

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD JANUARY 28, 2009**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California on January 28, 2009. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Board President Jeff Boswell.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

President Jeff Boswell  
Vice President Jeff Neely  
Steven Balls  
Ryan Jacobsen  
George Porter

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

None

**REVIEW AGENDA**

No Changes

**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

None

**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**

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2009

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M/S/C/(Neely/Balls) That Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar noting a few minor grammatical changes by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**CHIEF ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

**a. Developer and Agency Project Schedule for 2008/09 Update**

**Developer Projects** – Staff is processing approximately 15 Developer Pipeline projects for the 2008/09 season. Currently there are no projects in progress and one has been completed since April 1, 2008.

The following projects have been placed on hold:

- The Radin-Kamp Canal at northeast Herndon and Blythe Avenues – there is no timeframe for the start of this project
- Orange Avenue Landfill (Caglia) – Director Boswell suggested a letter be sent to Mr. Caglia to remind him of his “window of opportunity” and the timing of the District’s water season
- Denken Farms on the North Central Canal is delayed due to economic issues

**Agency Projects** – Staff is processing approximately ten Agency projects for the 2008/09 season. The Gunn Pipeline replacement project at Ashlan and Temperance area is on hold at this time.

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

Mr. Stretch gave an update on the Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Plan (MFUP) – some of the items of review were: pipelines, lining & rodent barriers, regulating structures, basins, brushing, flap gates, and Langemann gates.

Staff reviewed for the Directors the Enterprise Siphon replacement under Big Dry Creek and Spillway Improvement project near the Shepherd and Sunnyside area. Staff is entering final negotiations with the Cities of Fresno and Clovis and Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District for their project contribution. Staff is also working with the City of Clovis on their proposed park/trail terminus.

**380: WATER REPORT**

**a. Current Water Conditions**

Watermaster Jim Irwin reviewed the current and projected water supply. As of January 27, Pine Flat release was 137 cfs and storage was 221,365 acre-feet.

The most current snow pillow survey indicated the snow pack at 66.6 % of Year-To-Date average and 41.8% of April 1<sup>st</sup> average. Millerton Lake storage is at 66% of average and Kings

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River (Pine Flat Reservoir) is at 47% of average. The extended forecast is not promising for any significant precipitation.

Mr. Irwin presented one possible routing with starting water season on April 1 and concluding July 31 at 66% of normal allotment assuming normal precipitation for the next few months. The other routing is April 16<sup>th</sup> through August 15<sup>th</sup> at 66% of average. The District is not expecting to receive any Class II water supply this year.

Staff will bring an updated water report at the next meeting when the Board will decide on the start of the 2009 water season.

**b. Start of Fig Run**

Mr. Irwin reported there is approximately 160 acres of figs that would irrigate off the Minor Thornton if water is provided. Staff proposes to start the run during mid-February, likely the second week.

M/S/C/(Neely/Balls) That Board of Directors approve the start of the Fig Run around mid-February by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; 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**

No significant changes since the last report. A considerable amount of aggregate materials is still on the property. A letter was sent to Van Erickson regarding the extension from the County.

**b. Waldron Banking Project Update**

The Waldron Banking Facility project is almost completed. The draft copy of the final report is still under review by the Department of Water Resources.

**c. District Office Plan**

BMY is still working on the two metal buildings. The buildings are still being erected and electrical work is taking place on the buildings. Plans for the main office have come back from the County – Staff and the architect are reviewing the County's comments.

**d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update**

Maintenance staff is busy performing work throughout the District. A significant number of pipeline leaks are being repaired on the Minor Thornton system. Trash crews are working primarily within urban areas of the District. Staff is disposing of some equipment at Martella Auction during the first part of February: 1) 1999 Chevy Pickup with bad transmission and 2) 1982 Tommy trailer with electric brakes. The Maintenance Report covering November 16, 2008 through January 15, 2009, was handed out.

