

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD APRIL 22, 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 22, 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
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Human Resources Director Regina Davis
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

West Star Construction Representative Sandra Staats

REVIEW AGENDA

Chief Engineer requested to move item 6 c. ii to the May 14 Board Meeting. Director Niederfrank stated he would like to remove item 4 b. from the Consent Calendar and move it to the Chief Engineer's Report as item 6 d. Mr. Serrato reviewed who would be attending the upcoming ACWA Conference in Monterey, CA.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

A Directors' Workshop will be held on Wednesday, April 30 at 5 pm in the Board Room of the District's office.

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

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CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2008

M/S/C/(Neely/Balls) That Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar with the moving of item 4 b. to item 6 d. by a unanimous vote. (Ayes 5, Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

380: WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster, Jim Irwin, reviewed the water condition report and the current and projected water supply. As of April 21, Pine Flat release was 1,922 cfs and storage was 383,728 acre feet.

Snow pillows are at 108.4% for April 21 or 81.8% of the April 1 average.

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 10 Developer pipeline projects for the 2008-09 Maintenance Season. There are no projects currently in progress. Thirteen projects were completed between April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008.

Agency Projects – FID is currently processing six Agency projects for the 2008-09 Maintenance Season. Six projects were completed between April 1, 2007 – March 31, 2008. No projects are taking place at this time.

Miscellaneous – Bullard Canal No. 124 City of Fresno's Herndon Avenue Widening Project Staff presented a proposed City of Fresno project to widen Herndon Avenue between Marks and Valentine Avenues. They need an additional six to ten feet of road R/W on the south side of Herndon Avenue, which will impact the Bullard Canal No. 124. Staff met with the City and FMFCD on April 11. The City will be in contact with the District when their surveying has been completed.

Engineering Staff continues to work on the Sam Pellisi issues. There are several components to research. Staff is looking at four possible options and is in discussion with an outside contractor.

b. Three-Year Maintenance Facility Upgrade Project for 2008/09

Staff is gathering data for next year's projects which includes surveying, gathering flow data from historical records, the Water System Operators, and gathering pertinent maintenance

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records. Staff is also preparing a Construction Report of the 2007-08 projects completed as part of the Three-Year MFUP.

c. Information Items:

**i. Update on USBR Field Services Grant for Jameson Pond #174.
Project Located N/W North and Jameson Avenues**

On February 1, 2008, the District applied for a USBR Field Services Grant (Resolution 2008-03) for improvements to Jameson Pond located N/W of North and Jameson Avenues. The proposed project includes automatic gates, telemetry equipment Replogle flume, and a lift pump. The gates and telemetry will be configured to maintain constant flow to growers downstream and divert any fluctuations into the pond. USBR's share of any one proposed project may be up to 50% of the total project costs, and their contribution will range from \$5,000 - \$50,000. USBR received 46 applications for this grant, of which, 42 were deemed adequate. Eighteen of these applications were from the local area and eleven of those received funding. The District's application was among those receiving the highest rating and USBR has awarded \$30,000 to this project. When this project was discussed and approved as part of the Three-Year plan, no grant funding was calculated into the cost of the project.

d. 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

Director Niederfrank had a concern about the approval of the pipeline substitution for open canal until the start of Phase III because of budgetary reasons. Ms. Staats, from West Star Construction, answered some of the Directors concerns in more detail. This item has been deferred to the April 30 special board meeting.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

Work at the site continues on a slow but steady basis. There has been no significant change in the project since the last report. Staff continues to work with the County regarding the "mining" issue. After much discussion, the Board gave Staff direction to put together a work plan of other options for the Nielsen property and present it at the April 30 meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Board President Boswell suspended the open portion of the meeting at 6:30 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)).

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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.

The Board concluded Closed Session at 7:00 pm and returned to Open Session.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Boswell stated there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

ASSISTANT MANAGER’S REPORT (continued)

b. Waldron Banking Project Update

Arthur & Orum well drilling work still has one well to complete. District Staff, Provost & Pritchard Engineering, and Steve Arthur met to discuss project status and completion.

Provost & Pritchard Engineering and District Staff are currently working on getting the next set of plans and specifications out for equipping the three new wells. The project bid notice is currently being advertised.

Provost & Pritchard Engineering and District Staff are also reviewing sloughing that has occurred along the Big Sandridge Canal between the basins at the Lambrecht Basins.

c. District Office Plan

Staff is currently reviewing the plans and specifications provided by SIM Architects for the metal storage buildings. The plans and specifications for the storage buildings are currently being finalized for bidding. Legal counsel has provided comments on the bid documents and are being incorporated. Staff is finalizing the process with Anderson-Clayton Corporation for the purchase of a strip of land to the south of the proposed office location. FMFCD has requested a meeting to review the site.

d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

Maintenance crews are busy performing maintenance activities as necessary for water deliveries. Gopher holes and ditch bank leaks are being addressed as necessary. Spray applications are

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taking place on the Oleander and Hansen systems, as weather permits and Magnacide is being applied. The trash truck is working along the Houghton and Herndon systems. The Maintenance Report from March 16, 2008 through April 15, 2008, was passed out.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Executive Committee Meeting

Clifton Lollar, with the Kings River Water Association, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the invasive Zebra and Quagga Mussel. Staff has asked Mr. Lollar to attend the May 14 Board Meeting to make the same presentation.

A budget for the Kings River Fishery Management Program was presented. Budget items include boulder placement, spawning beds, and importing trout eggs into an incubator. A large part of the budget will be spent on tree anchoring for the creation of new habitats for smaller fish.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY

Discussed during Closed Session.

OTHER ISSUES

FID Maintenance Office Lease

The maintenance office located on Nielson Avenue has been leased with fully executed documents expected by May 1.

Fresno County Water Advisory Committee

Mr. Serrato gave a presentation on the San Joaquin River Settlement and its affects on the Fresno Irrigation District.

San Joaquin River Conservancy

Melinda Marks, Executive Officer, from the San Joaquin River Conservancy will be here on May 28 to inform the Board on current policies and activities of the Conservancy.

Tulare Irrigation District

Both Laurence Kimura and Mr. Serrato met with the general manager and chief engineer of the Tulare Irrigation District to discuss possible joint efforts that could be beneficial for the two districts. Discussions also included the ability to exchange Class I and Class II waters.

Ag Waiver Discharge

Kings River Watershed Authority (Ag Waiver Discharge) has pulled together a joint powers agreement. Staff will ask for Board approval of the agreement at the May 14 Board Meeting.

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Bureau of Reclamation

Staff received a letter from the Department of Interior stating water rates will increase due to a decrease in water diversion because of the Delta Smelt.

Upper Kings River Water Forum

The committee came together and reacquainted and fortified their positions on the policies for submitting future grant applications. No word yet on the District's application for the Proposition 50 funding.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

None

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Steffen – spoke to Rod Yraceburu about a box that runs over in the area of Shields and Howard. This situation apparently has been going on for some time – the previous owner made allowance for this problem. Staff will follow-up on a solution to this matter and bring it back to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary R. Serrato
Board Secretary