

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD ON THE
10th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 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; Beth Holmes, Senior Administrator and Assessor-Collector; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; and Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer. Absent from the meeting was Kathi Artis, Controller and Treasurer. Also present at the meeting was Michael Peters, Sales manager at Kaweah Pump, Inc.; Mike Lane, Ed Henry, and Richard Zack. 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:

Richard Zack reported to the Board that he is looking at two fire/waterproof safes, something equivalent to a gun safe, which could be used to store Tulare Irrigation District's past minute books.

Michael Peters introduced Kaweah Pump, Inc., a company specializing in water well drilling and pumps.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the regular meeting of August 13, 2019, had been 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 the meeting was thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by noting Terminus Reservoir total inflow was 135 CFS, and that the entire storage at Terminus Reservoir for the current day was 17,744 AF. He then reported that the total daily release from Terminus Reservoir was 204 CFS. He lastly stated that total diversions into the District for the day were 15 CFS.

He then stated TID's current water supply stood at 4,035 AF. The projected January to December 2019 cumulative diversions to TID was estimated to be 326,317 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the District diverted 40,392 AF in August, which included 934 AF to the City of Visalia. He then noted that 61% of the diversions were delivered to turnouts, and 19% of the diversions were delivered to District's basins.

Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw indicated that there was nothing to report at this time.

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

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work and Construction Projects - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month. He first stated that the 2019 Summer Water Run had ended and a majority of ditch tenders were taking vacation. He noted ongoing herbicide spraying, discing operations, sediment removal, and flooding of Cordeniz Basin as a test.

Mr. Fox thereupon provided a presentation on Ditch Slope Erosion Rehabilitation, highlighting erosion areas within the District, including Cameron Creek - Rd. 100; Rocky Ford - West St.; Packwood Creek - Rd. 48; Rocky Ford - Cartmill; Main Canal - Paige; Cate Ditch - Rd. 36, Bassett Ditch - Rd. 36; Evans Ditch - Rd. 68. He explained the equipment needed, man-hours, materials, and estimated cost to repair ditch erosion.

Mr. Fox then detailed the process and a monthly cost report for renting an MBW Vibratory wheel (\$2,300) and a 30K-50K Excavator (\$5,400 per month). Mr. Fox then mentioned the pros and cons of lining canal slopes with Rip-Rap.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Mr. Fukuda then presented the financial statements for August 2019 for the Board's review and consideration. He addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January through August 2019 was \$9,537,931, which was approximately 74.80% of the revised budget. Mr. Fukuda next presented the expenses, highlighting several items, and reporting expenses from January to August 2019 totaling \$8,540,972, which was approximately 72.16% of the revised budget. He then went on with presenting the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$10,738.093. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Mr. Fukuda reported that Total Liabilities were at \$11,457,974, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$39,206,318. He thereupon cited investment returns for the District's several holding accounts, those being 2.14% with the Tulare County Pooled Fund and 2.379% with the state LAIF. Mr. Fukuda also noted that there were sufficient funds for six months of expenses.

Approval of Bill Payments - Mr. Fukuda presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. Highlighting payment to the US Bureau of Reclamation in the amount of \$839,856.16 for March-July Water and a Banc of America payment for \$229,661.79 for principal payment on Banc of America loan. 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. 51095 through 51268 totaling \$1,685,137.13 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

2018 Financial Statements & Audit - Mr. Fukuda indicated that there was nothing to report at this time.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities within the District. He first noted the Cordeniz Basin and Serpa Ditch realignment projects stating that our crew continued rough grading banks, have constructed west and north banks of North Basin, are now beginning the east bank of North Basin, have built outlets for 2-line gates along Serpa East, have excavated

outlet for 21" PVC running north from Serpa West Junction Box, and have filled South Basin.

Mr. Barroll gave an update on upcoming potential grants applications highlighting three possible USBR WaterSMART Grants: (1) Drought Response Program, Drought Resiliency Projects for FY 2020-2021 up to \$750,000; (2) Science Grants up to \$300,000; and Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for FY 2020 and 2021 up to \$1.5 million. Mr. Fukuda explained in detail that the Science Grant possibly could be to use to purchase the TowTem.

Management Staff Reports:

Mr. Fukuda first provided a brief report on Jones Pumping Plant and San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority Intertie Facility.

