

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 13, 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 September 13, 2011. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Board President Jeff Neely.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

President Jeff Neely
Vice President Ryan Jacobsen
Steven Balls
George Porter
Jerry Rebensdorf

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS PRESENT

Labor Legal Counsel Howard Sagaser (arrived at 7 pm – Closed Session)
Legal Counsel Dave Holland (called in at 6:30 pm – Closed Session)

REVIEW AGENDA

The District's Legal Counsel, Dave Holland, will be calling in at 6:30 pm to discuss the new Administrative building under a Closed Session item. Mr. Howard Sagaser, the District's Labor Relations Counsel will be arriving at 7:00 pm for a personnel matter during Closed Session.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The September 27 meeting will be held as scheduled.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None scheduled.

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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 – August 23, 2011**
- b. **August 2011 Check Register**
- c. **August 2011 Payroll Registers**
- d. **August 2011 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **August 2011 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- f. **August 2011 Investment Account**

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

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

The following financial reports were presented:

a. Actuary Report

The Actuary Report for January 1, 2011, has been completed. The unfunded accrued liability decreased by \$0.2 million to \$6.0 million from \$6.2 million. The total annual required contribution decreased by \$11,000 to \$674,000 from \$695,000. Staff is recommending approval of the Actuary Report as presented.

M/S/C/(Balls/Rebensdorf) That the Board of Directors approved the Actuary Report as presented by Staff by unanimous vote. (Ayes, 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

b. Finance Committee Meeting Recommendations

Ms. Hailey reported that the Finance Committee met with Staff on September 2, to discuss the 2011 revised budget, warrants, and 2011 construction projects. Ms. Hailey reviewed the 2011 revised budget and warrants payment schedule with the entire Board.

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved the 2011 Revised Budget as presented by Staff with the exception of increasing line item 66 up to \$5,000 by unanimous vote. (Ayes, 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved the payments of the Warrants as presented by Staff by unanimous vote. (Ayes, 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

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380: WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of September 12, Pine Flat release was 2,863 cfs with storage at 662,617 acre-feet. FID Storage is 157,124 acre-feet. Pine Flat Reservoir is 181% of average. Because of the large amount of carryover water in Pine Flat, Staff has shut off the reclaim water that was being received from the City of Fresno's Waste Water Treatment Plant.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer, Bill Stretch, asked that item 8 c. be heard first.

c. Award Contract – Well Equipping Contract 174-1682-D as Part of the Boswell (Jameson) Basin Expansion Project. Action Request 2011-12

Staff Engineer, Jennifer Williams, informed the Board that Zim Industries came in as low bidder for the Well Equipping Contract on the Boswell Basin project during a bid opening on September 7 – two bids were submitted. This is the last major component of this project as the monitoring and recovery wells have already been installed. Staff recommends that Zim Industries be awarded the bid at a cost of \$579,800.

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved awarding the Well Equipping Contract to Zim Industries in the amount of \$579,800 by unanimous vote. (Ayes, 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

a. Developer and Agency Project Schedule Update for 2011-2012

Developer Projects – there are no current Developer Projects taking place at this time.

Agency Projects – there are no current Agency Projects taking place at this time.

City of Fresno's Temporary SWTF – Improvements to the Jefferson and Gunn Canals

No update at this time.

b. FID Projects Update for 2011-12

Flowmeters

Fresno Colony and American Colony – The Fresno Colony site has received power but the American Colony is still waiting for power.

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Basins

Herndon West Basin – The environmental document was submitted to the State Clearinghouse on August 26 and will be reviewed for 30 days. Staff is expecting to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration during the September 27 Board Meeting and then file the Notice of Determination with the County. Due to budget constraints, the District will be postponing this project until the 2012-13 Maintenance Season.

Boswell Groundwater Banking Facility – the Well Equipping Contract was awarded during this meeting. Staff expects to start construction in October, and complete the project in December.

Oleander Basin – Staff has finalized the plans and expects to award the construction contract during the September 27 Board Meeting, start construction in October, and complete the project prior to the 2012 Irrigation Season. There has been a lot of interest in this project.

