

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD JANUARY 11, 2011**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session in the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on January 11, 2011. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President Jeff Boswell.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

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

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
Controller DeAnn Hailey

OTHERS PRESENT

None

BOARD REORGANIZATION (President, Vice President, and Secretary to the Board)

Secretary of the Board Gary Serrato assumed the gavel and asked for any nominations for the President of the Board. Director Boswell nominated Director Neely for President with Director Balls seconding the nomination, with no other nominations, Director Porter motioned to close the nominations with Director Jacobsen seconding the motion.

M/S/C/(Boswell/Balls) That the Board of Directors voted Director Jeff Neely as the new Board President by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

President Neely opened up nominations for Vice President. Director Balls nominated Director Jacobsen as Vice President with Director Boswell seconding the nomination. Director Porter motioned to close the nominations with Director Balls seconding the motion.

M/S/C/(Boswell/Balls) That the Board of Directors voted Director Ryan Jacobsen as the new Board Vice President by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

President Neely nominated General Manager Gary Serrato as Secretary to the Board with Director Balls seconding the nomination.

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M/S/C/(Neely/Balls) That the Board of Directors voted General Manager Gary Serrato as the Board Secretary by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Due to the conflict with the Mid-Pacific Water Users Conference, the Board of Directors decided to move the regular Board meeting of January 25 to Monday, January 24, 2011. Vice President Jacobsen reported that he may not be able to attend the next Board Meeting due to a personal conflict.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Landowner Peggy Lee Ailanjian Complaint with Pedestrian and Vehicular Traffic Along the Central and Fancher Creek Canals Located N/E of Church and Minnewawa Avenues. Informational Item 2011-01

Ms. Ailanjian addressed the Board with concerns with vandalism and other illegal activities on the banks of Central and Fancher Creek canals. Ms. Ailanjian is requesting possible gates, signs, and boulders be placed to control the canal banks to deter motorcycle and ATV riding. Staff reported that FID had allowed Ms. Ailanjian to install an access gate across the canal bank to help curb the vehicular and pedestrian access. The Board directed Staff to look into Ms. Ailanjian's requests.

Jason Collier, a former District employee, addressed the Board regarding employment opportunities with the District. He verbalized some frustration in feeling that his application was not being considered fairly. Mr. Serrato and Ms. Davis will meet with Mr. Collier on Friday to discuss his concerns.

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 – December 14, 2010**
- b. **December 2010 Check Register**
- c. **December 2010 Payroll Registers**
- d. **December 2010 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **December 2010 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- f. **December 2010 Investment Account**

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M/S/C/(Boswell/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

380: WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of January 10, Pine Flat was flood releasing 2,833 cfs with a target flow of 1,000 cfs at Crescent Weir. Storage was 664,691 acre-feet with precipitation being 277.7% of normal. Staff discussed the possibility of beginning the water delivery season on March 1.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

The Controller reported on the following:

- a. November 2010 Fund Statements**
- b. November 2010 Notes to the Fund Statements**
- c. November 2010 Treasurer's Report**
- d. November 2010 Deposits and Investments**

Staff reviewed the financial reports for November and reported that the District is at 85% of the 2010 budget.

M/S/C/(Balls/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved the financial reports as presented by Staff by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

Ms. Hailey reported on the 2009 wage and benefit information on all employees that must be filed to the State Controller's Office by January 14.

e. Report on Amnesty Parcels

Only 13% of the parties eligible took advantage of the amnesty program provided by the District concerning delinquent assessments. Staff will continue to monitor collections on the remaining delinquent parcels.

- f. Report on Investment Earnings for 2010 – General Investments**
- g. Report on Investment Earnings for 2010 – COP Investments**

Ms. Hailey also reported on the gains of the investments of the general and bond accounts for its 2010 maturities.

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CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

a. Developer and Agency Project Schedule for 2010-11 Update

Developer Projects – There are no developer projects taking place at this time.

Agency Projects – Six agency projects are currently taking place.

City of Fresno's Temporary SWTF - Improvements to the Jefferson and Gunn Canals – Not a lot of activity has taken place during the last several weeks due to the rain we have received. The turnout structure at the Jefferson headgate has been completed. Approximately 70% of the earthwork has been completed to date and they are currently constructing the meter vault at the headgate of the Gunn Canal.

b. Three-Year Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Project for 2010-11

Regulating Structures and Devices – Crews are working on four Long Crested Weirs. The Langemann gate has been installed with the electrical/telemetry work remaining.

