

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE TULARE IRRIGATION DISTRICT HELD  
VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE ON THE  
15th DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2022 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 virtually via Zoom. 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, and Mike Thomas. Director Scott Rogers was absent. Staff present at the meeting were Aaron Fukuda, General Manager; Beth Holmes, Senior Administrator and Assessor-Collector; James Fisher, Water Resources Engineer; Wayne Fox, O&M Superintendent; Marco Crenshaw, Watermaster; Jeremy Barroll, Assistant Engineer; and Anthony Sousa, Intern. Also present via Zoom teleconference roll call were Johnny Gailey, Delta View Water Association, Michael McKinney, Capitol Core Group; Jeff Simonetti, Capitol Core Group; 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. President Bixler asked if there were any changes, additions, or deletions to the agenda, of which Mr. Fukuda reported there was none. The meeting was thereupon called to order by President Bixler.

Public Comments:

Director Thomas inquired why was this year the District's canal system banks were covered in white a white oxidized layer of material. Mr. Crenshaw responded that in the past he has been informed that it is a type of winter algae that dries white in color.

Approval of Minutes:

Director Bixler then noted that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2022 were distributed and asked if any errors or omissions were noted therein. By the motion of Director Borges and seconded by Director Thomas, unanimously carried by all Directors present, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2022 were thereupon approved.

Watermaster Report:

Mr. Crenshaw reported on Lake Kaweah Storage and Operations/Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw began his report by noting Terminus Reservoir total inflow for the day was 242 CFS, and the storage at Terminus Reservoir for the previous day was 33,555 AF. He then reported that the daily release from Terminus Reservoir was 17 CFS. Commenting Core anticipating a release in March.

Thereupon, Mr. Crenshaw mentioned that the Millerton Lake total inflow was 1,153 CFS and the entire storage at Millerton Lake was 269,393 AF. He reported that the total daily release from Millerton was 1,029 CFS.

Mr. Crenshaw then discussed upcoming weather patterns and presented charts of snowpack data for the Kaweah and San Joaquin watersheds. Mr. Crenshaw reported that the snowfall to date in the Kaweah Watershed was at 94% of the February 14<sup>th</sup> average and 69% of the April 1<sup>st</sup> average with no rain since December 28<sup>th</sup>.

Water Supply Outlook - Mr. Crenshaw continued with this report by indicating that the district's current water supply stood at 2,116 AF.

He then noted that the January 2021 to December 2021 cumulated diversions to TID were 11,268 AF. Mr. Crenshaw thereupon reported that the district diverted 18,911 AF in January. He indicated that 39% of the diversions were delivered to farm turnouts.

#### Water Management Activities and Issues -

Mr. Fukuda gave an update on California Reservoir Operations reporting that Shasta Reservoir was still at critically low levels and an Interim Operating Plan (IOP) was being presented to the judge overseeing the environmental case against the Bureau of Reclamation for the 2019 Biological Opinion.

Mr. Fukuda presented the Board with a current Airborne Snow Observatories (ASO) Survey Report on the San Joaquin River Basin, dated February 6-7, 2022. Mr. Fukuda highlighted the estimated Snow Water Equivalent Total was at 667,000 AF.

Next, Mr. Fukuda presented for discussion a 1922-2022 Depth to Groundwater chart. Reporting TID is at its lowest groundwater levels and recommending growers be prepared for future groundwater well repairs and replacements.

#### O&M Superintendent Report:

Mr. Fox thereupon reported on the maintenance activities undertaken during the past month in the delivery system and within the upstream diversion channels. He cited Routine Work, running water most of the month of January, staff related issues associated Covid, wash-ins from standing water, Crocker Cut tree removal, City Pump/Area 18/Area 12 Pipeline leak repairs, meter repairs, pre-emergent herbicide applications, and City of Tulare debris/weed removal.

#### Treasurer Reports:

Approval of Financial Statements - Mr. Fukuda presented the financial statements for January 2022 for the Board's review and consideration. He addressed first the revenue and expense statement, indicating that the total revenue for January 2022 was \$425,466, which was approximately 4.90% of the revised budget. He next presented the expenses, highlighting several items and reporting expenses from November totaling \$830,837, which was approximately 7.64% 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 \$9,448,573. Based on the Statement of Net Assets, Mr. Fukuda reported that Total Liabilities were at \$13,512,772.68, and the Total Equity in the District stood at \$33,318,434. He lastly cited investment return for the district's several holding accounts, those being 1.130% with the Tulare County Pooled Investment Fund, 0.234% with the State LAIF, and 0.100% with Citizen's Money Market Fund.

