

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD APRIL 30, 2008**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in special session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California on April 30, 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

None

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary Serrato
Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch
Watermaster Jim Irwin

OTHERS PRESENT

District Legal Counsel Gary Sawyers

REVIEW AGENDA

Staff pulled item 6 a. Developer Project – Three Crowns. This item will be brought to the Board at the May 14 regular meeting.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Next regular meeting will be May 14. ACWA's Spring Conference will be next week in Monterey, CA. President Boswell, Gary Serrato and Laurence Kimura plan to attend

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]

None stated

CONSENT CALENDAR

None

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CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer requested this item be moved to the May 14 meeting:

- a. **Developer Project – Three Crowns is Proposing to Defer Piping the Briggs Canal #7 Located N/W Lincoln Avenue and Golden State Boulevard in Accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2008-15**

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

- a. **Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update**

Staff met earlier this week with representatives from the City and County of Fresno, Erickson Construction, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Overall, the City and County seem satisfied with the progress of the project with approximately 75% of the existing material being processed. The City will review the agreement but suggested that District Staff write Mr. Nick Yovino, with the City of Fresno, a letter requesting a formal extension.

380: WATER REPORT

Watermaster Jim Irwin gave a brief water update. As of April 29, 2008, Pine Flat Storage was 408,569 with release of 2,223 cfs. There is not any precipitation expected for the next several weeks.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

- a. District Organization
- b. Water Supply and Delivery
- c. Maintenance Activity
- d. Engineering Activities – Three-Year Plan

Water Department

Mr. Serrato reviewed the make-up of the Water Department regarding personnel, wages, realignment of runs, and the start up of the cities surface water treatment plants.

In addition to surface water diversions, Mr. Serrato reviewed the affects of groundwater overdraft throughout the District. Groundwater tables were displayed for the last 34 years. Groundwater has dropped anywhere from one to 78 feet in the area surrounding the District.

Maintenance Department / Shop Activities

Mr. Serrato reviewed department's staffing and Maintenance Policies 400-252 and 400-253 which provides documentation on all repairs to the canals, gates, weed control, and pipeline, etc.

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Mr. Kimura gave an itemized account of all the work/repairs that has been performed by the Maintenance Construction crews and the shop personnel within the last year. Mr. Kimura summarized the required training that District employees must complete, including safety and other required classes.

Engineering Department

Mr. Serrato gave a summary of the personnel in the Engineering Department, which includes two civil engineers and a GIS specialist. The Engineering Department is responsible for managing the three-year maintenance and facility upgrade; special projects (banking, grant funding); developer, agency projects; and groundwater monitoring, among others. Mr. Serrato also reviewed the motion the board voted to approve to proceed with the Proposition 218 election.

Mr. Stretch reviewed the projects that were undertaken in year one of the plan. District crews performed 20 out of the 22 projects. Mr. Stretch then reviewed projects to be constructed in year two of the plan and future projects. A current budget for the Three-Year MFUP was displayed.

The construction supervision responsibilities of the new building will be divided between the Chief Engineering and the Assistant General Manager. Director Boswell suggested looking for a remedy to fix the aging cast-in-place pipes, whether it is by sleeving, filling with epoxy, or another type of solution. Director Niederfrank suggests hiring a full time employee with the skills to oversee the construction of the new building.

Open Session was suspended at 7:26 pm and reopened at 7:37 pm.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Neely – found the Workshop to be very informative. Director Neely also gave his support for the three-year plan. Occasionally a Director brings a landowner project to the board that is not scheduled on the three-year plan and appreciates staff making an effort to undertake the project

Director Balls – appreciated the information given tonight

Director Boswell – mentioned the 1976 conveyance agreement, between the District and the City of Fresno, requiring water for the east side. Director Boswell would like to use the newsletter to inform the landowners of the District's progress with the proposed new office buildings and improvements to the canal systems.

Director Steffen – learned a lot of interesting information at tonight's meeting – mentioned he would like to see periodic information on the banking facility

Director Niederfrank – wants to be kept informed on activities happening in the District. Director Niederfrank would like see an improvement in communications between Directors and District personnel

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD APRIL 30, 2008**

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

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b)).

The Board will meet in closed session to confer with Counsel on potential litigation arising out of claims by third parties to water rights on the Kings River.

Government Code Section 54957. Personnel Matters.

No Closed Session was held during this meeting

ADJOURNMENT

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary R. Serrato
Board Secretary