

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
HELD AT 6826 AVENUE 240,
TULARE, CALIFORNIA 93274
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE
10th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023 AT THE HOUR OF 9:00 A.M.**

Call to Order and Roll Call:

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; Beth Holmes Assessor-Collector; Diana Zegarra, Assistant Water Resources Engineer; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Wayne Fox, Superintendent; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; and Jorge Munoz, Assistant Engineer. Present via Zoom teleconference roll call Don Wright, Waterwrights; Austin Williams, Manulife Investment Management, and Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association. Also present was Kole Brasil, Sierra Pacific Highschool student. 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:

Mr. Fukuda welcomed and introduced Kole Brazil, a Junior at Hanford Sierra-Pacific High School.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2023 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Rogers and seconded by Director Borges, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 12, 2023, were thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations - Mr. Crenshaw reported on Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw reported the Terminus Reservoir total inflow as of October 9, 2023, was 140 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 20,599 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus was 294 CFS; Three-Rivers: 177 CFS; and Dry Creek: 0 CFS.

Next, Mr. Crenshaw reported on Millerton Lake reporting total inflow as of October 9, 2023, was 1,887 CFS; Millerton Release - Madera and Friant Canals: 2,961 CFS; San Joaquin River: 385 CFS; and Millerton Storage: 181,595 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw provided for Board discussion two charts: October-October Combined Diversion to TID Acre-Feet 1950-2023; and October-October Deliveries to TID Farmers Acre-Feet 1970-2023. Mr. Crenshaw announced both charts showed 2023 had the highest diversions on record.

Water Supply Outlook: Mr. Crenshaw continued his report by indicating that the TID's current water supply stood at 6,070 AF. The January to September 2023 cumulative diversions to TID were 416,199 AF. The 2023 CVP Supply Contract totaled: 4,810 AF.

Mr. Crenshaw continued with his report by indicating that TID's diversions for September stood at 43,322 AF. The September 2023 spill from TID was 399 AF. Recharge for Exchange with City of Visalia: 0 AF; Water Delivered to Farm Turnouts: 18,438; District Groundwater Recharge: 24,485 AF. He also indicated that 43% of the diversions

were delivered to farm turnouts, diversions spilled was 0.9% and diversions delivered to other districts was 0%.

Water Management Activities and Issues:

Statewide and Local Conditions - Mr. Fukuda first presented for board discussion the current California reservoir operations. Mr. Fukuda updated the board on the following: (1) Friant Allocations: Class 1 (100%); (2) Uncontrolled Season ended July 29, 2023; and (3) Class 2 (Residual After UCS): 15%.

Next, Mr. Fukuda reported on Tulare Basin Precipitation: 6-Station Index, October 6, 2023 comparing: 1968-1969 Daily Precipitation (Wettest) 56.3 inches; 1982-1983 Precipitation (2nd Wettest) 56.2; Precipitation Percent of Average: 75%. Mr. Fukuda highlighted 2022-2023 Daily Precipitation 54.4.

O&M Superintendent Report:

Routine Work - Mr. Fox reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within the upstream diversion channels. Mr. Fox cited the following: weed control; aquatic regrowth, bank erosion; and new turn-out requests. Mr. Fox highlighted the crew did an excellent job during the heavy water run.

Dump Truck Purchase - Mr. Fox reported on the need to replace the District's 2009 International Work Star Dump truck, which would be out of the California Air Resources Control Board (CARB) compliance on January 1, 2023. Mr. Fox presented three options for the Board's consideration and approval.

Upon the motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Thomas and unanimously approved by all Directors present, District Staff was directed to purchase a 2020 Western Star 4700 Dump Truck.

Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Ms. Artis presented the financial statements for September 2023 for the Board's review and consideration. She addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for September 2023 was \$11,966,863, which was approximately 66.70% of the revised budget. She next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from January totaling \$8,713,954, which was approximately 71.75% of the revised budget. She then went on to present the statements of cash flows and net assets, stating that the current cash standing was at \$8,308,146 Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Ms. Artis reported that Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows were at \$11,990,832. and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$35,612,990. She thereupon cited investment return for the district's eight holding accounts, those being: (1) Local Agency Investment Funds (CA) 3.534%; (2) Tulare County Investment Pool 2.930%; (3) Bluepeak Credit Union 5.750%; (4) California Credit Union 5.600% (5) First Foundation Bank 5.300%; (6) Dort Financial Credit Union 5.600%; (7) US Treasury Bills 5,400%; and (8) Citizen's Money Market Fund 0.100%. Lastly, Ms. Artis reported that the district has six months of funds to support operations.