Mid-Kaweah GSA - Status Report - Mr. Fukuda then gave an update on the Kaweah Subbasin, stating that each GSA is working on their Draft GSP. He reported that East Kaweah GSA had submitted an Admin Draft GSP to a selected group; the Greater Kaweah GSA is having a Special Board Meeting on September 9th; and Mid-Kaweah GSA GSP was released on July 31, 2019 for public review.

Mr. Fukuda briefed the Board on the Growers' input and comments made at a series of (10 out of 12) TID hosted roundtable discussions regarding SGMA and the MKGSA GSP. He reported the average session was 2.5-3 hours in length, and the growers appreciated the ability to have a small group discussion. Mr. Fukuda indicated there were 66 landowners/growers who attended the meetings. Mr. Fukuda provided a detailed list of attendee's names and contact information. He commented on the support given and concerns addressed.

Mr. Fukuda presented a quick summary of the Greater Kaweah GSP highlighting two management areas 1) districted (surface water) and 2) undistricted (no surface water). Undesirable Results Criteria was the next topic. Mr. Fukuda reported on Levels, Storage, Subsidence, Water Quality and Monitoring Network.

Ed Henry commented on his concerns with the Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Plan, highlighting the following: incorrect interchangeable usage of the terms water budget and water accounting framework; lack of explicit internal referencing, especially for references to the appendices; and concerns with project expenditures. He red-flagged Page 5-21 for inconsistent quantification of groundwater storage measurable objectives and for establishing that projects will not cause further groundwater quality degradation. He believed that quality should not be a priority relative to water levels/storage and that this statement could potentially be used to litigate the GSA if a project were to cause some form of groundwater quality degradation. He pointed out that the same groundwater quality statement is made on Page 5-11. Mr. Henry commented that Page 5-13 was confusing in that its claim of little correlation between groundwater levels and water quality contradicts claims made elsewhere and reiterated his point that quality should be a lesser priority than levels and storage, as well as subsidence. Mr. Henry also believed that the GSP should make mention of degraded septic systems and their impact on groundwater quality.

Friant Update - Mr. Fukuda first reported on Temperance Flat indicating that the Draft Technical Memo is out for review and he anticipates receiving a final Tech Memo in October. He noted the Temperance Flat Reservoir Authority Board meeting held August 28th and the items taken up included the Approved Cost-Share MOU with USBR and the draft Operating Principles have been developed.

He stated that FWA FY 2020 General Membership Budget is \$2,114,000 (reduction of \$514,000 from FY 2019). Mr. Fukuda discussed Subsidence, SB559, R/W Acquisition firm Bender Rosenthal Inc., Title Transfer, Blueprint, established non-profit status, pledges of \$300K and have collected \$100K, Social/Economic Impact Study, and an FWA Board Retreat being held November 18-20, 2019 in Pismo, CA.
Legislation - No Report provided.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda provided an update on Senate Bill (SB 1), starting with the amendments put forth that would significantly impact the water management capacity of California and ignores the real science and progress that the environmental community and the water community are making toward water supply and eco-system benefits. Mr. Fukuda highly recommends that the Board approves the opposition of Senate Bill 1. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously approved by the Board members present, a position of opposed was taken on Senate Bill 1 (SB1).

Board of Equalization - Director Bixler thereupon called the Equalization Board to Order. Mr. Fukuda indicated that as of this date no written comments had been received regarding the assessment and related valuations for 2020 and it was acknowledged that no members of the public were present before the Board of Equalization presiding today. He further informed the Board that they would remain seated in this capacity for ten days to collect written comments on the relevant subject matters pertaining to the levy of the District assessment for next year.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon entered into closed session under §54956.8, §54956.9(a), §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.

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 on activities at the Kaweah and St. Johns River Association announcing that the release went down quickly, plans to be off as of September 13, 2019. He stated surprisingly that the difference in 2017-2019 April-July runoff was only 40,000 AF. He briefly touched Kaweah Water Riparian Rights issues.

Director Martin reported that the next KBWQA meeting will be held, Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 4:00 pm at the Wyndham, in Visalia.

Director Thomas reported on activities of the Wutchumna Water Company meeting on August 14, 2019. He stated the water stock assessment rate was set at \$325.00 per share.

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



Secretary

David G. Bixler
President