

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD MARCH 12, 2008**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California on March 12, 2008. 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  
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch  
Human Resources Director Regina Davis  
Controller DeAnn Hailey  
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Freelance Journalist Don Wright  
Legal Counsel Alex Peltzer (arrived 5:13 pm)

**REVIEW AGENDA**

Mr. Serrato requests that items 9 d., 9 e., and 9 f. be removed from the agenda until a later date. Mr. Serrato also requests that Closed Session be moved to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate Mr. Peltzer's schedule when he arrives.

**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Staff suggested June 2, 9, and 11, 2008, (regular board meeting scheduled on the 11<sup>th</sup>) for the 2009 Board of Equalization dates. The meetings will begin at 5 pm.

**M/S/C/(Balls/Steffen)** That Board of Directors approve the 2009 Board of Equalization dates for June 2, 9, and 11, 2008 by a unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

None

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**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]**

None stated

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2008**
- b. **February 2008 Check Register**
- c. **February 2008 Special Check Register**
- d. **February 2008 Payroll Register**
- e. **February 2008 Attorney Fees**
- f. **February 2008 Consultant Fees**
- g. **February 2008 Assessment Collection Report**
- h. **Standard Developer Project – Midstate Investors, LLC, will pipeline the Tracy Canal #44 located S/W Clinton and Blythe Avenues in accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2008-10**

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

**380: WATER REPORT**

- a. **Current Water Conditions**

Mr. Serrato reviewed the water condition report and the current and projected water supply. As of March 11, Pine Flat release was 1,448 cfs and storage was 356,716 acre feet.

Snow pillows are at 105.6% for March 11 or 98.2% of the April 1 average.

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board suspended the open portion of the meeting at 5:15 pm and went into Closed Session.

**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))

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

**Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.**

Negotiators: Laurence Kimura and Queensland Cotton/Anderson Clayton Corp.

Properties: Portion of APN 487-042-19S (.2 acres)

Terms and Conditions: Update

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The Board concluded Closed Session at 7:04 pm and after a recess returned to Open Session at 7:36 pm.

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

President Boswell stated Resolution 2008-06, to confirm support of the San Joaquin River settlement, was adopted by unanimous roll call vote during Closed Session.

**CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Chief Engineer reported on the following items:

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

**Developer Projects** – Staff has processed 20 Developer pipeline projects for the 2007-08 Maintenance Season. The two remaining projects on the Eisen and Gow Canals have been completed. Eleven projects have been completed since April 1, 2007.

**Agency Projects** – FID is currently processing eight Agency projects for the 2007-08 Maintenance Season with six projects being completed since April 2007. No projects are taking place at this time.

**Miscellaneous** – Several employees from the Engineering Department attended a one day seminar on *The Development Approval Process in California*. Staff found the seminar interesting and worthwhile.

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

Mr. Stretch gave his presentation on the Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Plan (MFUP). Several Langemann Gates are waiting for power from PG&E. They are currently running on battery power. A slide presentation reviewed the progress of current and completed projects.

**c. Grant Application – Approve Funds to Prepare Application for USBR Water 2025 Grant and Contribute Matching Funds to Enterprise Big Dry Creek Siphon Replacement and Improved Spillway Project. Resolution No. 2008-05 and Action Request 2008-09**

Staff is proposing that the District apply for a grant administered by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) known as the Water 2025 Challenge Grant. The available federal funds are expected to be \$4 million with USBR's share of any one proposed project may be up to 50% of the total project cost, and shall generally not exceed \$300,000. Staff is proposing the grant be applied to the Enterprise Canal Siphon Replacement. Staff recommends that the Board approve Resolution 2008-05 and authorize Staff and its consultant (Provost & Pritchard) to proceed with the grant application process. The preparation of the application is estimated at \$10,000 which shall come from the Construction Fund.

**M/S/C/(Neely/Balls)** That Board of Directors approve the adoption of Resolution 2008-05 USBR Water 2025 Challenge Grant Application and Action Request 2008-09 to

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authorize up to \$10,000 for preparation of the application with money to come from the Construction Fund by a roll call vote. (Ayes Neely, Balls, Boswell, Steffen, Niederfrank, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

**a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update**

Mr. Erickson continues to work on a steady basis. There is a significant amount of finished product stacked at the site.

