

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD AUGUST 22, 2007**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California on August 22, 2007. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Board President Jeff Boswell.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

President Jeff Boswell  
Vice President Jeff Neely  
Eddie Niederfrank  
Steven Balls  
Tom Steffen

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

**STAFF PRESENT**

General Manager Gary Serrato  
Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura  
Watermaster Jim Irwin  
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch  
HR Director Regina Davis  
Controller DeAnn Hailey  
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Legal Counsel Alex Peltzer

**REVIEW AGENDA**

No changes

**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Staff requested an additional Equipment Committee meeting be held before the next regular board meeting. It was decided to schedule the meeting on September 12 at 3:30 pm

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

None

**POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

**(Any Board Member who has a potential conflict of interest may now identify the item and recuse themselves from discussing and voting on the matter.) [FPPC §87105]**

President Boswell will recuse himself from discussion on item 6 d. due to a conflict of interest regarding S.G. Wathen

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2007**
- b. **July 2007 Investment Account - General**
- c. **July 2007 Investment Account - Bond**
- d. **July 2007 Fund Statements**
- e. **July 2007 Treasurer’s Report**
- f. **July 2007 Deposits and Investments**
- g. **Standard Developer Project – The City of Clovis will pipeline the Redbanks “C” Canal #338 located N/W Ashlan and McCall Avenues in accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2007-22**
- h. **Standard Developer Project – Clovis Unified School District will pipeline the Clovis W. Br. Canal #115 located S/E Herndon and Sunnyside Avenues in accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2007-23**
- i. **Standard Developer Project – Dwayne and Jeannie Smith will pipeline the Enterprise Canal #109 located N/W Shepherd and Maple Avenues in accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2007-24**

**M/S/C/(Balls/Niederfrank)** That Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar by an unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**380: WATER REPORT**

- a. **Current water conditions**

Watermaster Jim Irwin reviewed the current and projected water supply. As of August 21, Pine Flat release was 1,613 cfs. Temperatures are expected to stay in the low 100’s for the next seven to ten days.

**CHIEF ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

- a. **Developer and Agency Project Schedule for 2007/08 Update**

**Developer Projects** – FID is currently processing approximately 15 Developer pipeline projects for the 2007-08 Maintenance Season. There are no projects in progress at this time with six being completed since April 1, 2007. Staff anticipates several new projects to start in the next few weeks.

**Agency Projects** – FID is currently processing approximately ten Agency projects for the 2007-08 Maintenance Season. The Caltrans 180 project impacts the Mortensen Pipeline. Several sections of pipeline are being replaced near Valentine and Brawley Avenues. One project has been completed since April 1, 2007.

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**b. Running Horse Development and Kearney Basin Project Update**

There is nothing new to report at this time. Any new issues will be discussed during Closed Session.

**c. Three-Year Maintenance Facility Upgrade Project for 2007/08**

Mr. Stretch gave the Board an update on the Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Plan (MFUP). Crews have started two major brushing projects, two weir retrofits, lining repair and replacement, along with several other structure modifications.

**d. Proposed Capital Project in Coordination with Developer S.G. Wathen (Tract 5187) to pipeline the Clovis W. Br. #115 located S/W Herndon Avenue and Highway 168. Action Request 2007-21**

President Boswell recused himself from the discussion and turned the meeting over to Vice President Neely before leaving the room.

A section of the Clovis West Branch Canal located south of Herndon Avenue between Highway 168 and Big Dry Creek is adjacent to two pending developments; S.G. Wathen's Tract 5187 and Mike Cunco's Tract No. 5867. The District placed conditions on both projects to pipeline the canal, but the City of Clovis determined that there was only a logical nexus to require the developer of Tract 5867 to pipe the canal and not the developer of Tract 5187. Staff has had several meeting with the developers and the City. Wathen has agreed to contribute \$28,455 towards the construction costs. Staff is proposing that the District be responsible for driving the project thus hiring a contractor to install the pipeline. The District will fund the entire project and will be reimbursed by developers as their properties are developed. Staff has included seven recommendations which are detailed under Engineering Action Request 2007-21.

**M/S/C/(Neely/Balls)** That Board of Directors approve the canal project contingent upon counsel's acceptance of 'red-tag' verbiage by the City of Clovis by the following vote. (Ayes Neely, Balls, Steffen, Niederfrank, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain Boswell)

President Boswell re-entered the board room and resumed his position.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

**a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update**

There has not been much change in the project status since the last update. The crusher is in place and operating. There is still a significant amount of work to be done.

**b. Waldron Banking Project Update**

The contract with Steve Dovali Construction for the well equipping work continues. The re-submittals were finally received from the electrical subcontractor and are being reviewed by the

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electrical engineer. Arthur & Orum finally submitted a work schedule and construction of the first well began last week. Construction of the second well is scheduled to commence this week.