Measuring Structures and Devices – Crews are currently installing a meter on the Epstein Canal headgate and will be installing 12 flowmeters over the next 12 weeks.

Pursell Basin – Crews will be finishing up installing the flowmeter and modify a basin/canal intertie structure over the next several weeks.

Big Sandridge Basin – The project is out to bid with construction starting around February 1.

Oleander Basin – the US Bureau of Reclamation has completed its draft environmental assessment and is going through public review. A Mitigated Negative Declaration is also undergoing public review and a determination by the Board will be requested at the February 22 Board Meeting.

Mr. Stretch updated the Directors with a slide show covering Jameson Pond, Jefferson/Gunn improvements, City pedestrian bridges on the Herndon and Gould Extension canals, CalTrans project on the Hansen Canal, long-crested weirs on several canals, construction of Big Sandridge weir, and City bridge project on the Central Canal.

Mr. Stretch also provided an update on the following miscellaneous projects:

Jameson Basin: The Contractor has completed constructing the levees for Cell 2, completed most of the conveyance channel, and some of the outfall/interbasin structures. Construction continues on the structures and pipelines between Cell 2 and the conveyance channel. They have also started placing the fabric and rip-rap at the northwest and southeast corners of Cell 2.

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AB 303 Basin Meters – FID received a \$250,000 grant to install meters at recharge basins. Staff has received the majority of the flowmeters and should start installing them in the next few weeks.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

Staff has met with the County of Fresno Public Health and Fresno County Public Works and Planning Departments. A meeting summary has been prepared and transmitted to the County of Fresno for their review. Staff will be discussing the issues with the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

b. District Office Plan

Work continues at a slow pace. The exterior doors have been hung and the tape and mud on the sheetrock is starting to dry. Staff is still working within the estimated budget.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

- Several field personnel were deployed to the water department to run floodwaters during the December rain events;
- Maintenance work was limited due to the heavy rains;
- Heavy equipment operators were removing the dredgings from the Thompson Canal;
- Crews are repairing the washouts that occurred from the rains;
- The sloper crew is digging out turnouts along the Washington Colony, Lampee West Branch, and Oleander;
- The brush removal crew is on the Big Dry Creek near Alluvial and the Gould Canal near McCall Avenue;
- Gates are being repaired on the Barcus, Empire, and Kaiser canals;
- Trash crews are removing a lot of tires and Christmas trees.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

Mr. Serrato reminded the Board of the committee assignments for 2011/2012. President Neely stated that the assignments would remain the same unless a change was requested by a Board Member.

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FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

9 (d) Contracts

Mr. Serrato stated that 22 of 31 agencies converted to 9(d) contracts (six of the 22 agencies decided to pay in four installments while the rest were a lump sum payment). The \$160,000,000 will be going to river restoration.

OTHER

City of Clovis / FID Jameson Groundwater Banking Project

Mr. Serrato met with the City of Clovis representative. Progress is being made and Mr. Serrato will continue to meet and work out the agreement.

Water Right Fees

Mr. Serrato stated that under Governor Brown's budget revisions, the State Water Resources Control Board's budget has been cut out of the State's general fund. Staff is anticipating that increased Water Right fees will make up the loss revenues.

Public Records Act

The information requested under the Public Records Act concerning the last Board Members' election was reviewed by Ms. Marguerite Leoni and was mailed to the requesting party within the time allowed.

Fancher Creek Detention Basin

Staff will be sending out a letter to the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District regarding the development of the operational agreement associated with Fancher Creek Detention Basin. Mr. Serrato believes the current flood control model is out dated and will request that FMFCD consider reviewing the current model. The modification of the model should be discussed with the staff members from both agencies.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Agreement to Terminate Joint Powers Agreement Friant Water Users Authority

The issues that created the dual agencies have now been resolved, Friant is requesting that the Friant Water Users Authority be dissolved, leaving only the Friant Water Authority. This action will also need to be approved by the Friant Board.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved dissolving the Friant Water Authority by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

b. Renewal of General Manager Contract (walk in)

Mr. Serrato's contract will be discussed during Closed Session and then voted upon during Open Session.

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DIRECTORS' REPORT

None

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 7:00 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)): Nielsen Avenue Property.

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)): County Service Area 51.

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.

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

Closed Session concluded at 7:12 p.m. Mr. Serrato presented a list of goals for 2011 and requested a two-year extension to his contract. Mr. Serrato did not request any additional compensation for the next two years. President Neely called for a motion on the General Manager's Contract.

M/S/C/(Boswell/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved the General Manager's Contract for two years by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

There was no other reportable action that took place during Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board