Nordstrom Pond – This project was approved at the August 23 Board meeting and is expected to be completed in two phases. Phase I will be completed during the next several months and include acquiring the basin property, pipeline easements, and completing the construction plans and specifications. Phase II will start during the 2012-2013 Maintenance Season and include the construction of the intertie pipeline, basin, and all appurtenant structures.

FID Miscellaneous Projects

Briggs Improvements – The District was awarded a \$300,000 grant administered by the US Bureau of Reclamation. The project includes reconstruction and concrete lining of a 1,400 foot section of open channel around a basin; relocate the head of the Briggs South Br., and install 600 feet of RGRCP; construct a second turnout; install canal automation improvements; and upgrade automation at two key diversion points. The 30 day review period is now in progress. Staff is expecting to award the contract at the November 22 board meeting

Landowner Pipeline Projects

Empire Pipeline - The project was approved during the August 23 Board meeting. Mr. Gus Bonner and the District will jointly fund the replacement of 600 feet +/- of an old, leaky portion of the Empire Canal pipeline. FID will perform the engineering and project tentatively scheduled for January 2012.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

There has been no change in the status of this project. Staff is talking to contractors to look for road projects where the material can be used.

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b. District Office Plan

This item will be discussed during Closed Session.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

- Heavy equipment operators have been working on the Washington Colony Canal and performing rip-rap work on the Thompson Canal last week and this week they have been on the North Central and will then move to the Empire;
- Backhoe operator has been assisting with a minor ditch break, tree branch removal, and work order items;
- Spray trucks operators sprayed Dry Creek Canal last week and this week they are moving over to Waldron and Houghton;
- Spray tractor operators finished spraying the Victoria Head, Maupin Ditch, and the Enterprise-Holland – this week they are on the Temperance, Bray and Jefferson;
- Pipeline repairs last week were made on the Big Sandy and the Flume – this week they will be made on the Oleander;
- Other work included liner repairs on the south branch of East Branch, gate repairs on the Barcus and Storey, and a vent repair on the Little Teague School;
- Trash crews continue to be busy on the Houghton West and the usual hotspots and trashrakes which this week included the Easton area.

Clovis East High School is very interested in the John Deere disc that the District would like to donate. It appears that we have found a home for that implement.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Mr. Serrato will be meeting with Phil Desatoff, General Manager of the Consolidated Irrigation District, later this week to discuss diversions of Exhibit C, Exhibit D Flows, and storage.

Mr. Serrato reviewed with the Board storage space and carry over for the 2011/2012 season.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

Staff continues to participate in Friant issues regarding River Restoration and Interim water flows. To date, Congress has yet to allocate adequate funding for San Joaquin River Restoration projects.

Staff continues to work with the Bureau of Reclamation on the Recapture / Recirculation water.

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OTHER

City of Clovis

Mr. Mike Leonardo, City of Clovis Public Works Director has delivered the fully executed original copies of the Boswell groundwater banking agreement and the initial funding for the Facility.

SBX 7-7 Implementation

Staff has scheduled to meet with Provost & Pritchard Engineering firm to discuss the development of the Implementation Plan and a Proposition 218 Engineer's Report.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. JPIA Liability and Property Risk Assessment (Informational Only)

Staff has received a letter from Keith Forbes from JPIA insurance who reported on the results of the annual inspection performed on the District's facilities. Staff is pleased to report that there was only one very minor item that was brought to the safety manager's attention. The overall report was very positive.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Rebensdorf – reported on the rain that happened in Biola over the weekend. This is a heavy grape crop year but there is a labor shortage.

Directors Neely – report on the almond harvest – the Nonpareils are small but very clean.

Director Porter – huge grape crop but small berries. A lot of vineyards are waiting for pickers.

Director Jacobsen – experienced extremely windy conditions in isolated areas over the weekend.

Open Session concluded at 6:25 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session started at 6:30 pm.

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.

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Government Code Section 54956.7. Conference with Labor Negotiators Regarding Terms and Conditions of Employment with Represented Bargaining Groups.

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)): Applegate Johnston, Inc.

Government Code Section 54957. Personnel Matters.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session concluded at 7:05 pm with President Neely stating there was nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:06 pm.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board