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

Approval of Bill Payments - Mr. Fukuda 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 Thomas and unanimously carried by all Directors present, accepted the financial statements and, by said motion, check nos. 53578 through #53628 totaling \$1,093,182.42 were all either ratified or approved as paid, exclusive of any voided or withheld checks.

Prop 218 Update - Mr. Fukuda gave the Board an update on Tulare ID Prop 218 process reporting on three (3) different expense/revenue analysis options. Next, Mr. Fukuda presented a Prop 218 Assessment

Schedule Lastly, Mr. Fukuda highlighted the need to select two Board Members to meet as a Board Ad-Hoc. Mr. Borges and Mr. Bixler agreed to serve on the Board Ad-Hoc Committee to oversee the Prop 218 process.

#### 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 four projects: 1) Dairy Gas Line; 2) Developer Bardsley and West - Storm Drain; 3) Developer - Pipeline/turn-out North of Hillman's walnut trees (Martin Pipeline); and 4) Reviewing City Plans Cartmill Comment.

#### Management Staff Report:

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Matters - Mr. Fukuda summarized recent activities concerning the Kaweah Subbasin. Mr. Fukuda gave an update on the following: Department of Water Resources (DWR) SGMA Grant; Department of Conservation - Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program; and Kaweah Subbasin Water Marketing Strategy Grant Program. Lastly, Mr. Fukuda reported on Workshops scheduled at the Subbasin level: Land IQ Workshop in March; Water Dashboard Workshops scheduled for April.

#### Mid-Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKGSA)

Emergency Ordinance Update - Mr. Fukuda presented an update on the MKGSA. First, Mr. Fukuda updated the Board on MKGSA Emergency Ordinance highlighting recent updates to the Ordinance. He then provided a summary of the Service Fees and Replacement Costs associated with the Ordinance. Next, Mr. Fukuda indicated that the MKGSA Board had approved a 45-day public comment period for the Emergency Ordinance (closes on March 25, 2022) with the public comment period including six workshops and four office hours.

DWR Groundwater Sustainability Plan Determination. Mr. Fukuda gave an update on the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Groundwater Sustainability Plan Determination and Assessment. Mr. Fukuda reported Eric Osterling received a letter on January 27, 2022, stating that DWR had determined that the 2020 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Submitted for the San Joaquin Valley - Kaweah Subbasin was incomplete. Mr. Fukuda reported on DWR's findings, recommendations, modifications, Deadline (180 days) to resolve the identified corrective action provided by DWR resubmittal deadline was July 27, 2022. Mr. Fukuda highlighted that all three deficiencies require coordination between all three GSA's.

Mr. Fukuda reported on DWR Plan Evaluation: 1) Sustainable Management Criteria for Lower of Groundwater Levels; 2) Sustainable Management Criteria for Land Subsidence; 3) Plan does not sufficiently and consistently characterize interconnected surface water nor define the SMC for depletion of interconnected surface water.

Friant Matters - Mr. Fukuda began his report on Friant Matters reporting on the following: Friant Kern Canal (FKC) Middle Reach Ground Breaking Ceremony; Project Planned Outage; Budget increase for R/W consultants; State approved \$37 Million in funding; Pixley GSA Funded \$11 Million; Eastern Tule GSA below anticipated funding; New FWA budget tool; \$15.8 Million Baseline Budget Savings; San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) costs increasing 15-20%; and FWA CEO, Jason Phillips, has entered into a new 5 year contract with FWA.

McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir - Mr. Fukuda provided the Board with an update on the McKay Point Reservoir/Seaborn Reservoir Project. First reporting on Seaborn Reservoir mentioning the following: Santa Fe Aggregates mining lease; Tulare County direction

on the Termination of the Reclamation Plan; Lease Extension; and the Federal Emergency Management Agency Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (FEMA BRIC) grant.

Next, Mr. Fukuda reported on McKay Point Reservoir reporting on the following: Tulare County Administrative review; Environmental Impact Report (EIR); and developing a schedule for workshops and public meetings.

