

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD MARCH 26, 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 26, 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
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch
Human Resources Director Regina Davis
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Land owner Richard Carstens
Independent Journalist Don Wright

REVIEW AGENDA

Staff will call Alex Peltzer at 6:30 pm for discussion of Closed Session items.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Director Niederfrank inquired when requests for Board of Equalization forms needed to be submitted to the District. Staff requested that they be turned in 30 days prior to the first Board of Equalization meeting on June 2, 2008

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Mr. Carstens stated his concerns about water deliveries to his property to the Directors and Staff.

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 – March 12, 2008**
- b. **Request for Correction of Charges (2008-10 Clovis Unified School District)**
- c. **Agency Project – The City of Clovis will pipeline the Helm Colonial West Branch #116 located S/E Herndon and Willow Avenues. Action Request 2008-11**

M/S/C/(Neely/Balls) That Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar by 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 March 25, Pine Flat release was 1,643 cfs and storage was 354,092 acre feet. Pine Flat precipitation is 85 percent of the April 1 average. With March being so dry, projected Kings River runoff has been reduced by 5%.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer reported on the following items:

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

Developer Projects – there are no projects in progress at this time. Since April 1, 2007, there have been 13 projects completed. No projects are planned for the next several weeks.

Agency Projects – there are no projects in progress at this time. Since April 1, 2007, there have been six projects completed. No projects are planned for the next several weeks.

Miscellaneous – Mr. Stretch brought the Directors up-to-date on the Sam Pellisi pipeline situation. Director Niederfrank relayed his most recent conversation with Mr. Pellisi. Staff will do additional research before making a recommendation regarding the 55 year old pipeline.

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

Mr. Stretch provided the Board an update on the Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Plan (MFUP) – not many projects taking place at this time. Mr. Stretch will provide a financial update at the next meeting.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

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a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

The progress on the site has been slow and steady. There is quite a bit of finished product that remains on site. The County of Fresno is concerned about the underground digging taking place. Their position is that digging below ground level is not covered in the workplan. There is some discrepancy as to what is ground level.

b. Waldron Banking Project Update

Arthur & Orum well drilling work still has one well to complete. Arthur & Orum completed the air lifting activities. P&P is working with Ken Schmidt to lay out the next steps. It is anticipated that the well will be developed again to determine whether the airlifting activities resolved the sand problem.

P&P and District Staff are currently working on getting the next set of plans and specifications out for equipping the three new wells.

c. District Office Plan

Staff is currently working with SIM Architects on finalizing the site plan and storage buildings. Staff has not received any comments from Fresno County regarding the submitted site plan. Staff is also working through the process with Anderson-Clayton Corporation for the purchase of a strip of land to the south of the proposed office location.

d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

Maintenance personnel are busy performing maintenance activities as necessary and assisting on projects. The trash truck is working along the Houghton and Kennedy-Owens systems on the west side of the District. The Maintenance Report for February 16, 2008, through March 15, 2008, was passed out.

CLOSED SESSION

The meeting went into Closed Session at 6:25 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)).

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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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.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Boswell stated there was nothing to report from Closed Session which concluded at 7:40 p.m.

Open session resumed at 8:10 p.m. with the Manager’s Report

MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Kings River Water Association Elections

Mr. Serrato shared the election results with the Board:

Chair – Norman Waldner (Alta Irrigation District)

Vice-Chair – Frank Zonnoval (Laguna Irrigation District)

Secretary/Treasurer – Steve Haugen (KRWA Watermaster)

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer – Eddie Niederfrank (Fresno Irrigation District)

KRWA Fish and Game

Gravel placement for trout spawning has been completed and the last remaining boulders will be placed in the river in the fall. Boulder placement will be in the area near Pine Flat Dam. Law enforcement presence has been increased to include Saturdays and evenings. So far, twenty-five individuals have been cited for violating the “Catch and Release Zone”.

Zebra and Quagga Mussels

Mr. Serrato reviewed the new legislation (AB 1683-Wolk) dealing with this eminent threat. These mussels have proven to be a real menace to lakes and waterways by removing oxygen and nutrients from the water – they have already invaded the Southern California area. The District is required to implement a policy on how to deal with this situation should it arise. Staff will keep the Board updated as this situation unfolds.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY

Friant issues were discussed under Closed Session.

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OTHER ISSUES

Del Mar School

Staff will meet with parents and Del Mar school officials later this week to continue the discussion on alternate routes, additional bus stops, and a proposed pedestrian bridge for students.

Meeting with Fresno County Supervisors

Mr. Serrato met with Supervisors Henry Perea and Phil Larson to discuss the San Joaquin River Settlement.

Meeting with Assembly Member Karen Bass

Assembly member Juan Arambula hosted a meeting which facilitated the opportunity for local water agencies to meet and discuss state and local water issues with the newly elected Speaker of the State Assembly, Karen Bass.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. **December 2007 Fund Statements**
- b. **December 2007 Treasurer's Report**
- c. **December 2007 Deposits and Investments**

Controller DeAnn Hailey reported that the District's auditors have started their yearly audit process this week.

Ms. Hailey reviewed the listed financial reports for the Directors.

M/S/C/(Balls/Neely) That Board of Directors approve the listed financial reports as presented by Staff by unanimous vote. (Ayes Neely, Balls, Boswell, Steffen, Niederfrank Nays 0, Absent 0, Abstain 0)

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Neely – suggested that the District look into what it would require to get involved with the San Joaquin River Conservancy Board.

Director Niederfrank – suggested working closer with the media at the start of water season. Director Niederfrank enjoyed the KRWA Dinner.

Director Boswell – complemented the Staff on the continued good work that the District is providing

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ADJOURNMENT

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary R. Serrato
Board Secretary