**c. District Office Plan**

S.I.M Architects provided a revised office floor plan and District department heads are currently reviewing the revised layout.

**d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update**

The majority of the field staff is now in the maintenance season. Heavy equipment operators are working on rebuilding canal banks on Lower Dry Creek and Houghton Canals. Equipment operators are busy assisting maintenance crews with construction projects. Liner repairs are being made on the Silvia system near Grantland Avenue. A loaner dozer is being tested at Waldron. Brushing activities are currently taking place on the Mill Ditch near DeWolf Avenue. Safety training is taking place this week. The Maintenance Report covering July 16 – August 15, 2007 was distributed to the Board.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

**Fishery Management Program**

Habitat restoration will continue with 500 truck loads of boulders to be placed in the river during low flow (October or November). Fish counting will now take place twice a year with testing locations being expanded to include the section of the river below the Fresno Weir.

**Ag Waiver Discharge**

The Bay Institute and Sport Fisherman associations have filed suit to disband the ag waiver discharge permits. If courts agree, there will be two options for the District: 1) eliminate the discharge; or 2) apply to take out a NPDES Permit.

**FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY**

Staff mailed two letters to the Friant Water Authority last week. One letter concerned the cost of Dooley's extra participation in the NRDC matter, which requested the review and reapportion of the fees to all districts in the Friant Water Users Authority; the second letter requested the process for formal withdrawing from the Friant Water Authority.

**OTHER ISSUES**

Staff received a copy of the Urban Management Plan from the City of Fresno. Mr. Serrato and Mr. Kimura will review the plan and report back to the Board.

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As promised at the last meeting, a copy of the conveyance agreement was distributed to each Director. Mr. Serrato reviewed key points in the agreement.

**Legislative**

ACWA Legislative Committee has taken a non-support unless amended stance on AB1489 (Hoffman). Major concerns are groundwater contamination clean-up and a new set of criteria on the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Madera Irrigation District had an “open to the public” meeting regarding the water bank they propose building.

Consolidated Irrigation District will meet this week with LAFCO concerning the mayor and developer fees to mitigate ground water impacts.

Mr. Serrato attended a townhall meeting regarding the Running Horse development project. The mayor and City of Fresno representatives relayed to the public that eminent domain would only be used within the project area.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**a. Equipment Committee Meeting Recommendations**

Staff recommended purchasing a sheeps-foot compaction roller for the backhoe.

**M/S/C/(Niederfrank/Steffen)** That Board of Directors approve the purchase of the sheeps-foot attachment for a cost not to exceed \$4,350 with funds to come the Construction Fund by an unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain Boswell)

**Computer Rotation/Record Retention Software**

Ms. Davis reported on the three-year rotation for staff’s computers and the purchase of a records retention/retrieval software system. A spreadsheet listing the employees who will receive a new computer was distributed to the directors in their packets. Ms. Davis also recommended the purchase of a new server to meet our current needs.

**M/S/C/(Niederfrank/Balls)** That Board of Directors approve the purchase of the new computers including a new server and a records retention system at a cost of \$109,000 with money to come from the Power Revenue Fund by an unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

The meeting went into a brief recess before returning to Administrative Matters with the following items:

**Accounting System Software**

Ms. Hailey reviewed the history of our current accounting software and presented an outline of the software she is proposing the Board authorizes. The proposed software from Tyler Technologies, Infotronics, TruckTracker, and Gasboy (PSI Equipment Sales) features:

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accounting support, time card system, vehicle maintenance program, a gas card system that can track mileage, and much more.

**M/S/C/(Steffen/Balls)** That Board of Directors approve the purchase of the new accounting software system from the companies presented for a total cost of \$197,706 with money to come from the Water Purchase Fund by an unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**b. ACWA – Region 6 Election for 2008-09 Term**

Staff concurs with the Region 6 Nominating Committee’s recommended slate.

**M/S/C/(Balls/Steffen)** That Board of Directors approve the Region 6 candidates as listed and authorize the Board President to sign on behalf of the District by an unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**DIRECTORS’ REPORT**

None

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:53 pm.

**Conference with Legal Counsel–Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b)).** Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (G.C. §54956.9. Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to subdivision (b)): one potential case.

**Natural Resource Defense Council vs. Rodgers (Government Code Section 54956.9).** To conferred with counsel on pending litigation.

**Conference with Legal Counsel–Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b)).** Conference with Legal Counsel on potential litigation. Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to subdivision (b)): Van Volkinburg.

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session adjourned at 8:26 p.m. with President Boswell stating the Board of Directors had nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary R. Serrato  
Board Secretary