**b. Waldron Banking Project Update**

The contract with Steve Dovali Construction for the well equipping work has been completed. A walk through was performed on February 29. Staff is working on administrative issues to finish the contract.

Arthur & Orum well drilling work still has one well to complete. Staff is still working with Provost & Pritchard to resolve the sand problem.

**c. District Office Plan**

Staff is continuing to work on the plans for the new office. Staff has met with the District's computer consultant on the lay out of the electrical/telephone system for the new building.

**d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update**

Maintenance crews are busy performing maintenance and repair activities with the start up of water season. The trash truck is working through the District and the spray rigs are on the Enterprise, Gould and Central Canals.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

The KRWA annual board meeting will take place on Tuesday and will include the election of officers. Director Niederfrank will continue as the District's executive officer.

Exhibit "D" flows will most likely take place this year. The Kings River Water Association Watermaster will notify each district how much it will be. Staff believes the District's portion will be approximately 3,400 acre feet.

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

Discussed during Closed Session.

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**OTHER ISSUES**

**Meeting with City of Fresno and the Fresno Unified School District Representatives**

Mr. Serrato met with the representatives from Del Mar Elementary School, Fresno Unified School District, City of Fresno, and the Del Mar Parents Association. The overall meeting went well. The group was able to agree on several issues:

- 1) Mr. Serrato informed the group that the District participates in a water safety program at elementary schools throughout the district – KRCD will make a school-wide presentation at Del Mar within the next several weeks
- 2) Looked at the routes to/from school and explained to them that Blackstone Avenue was not a good route for the students to travel
- 3) Fresno Unified will take another look at re-routing the buses and add another stop
- 4) The District proposed a footbridge

On Thursday, March 27, Staff will participate in a school-wide parents meeting at Del Mar Elementary School.

**Fresno County**

Staff met with Alan Weaver, Fresno County Public Works Director, to discuss a number of issues including water development and groundwater banking.

**Miscellaneous Issues**

The Neilson Avenue shop has been rented and a possible tenant for the office portion of the property is being considered.

Staff is planning to attend the Association of Metropolitan Water Agency meeting on March 27. The featured speaker is Kathy Woods, formerly of the Bureau of Reclamation.

Staff will be attending a Region 6 luncheon in Selma, CA on April 1. Tim Quinn, CEO of ACWA will be in attendance. Director Niederfrank will accompany Mr. Serrato to the luncheon.

Staff provided the Summary of General Election Calendar to the directors that are up for re-election in November.

Mr. Serrato spoke to the Clovis Kiwanis Club last week regarding regional water issues and is also scheduled to speak next week at the Fresno County Farm Bureau at a viticulture group meeting.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- a. **Approval of Policy 140-530 Pesticide Workplace Safety**
- b. **February 2008 Investment Account (walk in)**
- c. **February 2008 COP Investment Account (walk in)**

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M/S/C/(Neely/Niederfrank) That Board of Directors approve item 9 a., 9 b., and 9 c. as presented by Staff by a unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

**Removed from agenda**

- d. December 2007 Fund Statements (walk in)**
- e. December 2007 Treasurer's Report (walk in)**
- f. December 2007 Deposits and Investments (walk in)**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**Director Neely** – requested Staff look into the complaints as presented in a letter written by a landowner and delivered to the directors. Staff asked for a couple of meetings to come up with a response and proposal.

**Director Niederfrank** – spoke about working the bottoms of ditches and not just the sides. Director Niederfrank has received both favorable and unfavorable comments concerning the latest Waterways newsletter containing information on the construction of a new District office.

**Director Steffen** – suggested that when a landowner/customer talks to a district employee, that Staff relay the information to the directors. Mr. Gary Meisner reported to Director Steffen a leak at Belmont and Monroe Avenues, Staff will investigate. Mr. Kimura mentioned that leaks may occur due to the cold temperatures of the surface water.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary R. Serrato  
Board Secretary