

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
9th DAY OF NOVEMBER 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 met at the District Office (6826 Avenue 240, Tulare, CA 93274) under social distancing guidelines. There was no physical location for this meeting for the public. 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 were Joe Mastro, Cuttone & Mastro Certified Public Accountants; Don Wright, Water Wrights; Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association, Michael McKinney, Capitol Core Group; Steve Jackson; Doug Reynolds, Santa Fe Aggregates and Geoff Vanden Heuvel. Mr. Bixler thanked everyone for attending and announced that there was a full quorum of the Board of Directors present. The meeting was thereupon called to order by President Bixler.

President Bixler asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the agenda, of which Mr. Fukuda reported that there was a need to add an agenda item 7D to the agenda to consider a lease for the Heavy Haul Truck. The need for the agenda item was brought to the attention of the District after the agenda was distributed, but the lease document needed to be signed to secure the truck. By a motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously approved by all Board Members present, Agenda Item No. 7D TID Resolution No. 21-15 was added to the agenda.

Public Comments:

No Public comments were provided.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Borges and seconded by Director Martin, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Special Meeting and Regular Meeting of the September 14, 2021 were 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 87 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 23,569 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus Reservoir was 7 CFS. Thereupon, Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that the Millerton Lake total inflow was 165 CFS and the entire storage at Millerton Lake was 301,187 AF. He reported that the total daily release from Millerton was 486 CFS. Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported that the snowfall to date in the Kaweah Watershed was at 106% of the November 8th average and 3% of the April 1st average.

Mr. Crenshaw presented for discussion the Average SST Anomalies for September 6, 2020 - November 6, 2021. Mr. Crenshaw was hopeful that the charts looked better than the driest year on record, which was 2021.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with this report by indicating that the District's current water supply stood at 3,378 AF. The projected January 2021 to October 2021 cumulated diversions to TID was estimated to be 9,948 AF. Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the District diverted 439 AF in September with 37% recharged in District basins, 33% recharge in District canals, and 30% diverted to farmer turnouts. Lastly, Mr. Crenshaw reported Daily Precipitation totaled 1.01 for the month of October 2021.

Water Management Activities and Issues - Mr. Fukuda reported to the Board that due to better hydrology, the Bureau of Reclamation had increased the Friant Class 1 allocation by 5% to 25% Class 1 effective November 1, 2021. He noted that contractors must put the Class 1 water to use by February 28, 2022, and carryover will be the lesser of: 1) Unused Class 1 on November 1st or 2) 10% of Max Class 1 contract.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work and Construction Projects - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month. Mr. Fox highlighted the following work: Road crossing work on Kaweah Ditch; pipeline repairs; hauling rock and sand; dredging; tree trimming/removal, herbicide application; and the daily service and repair on equipment and vehicles.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for October 2021 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for October 2021 was \$3,208,327, which was approximately 63.93% of the revised budget. Ms. Artis next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from October totaling \$6,309,888, which was approximately 80.49% 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 \$9,347,301. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities were at \$12,747,700, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$33,057,116. She lastly cited investment return for the District's several holding accounts, those being 1.150% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 0.206% with the State LAIF, and 0.350% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

Then, Ms. Artis reported on the following Designated Funds: Water Sale Rate Stabilization, Groundwater Replenishment, and CVP Environmental Charges.

Approval of Bill Payments - Ms. Artis presented the list of bills submitted for ratification and approval by the Board. After 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. 53371 through 53435 totaling \$636,559.18 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

2020 Audit - Status Update - Mr. Mastro presented the audited financial statements for 2020 and the audit report for the period 2019-20. He indicated that the audit had no issues or concerns. Upon a motion by Directors Rogers, seconded by Director Borges and unanimously carried by all board members present, the financial statements and audit report for 2019-20 were accepted.

Engineering Report:

Update on Engineering Activities: Mr. Barroll provided an update on engineering activities highlighting several ongoing projects in the District that impacted District facilities. Mr. Barroll reported on the following three projects: 1) George Serpa Miot Pipeline; 2) Sandridge Partner's turnout; and 3) Dairy gas line Avenue 184.

Mr. Barroll presented for discussion and Board consideration Provost & Pritchard's Engineering and Land Surveying Services for Area 18 Pipeline Project Proposal No. 21-234. Mr. Barroll began by giving an update on the Area 18 Pipeline Project highlighting TID recently was awarded a WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant (WEEG) through the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) to redesign the Area 18 Pipeline. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously approved by all Directors present, the Provost & Pritchard Engineering and Land Surveying Services agreement was approved.

