

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session in the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on February 9, 2010. 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 (arrived at 5:15 pm)  
George Porter

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

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

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Landowner Vaughn Chamness

**REVIEW AGENDA**

Staff asks that item 7 c. be moved to the beginning of the meeting when Mr. Chamness arrives.

Condolences were given when Director Boswell announced that Director Balls' father passed away earlier in the week.

**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

No changes

**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

**PUBLIC PRESENTATION**

None scheduled

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 26, 2010**
- b. **January 2010 Check Register**
- c. **January 2010 Payroll Registers**
- d. **January 2010 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **January 2010 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- f. **January 2010 Investment Account**
- g. **January 2010 COP Investment Account**

**M/S/C/(Balls/Porter)** That Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar by the following vote. (Ayes Neely, Balls, Boswell, Porter; Nays 0; Absent Jacobsen; Abstain 0)

**380: WATER REPORT**

**a. Current Water Conditions**

The current and projected water supply information was given by Watermaster Jim Irwin. As of February 8, Pine Flat release was 51 cfs and storage was 435,617 acre-feet. Precipitation at Pine Flat is currently at 13.82 inches for the season which is approximately 131.1% of normal – average for this date is 10.54 inches.

**b. Start of 2010 Water Season**

Mr. Irwin proposed three different options for the start of water deliveries. Options covered starting March 1, March 16, or April 1. After reviewing the current snow survey results and the District's current water storage, Staff recommended starting water on March 16. The Board reviewed the options and determined the District will start water deliveries mid-March to the entire district.

**M/S/C/(Neely/Porter)** That Board of Directors approved starting water on March 16 by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- c. **Landowner Vaughn Chamness Request to Improve Water Service off the G-1 Canal No. 60 Located S/W Ashlan and Goldenrod Avenues. Action Request 2010-02**

At the January 12 Board meeting, Mr. Chamness raised three issues of concern: 1) poor water flow to his property; 2) high trash load; and 3) potential impact to his deep well from groundwater pumping at Lambrecht. Staff researched these issues and concluded that the best way to increase water flow is for Mr. Chamness to install a lift pump since it would not be in the District's best interest to increase the canal bank depth. Staff also checked on the trash situation in the G-1 Canal and believes the trash

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

flow is within "normal" range for a lateral diverting water off the Herndon. At the January 12 meeting Mr. Chamness gave FID's Staff permission to add his deep well to the District's monthly groundwater monitoring list. Staff will be monitoring the levels and report findings as they become available.

**380: WATER REPORT continued**

**c. Allocation of Water to Annex Areas**

In order to provide water to the Annexed Areas, 1750-2000 acre-feet are needed. Class II water is not predicted to be available so Class I will need to be used. Staff recommends charging \$150 per acre-foot to cover the cost of the water and administrative fees for the Class I water and provide up to 2,000 acre-feet of water for the Annex Areas. Users of the Annex water will be notified by letter of the cost and availability.

**M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Neely)** That Board of Directors approved the sale of up to 2,000 acre-feet of Class I water at \$150 per acre-foot by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**d. Water Sales**

Westlands Water District and San Luis Water District have made inquires into the purchase of banked water from the Waldron groundwater banking facility. They are looking to purchase up to 30,000 acre-feet. Kern County Water Agency has also expressed interest in purchasing 10,000-20,000 acre-feet. The Board gave Mr. Serrato direction to investigate the sale of 10,000 – 20,000 acre-feet of water. Staff will keep the Board apprised of the negotiations as more specific details evolve.

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT**

**a. District's Financial Position –  
Lease Termination of Grazing Land at Fresno Headgates**

Staff is anticipating a \$4 million check from the County for the first installment of the 2010 District's assessments.

The Accounting Department is preparing 2009 financial statement binders for the auditor.

Dan Forbes gave his 30-day notice to terminate the lease on the 100 acres of grazing land at Trimmer Springs Road near the headgate. Staff's recommendation is to put the new lease out for bid and place a one-time notice in the Fresno Bee. Director Boswell feels that we do not need to wait until the conclusion of the current lease since notice has already been given before starting the advertising/leasing process. Director Jacobsen suggested sending the notice to the cattlemen association.

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

**CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

**a. Developer and Agency Project Schedule for 2009/10 Update**

**Developer Projects** – The North Central Canal (Caglia project) is just about complete. The pipeline has been installed and is tied in to the existing pipeline now that the new structures have been completed. The project is expected to be completely finished by February 24.

**Agency Projects** – Crews have completed the work on the Hansen Canal near NW Kings Canyon (SR 180) and Academy Avenue. City of Fresno is pipelining a portion of the Bullard Canal along Herndon Avenue between Marks and Valentines Avenues. This project should be completed by February 24.

Helm Colonial West Branch Canal Blockage - City of Clovis is working on the removal of tree roots in the Helm Colonial West Branch Canal. The City is planning on putting in access panels for easy access into the canal.