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 Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously carried by all Directors

present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 55199 through 55240 totaling \$3,538,287.63 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Engineer Report:

Update on Engineering Activities - Mr. Fukuda provided an update on engineering activities, reporting on several projects that would impact the District. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following two projects: 99 Logistic Center @ Paige Avenue and TID Relocation/Facility Improvement Process.

Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management ACT (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda gave a lengthy report on recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda reported on continued work on setting Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs), mentioning the following: (1) Kaweah Subbasin Technical Team continued work on setting Sustainable Management Criteria (MTs); (2) Kaweah Subbasin Management Committee Meeting held September 27, 2023; and (3) Kaweah Subbasin Water Year 2024 Allocations.

Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA) - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on the Emergency Ordinance Groundwater Pumping Limit, reporting the following: Pumping Limit ("Cap"): 3.0 AF/acre as ET; Tier 1 at 0.50 AF/acre, Tier 2 at 0.50 AF/acre; Mitigation Tier- 0.50 AF/Acre; and Penalty Tier - 1 AF/Acre.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on Friant Activities. Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: (1) Friant Water Authority 2024 Operation and Maintenance Budget; (2) Cost of Living adjustment set at 3.7% starting October 1, 2023; (3) Middle Reach Project; and (4) Friant-Kern Canal going offline on November 1st.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda stated no update on the Seaborn Reservoir and the McKay Point Reservoir.

Legislation - Mr. Fukuda stated no update legislation.

General Manager Report:

General Manager Fukuda reported on the following upcoming events: (1) Sustainable Conservation Recharge Workshop October 17th; (2) Environmental Law Conference - October panel discussion on recharge and the legal issues surrounding the practice; (3) November 2nd UCLA Discussion on Water and SGMA; (4) Ag Mar Forum - Keynote Speaker on November 7th; (5) ACWA Certificate of Excellence Program; and (6) November TID Board meeting moved to November 7th.

Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Consultant Service Agreement for Services for Website Template Design. Mr. Fukuda recommended the Board take into consideration the Provost & Pritchard (P&P) Website Design Proposal. Mr. Fukuda reported the following: (1) TID Website was last updated in 2012; (2) Currently hosted by Digital Attic; (3) TID has increased the usage of the website to convey notices, messages, and important information. By the motion of Director Martin, seconded by Director Rogers and unanimously approved by all Directors present, P&P Website Design Proposal was approved.

Resolution No. 23-11 - Resolution Approving 2024 Assessment Rate. Mr. Fukuda presented a form of Resolution to fix the Benefit Assessment Rate for the 2024 Assessment Year. After a lengthy conversation concerning District Fixed Costs - General and Administrative, Surface Water Supply, and Capital Improvements Plan Projects. The Board of

Directors has determined that the Western U.S. Cities Consumer Price Index for May 2023 was a 4.48% increase from the prior year, and the proposed ramp-up value for 2024 was an additional \$25.00 bringing the total potential 2024 assessment to \$95.00 for parcels greater than one acre and \$70.00 for parcels less than one acre. By the motion of Director Martin and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 23-11 was thereupon adopted, approving Assessment Components: (1) Parcels one acre or less - shall be charged a minimum assessment of \$67 per parcel; (2) Parcels greater than one acre - shall have the following assessment charges: General & Administration: \$25.00; Surface Water Supply: \$30.00; and Capital Improvements Plan Projects: \$30.00.

Resolution No. 23-12 - Resolution authorizing application to the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation for Fiscal Year 2024 Drought Resiliency Project Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R24AS00007. Mr. Fukuda presented a form of Resolution regarding the United States Bureau of Reclamation Water Smart Grant (\$10 Million per project with 5% cost share). Mr. Fukuda highlighted the Resolution authorizes the district staff to provide information for the application and to file the application. After a lengthy conversation, by motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously approved by all Board members present, approving Resolution No. 23-12, as presented by Mr. Fukuda.

Resolution No. 23-13 - Resolution authorizing application to the United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation for WaterSMART - Applied Science Grants for Fiscal Year 2023 Announcement No. R23AS00446. Mr. Fukuda presented a form of Resolution regarding the United States Bureau of Reclamation Applied Science TID Water Dashboard Grant. After a lengthy conversation, by motion of Director Rogers, seconded by Director Martin and unanimously approved by all Board members present, approving Resolution No. 23-13, as presented by Mr. Fukuda.

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 Thomas reported attending the Wutchumna Board meeting on September 13, 2023.

Director Bixler then moved the meeting to Closed Session.

Closed Session:

The Board thereupon adjourned 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, Mr. Bixler reported no action was taken in closed session.

There being no other items to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was then adjourned to the next regular board meeting reported to be on November 7, 2023.

Secretary

President