#### Legislation

Capitol Core - Annual Report and 2022 Proposed Scope of Work - Mr. McKinney provided an introduction and described the work done by his firm in 2021 to assist in providing funding for the McKay Point and Seaborn water storage project. Mr. McKinney highlighted several meetings with state and federal agencies and the FEMA BRIC grant. Thereupon, Mr. McKinney introduced a scope of work and budget to continue seeking funds for District priorities.

Support for Multibenefit Land Repurposing Joint Letter - Mr. Fukuda provided for board discussion a draft Support for Multibenefit Land Repurposing Joint Letter. Mr. Fukuda highlighted that the Governor only included \$40 million in the state budget. After a lengthy discussion, the Board recommended Mr. Fukuda, send a letter to strongly urge the funding allocation to at least match the \$50 million appropriations in the Budget act of 2021.

#### General Manager Report:

General Manager Mr. Fukuda reported on the following: Collaborative Action Plan; New Tulare Lake Alignment Water Blueprint; California Water Commission (CWC) Water Marketing Advisory Committee; California Water Plan Advisory Committee request to participate; California Department of Food and Agriculture, March 2, 2022, GSA activities update; Request to participate on a SGMA Panel at the International Symposium on MAR.

#### Matters for Consideration of Board Action:

Resolution No. 22-03 - Mr. Fukuda presented and explained Resolution No. 21-16 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 February 15, 2022 to March 16, 2022 Pursuant to Brown Act Provisions. This item would need to be brought back and reaffirmed every 30 days to allow for remote access. By a motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Thomas, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 22-03 was approved.

Resolution No. 22-04 - Mr. Fukuda recommends and presented Resolution No. 22-04 Execution of Contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for Purchase of 215 Water. By motion of Director Thomas, seconded by Director Borges, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 22-04 was approved as presented.

Resolution No. 22-05 - Mr. Fukuda recommends and presented Resolution No. 22-05 Execution of Contract for Purchase of URF Water. By motion of Director Borges, seconded by Director Thomas, and unanimously carried by all Directors present, Resolution No. 22-05 was approved as presented.

#### 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 attending the Kaweah & St. Johns River Association (KSJRA) Board meeting and Kaweah Basin Water Quality

Association (KBWQA) Board meeting on February 3, 2022. Mr. Borges also mentioned attending the Kaweah Water Foundation meeting.

Director Thomas reported attending two Wutchumna meetings: January 12, 2022, and February 9, 2022.

Thereupon the Board of Directors welcomed Mr. McKinney and Mr. Simonetti to the Board meeting.

Capitol Core - Annual Report and 2022 Proposed Scope of Work - Mr. McKinney provided an introduction and described the work done by his firm in 2021 to assist in providing funding for the McKay Point and Seaborn water storage project. Mr. McKinney highlighted several meetings with state and federal agencies and the FEMA BRIC grant. Thereupon, Mr. McKinney introduced a scope of work and budget to continue seeking funds for District priorities.

Lastly, Mr. Fox reported on Truck Purchase - Upstream Truck. Mr. Fox reported that TID's Equipment Committee met and requests Board consideration and approval to purchase one of the following trucks: Option A - AutoNation Ford Valencia - 2021 Ford F150 4X4 Regular Cab \$38,472.05; Option B - Will Tiesiera - 2023 Ford F150 4X4 Regular Cab \$34,000 without tax. Replacing a 2007 Chevrolet 4X4 2500 164K miles. After a lengthy discussion concerning high prices, no inventory, purchase timing, order deadline, warranty, no deals, and replacement needs the Board directed Mr. Fox to work with the local Ford Dealership to place an order for a truck for a future purchase.

Closed Session:

Thereupon, Mr. Fukuda noted that the Board of Directors was going into closed session.

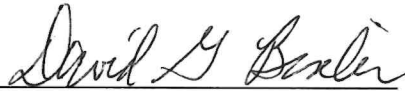
The Board thereupon entered into closed session under §54956.8, §54956.9(a), §54956.9(b), §54956.9(c), §54957.6, §54957, and §54956.95 of the Government Code.

Upon returning to Open Session, President Bixler reported that there were no actions taken.

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



Secretary



President