**b. Three-Year Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Project for 2009/10**

Mr. Stretch updated the Board on the Three-Year Projects:

- Pipelines
- Regulating Structures
- Measuring Structures
- Basins
- Trashrakes
- Miscellaneous Canal Structures

See attached Engineer's Report (February 9, 2010) for complete details. Slides of current project for the Three-Year plan were provided.

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

**a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update**

Staff was able to meet with the Regional Water Quality Control Board last week. Provost & Pritchard provided a revised summary-of-results as requested by the Regional Board

**b. Waldron Banking Facility**

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

Staff displayed a graph showing the groundwater levels at the Waldron Banking Facilities for the last couple of years. The graph showed that the levels have dropped approximately two feet in 2009. This is consistent with changes in groundwater levels in other parts of the District. Considering the past several years of drought, this was not completely unexpected. The District's monitoring occurs every quarter. A Waldron Advisory Committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future to share the latest information.

**c. District Office Plan**

Applegate Johnston is still in the process of installing the steel beams. Staff is working with the architectural team and contractor on construction issues. Progress is slow but continuing.

**d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update**

- Crews are working through the wet weather
- Heavy equipment operators moved riprap to Little Pine Flat as stockpile;
- The excavator is back on the Thompson extension;
- Graders continue on the south side of the District;
- Brush removal is finished up on the East Branch and now working on the Fresno near Bethel to remove the trees that came down in the last series of storms;
- Pipeline crews continue to work on work order items;
- Spraying takes place as weather permits.

There is no new information with the Magnacide situation. Mr. Kimura attended the California Irrigation Institute conference in Sacramento, CA.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

**Upper Kings Agreement**

Mr. Serrato received the Upper Kings River Agreement from KRWA after Steve Haugen's review. Mr. Serrato will ask that the Importation water wording be put back into the Agreement. Alta and Consolidated Irrigation Districts have also reviewed the agreement and will be bringing it their Boards for approval.

**KRWA Legislative Meeting**

SB 7x77 Water Measurement – This bill covers volumetric pricing, measurement, and water management. KRWA will host a meeting later this week to discuss the different aspects of this bill.

Mr. Serrato passed out a notice from the State Water Resources Control Board dealing with "Development of Biological Objectives For California". Staff's concern is the effect this bill may have on the District's eastside creeks (Dog Creek, Mud Creek, and

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

Fancher). With this bill the Ag Waiver Discharge may no longer exist. Mr. Serrato will monitor this situation and report back to the Board.

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

**9d Contract Negotiation Meetings**

Negotiations for the new contracts with the Bureau of Reclamation are taking a significant amount of Staff's time. Key transfer language developed by Mr. Sawyers has been accepted by the Bureau to be included in the contract. Additional sessions are scheduled for next week.

**OTHER ISSUES**

**Waldron Facility**

Mr. Serrato and Mr. Leonardo (City of Clovis) visited the Jameson Pond Project. The City of Clovis is very interested in partnering with FID on this project. City of Clovis has already secured the funding. A number of issues will need to be worked out before proceeding with an agreement.

**Oleander Basin**

Vines and the drip systems are still present on the property (formerly the Cruff property). Until the CEQA and NEPA environmental work is complete, removal of the vines cannot take place. Several options are being discussed on what to do in the short term for the property including leasing the property of one year.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

- a. **Request for Overnight Stay for HR Director to Attend SHRM 2010 Annual Conference – San Diego, CA**

HR Director Regina Davis requested approval to attend the 2010 SHRM Conference in San Diego, CA and the overnight stays.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Balls)** That Board of Directors approved the overnight stay for the HR Director by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

- b. **Request for Overnight Stay for HR Director and HR Administrative Assistant to Attend SDRMA Safety/Claims Education – Sacramento, CA**

Ms. Davis is recommending that she and one other employee from her department attend the SDRMA Safety/Claims Education Day. By attending, the District receives points toward reducing the cost of the District's Workers' Compensation Benefits.

**M/S/C/(Neely/Balls)** That Board of Directors approved the overnight stay of two HR Department employees to attend the SDRMA Safety/Claims Education Day by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**Directors Neely, Balls, and Porter** – attended the Mid Pacific Water Users Conference. Global warming issues were discussed and predictions are that temperatures will rise six degrees in the next twenty years and that snow will be received as rain with runoff occurring much earlier in the year. Legal issues covering NEPA were also discussed.

All the Directors agreed that it was a good conference with good information being presented.

**Director Jacobsen** – stated that Judge Wagner has ordered the turnoff of the Delta pumps within the next 36 hours.

**CLOSED SESSION**

No Closed Session was called.

**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.

**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)): Nielsen Avenue Property

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

Negotiators: Gary R. Serrato and Liberty Christian  
Terms and Conditions: Update (Gary R. Serrato)

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

Negotiators: Gary R. Serrato, FID and Pacheco Partnership  
Properties: APN 015-080-17S  
Terms and Conditions: Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property and Escrow Instructions

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

Negotiators: Gary R. Serrato, FID and River Cross, Inc.  
Properties: APN 015-330-15S  
Terms and Conditions: Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property and Escrow Instructions

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 9, 2010**

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Submitted By,



Gary R. Serrato  
Board Secretary