

Director Borges also reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association (KBWQA) Board of Directors meeting held on May 6, 2021.

Lastly, Director Borges reported attending the Tulare Irrigation Company meeting held May 3, 2021, noting the recent assessment was set at \$35.00 per share, and Mr. Fukuda was approved to sign the Greater Kaweah GSA 218 ballot.

Director Martin mentioned attending the MKGSA board meeting held on April 13, 2021, reporting that the Groundwater Modeling Proposal Task 3-4 has been approved.

Director Thomas mentioned attending the Wutchumna Water Company (WWC) Board meeting on April 14, 2021, reporting the recent assessment was set at \$250 per share.

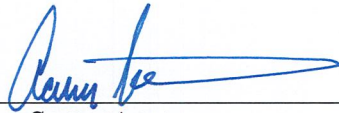
Director Bixler mentioned attending the Evans DC Board (EDC) meeting held May 3, 2021, reporting the assessment was set at \$25.00 per share.

Director Rogers reported attending the California Farm Water Coalition meeting, reporting on Funding and the Strategic Plan.

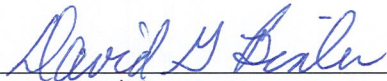
Closed Session:

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 to the Regular TID Board Meeting scheduled for June 8, 2021.



Secretary



President