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Mr. Kimura gave a slide presentation on the construction of the new metal buildings and some of the sloping and grading work taking place within the District.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

**Fisheries Management Program**

Mr. Serrato attended a fishery management meeting on Tuesday. KRWA Staff reported on recent results of fish counting in some of the smaller tributaries that took place during the fall. The Framework Agreement requires a contribution of \$200,000, - \$100,000 per year from KRWA, KRCD combined and \$100,000 from the California Department of Fish & Game. Due to state budget woes, the Department of Fish and Game may not be able to contribute their portion this year.

Fish planting is still scheduled to take place this year but will be slightly reduced from 11,000 pounds to 10,500 pounds of fish. The larger trophy size trout may be eliminated by the State, due to the Budget. KRWA is discussing its ability to continue the trophy size trout planting.

Mr. Serrato informed the Board that there are three State Water Resources Control Board openings.

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

**Water Management Goals**

On January 19, Mr. Serrato participated in the water management goals meeting. A large portion of the agenda was covered. The managers continue to work through the issues and are in hopes of developing a framework by the end of February. Groundwater management and Title III money was not discussed because time ran out.

**San Joaquin River Settlement**

The Settlement has made it through the Senate and is working its way through the House. It is expected to be on the President's desk in the next couple of weeks.

**OTHER ISSUES**

**Waterways Newsletter**

The next issue of the newsletter is expected to be completed within the next couple of weeks. Dates and locations need to be decided for upcoming Division III and IV grower meetings to be included in the Newsletter. Water delivery start up will also be included in the newsletter which is scheduled to go out in mid February.

**Homeless Situation**

The District has received numerous calls regarding homeless camping on canal banks. Staff is currently working with the Fresno Police Department to take the proper procedures in the

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removal of the individuals. Staff has also contacted the FID's Attorney to outline the legal issues with handling of the property.

**Review of Committee Assignments**

Director Neely requested that Director Porter be placed on the Equipment Committee in his place. Director Porter agreed to do so.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**a. Resolution 2009-02 – Object to County's Sale of Tax-Defaulted Properties**

Ms. Hailey reviewed the process that the county takes regarding tax defaulted properties. A list was attached to the Resolution indicating the properties in question. This process allows the County to collect delinquent taxes for the District.

**M/S/C/(Neely/Porter)** That Board of Directors approve Resolution 2009-02 as presented by Staff by the following roll call vote. (Ayes Neely, Balls, Boswell, Porter, Jacobsen; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

Concerning the District's Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) an actuary will need to be hired as required by Government Financial Practices. More research will be done before a decision is made on the District's course of action.

December 2008 financial statements will be available around the end of February or the beginning of March.

The District sent out letters to the tenants of the rental properties informing them that clean-up work is needed and of an increase in the monthly rent. Maintenance work on the well took place at the Olive/McCall property and roof repairs are also being considered.

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**Director Neely** – reported on attending the Mid Pacific Water Users Conference held in Reno, NV. Director Neely was extremely impressed with the Conference and attended many informative sessions.

**Director Balls** – also reported on his attendance at the Mid Pacific Water Users Conference in Reno, NV. The Delta Smelt situation was one of the topics discussed at the conference. More financial investment, more water banking facilities and more underground water storage is needed to make a difference for the state.

**Director Boswell** – stated that Federal Judge Wanger is publicly acknowledging that the environmental endanger species act is not working but He needs to follow the law as required. Director Boswell noted that the Statement of Economic Interests Forms were passed out to each Director to be completed.

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**Director Jacobsen** – announced there is an informational meeting at Fresno State Student Union next Wednesday night. A panel will be speaking regarding local and state water issues – Judge Wagner will be the moderator.

**CLOSED SESSION**

Staff went into Closed Session at 8:05 p.m.

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

**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)): KRWA.

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

President Boswell stated that there was no action during Closed Session to report.

Closed Session concluded at 8:45 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato  
Board Secretary