Management Staff Reports:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda summarized recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda began his report by summarizing the details fo the Kaweah Basin Management Team Committee (KBMTC) meeting on October 20, 2021. He noted that the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA) would be implementing a groundwater pumping cap that will be retroactive to October 1, 2021 and allocate 1.65 AF/acre of evapotranspiration.

Then, Mr. Fukuda reported Greater Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GKGSA) is discussing a pumping cap allocation and has not made a decision regarding implementation.

Next, Mr. Fukuda presented Land IQ Data, noting that we now have a full "Growing Season" of data (October 2020 to September 2021) and will begin working on a crop ET breakdown and a method to provide growers ET for fields.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) update. Mr. Fisher first reported on MKGSA's staffing need highlighting two (2) Meet & Greets with College of the Sequoias (COS) Ag Irrigation and Ag Business students. Next, Mr. Fisher noted that an application period has been opened and would close on November 5, 2021, and interviews and selection would soon follow.

Mr. Fukuda thereupon delivered a report on the MKGSA Emergency Policy which was refined by the MKGSA Advisory Committee and was being considered by the MKGSA Board of Directors.

Lastly, Mr. Fukuda presented MKGSA Allocation and Pumping Cap Proposal Schedule noting that the goal is to have an Emergency Policy for the MKGSA Board to consider in March 2022 and then to have the Water Dashboard active by April 2022.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided a report on Friant Water Authority Additional Scope of Work and Budget for GSI Environmental (GSI) to participate in the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA) subsidy Monitoring review. Then, Mr. Fukuda commented on the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) refund that was provided through a settlement with Panoche Water District for taking water without accounting for it. Mr. Fukuda noted Friant Water Authority (FWA) is requesting that the refund be allocated back based upon the allocation of costs.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on the McKay Point Reservoir project noting that ten chapters of the Environmental Impact Report had been sent to Tulare County for administrative review and seven chapters had been returned.

Mr. Fukuda and Mr. McKinney summarized Seaborn Reservoir indicating that they Met with Provost and Pritchard(P&P) to discuss the Biological Survey and the design is now proposing a reservoir and Habitat Buffer around reservoir. Mr. Fukuda reported that the partners will need to do California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance to pursue a Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda presented a legislative update on HR 3684 Infrastructure Bill. Mr. Fukuda highlighted the bill would provide \$1.2 Trillion in infrastructure and \$8.3 Million for Western Water Infrastructure.

General Manager Report - Mr. Fukuda provided an update on the recent Grower Outreach meetings, noting that on average, 25-30 growers were attending the meetings, and the discussion was positive. Mr. Fukuda also provided a report on the Collaborative Action Plan and noted that they are close to having a Phase 1 Report completed.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Resolution No. 21-13 - Mr. Fukuda presented Resolution No. 21-13 a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Tulare Irrigation District (TID) proclaiming a Local Emergency, Ratifying the Proclamation of a State of Emergency by the California Governor's Executive Order N-15-21 and Authorizing Remote Teleconference Meetings of the TID Board of Directors for the Period November 15, 2021 to December 15, 2021 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions. By a motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Thomas, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 21-13 was approved.

Resolution No. 21-14 - Mr. Fukuda presented Resolution No. 21-14 regarding the USBR Water Smart Office Site and Martin Basin Energy Efficiency Modernization Project. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Rogers, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 21-14 was approved.

Letter of Collaboration - UC Davis NSF Project - Mr. Fukuda recommended and presented to the Board a Letter of Collaboration regarding the following: Improving the deliberation management of California's aquifer storage to promote social, economic, and environmental co-benefits. By motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, the Letter of Collaboration concerning the UC Davis NSF Project was approved. Mr. Fukuda was authorized and directed to submit the Letter of Collaboration as presented.

Resolution No. 21-15 - Mr. Fukuda presented Resolution No. 21-15 American Capital Finance Services Lease to Purchase agreement regarding replacing the Kenworth Heavy-Haul Truck. By a motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Martin, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 21-15 was approved.

Board Member Reports 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 the Kaweah and St. Johns River Association (KSJRA) Board of Director meeting held November 4, 2021. Director Borges also reported attending the Kaweah Basin Water Quality Association (KBWQA) Board of Directors meeting held on October 4, 2021.

Director Martin also reported attending the KBWQA Board of Directors meeting on November 4, 2021.

Director Thomas mentioned attending the Wutchumna Ditch Company Board

meeting on October 13, 2021.

Closed Session:

Thereupon, Mr. Fukuda noted that the Board of Directors was going into 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, Present Bixler noted the Board of Directors had approved a bonus to James Fisher in the amount equal to the ten days of wages for his outstanding performance as the Water resources Engineer.

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



Secretary



President