

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD March 8, 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 March 8, 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
Jeff Boswell
Steven Balls
George Porter

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 Resource Director September Singh
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Staff Engineer Jennifer Williams
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

None

REVIEW AGENDA

Staff requested to have Item 8 a. - Mr. Nick Jerkovich heard following the Consent Calendar, however Mr. Jerkovich did not confirm his attendance at the meeting.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Staff will review the Board meeting calendar at the first April meeting to determine if the May 10 meeting should be re-scheduled or cancelled due to a conflict with the Spring ACWA Conference

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None scheduled

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 – February 22, 2011**
- b. **February 2011 Check Register**
- c. **February 2011 Payroll Registers**
- d. **February 2011 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **February 2011 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- f. **February 2011 Investment Account**

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)

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

The Controller reported that the auditors were onsite the week of February 28 to audit the District's 2010 accounts. The auditors will prepare the audited financial statements and present them to the Board at the first meeting in April.

Staff reported that the State Controller's office has posted on their website the wages and benefits of the District's employees as required by recently passed state laws.

a. Nielsen Firehouse – Roof Quotes

As requested by the Board, revised bids for the roofing of the Nielsen Firehouse were received and presented to the Board. The lowest bid received was from King Roofing partially because of the use of volunteer labor. The Board directed Staff to ensure that workers compensation insurance was furnished by King Roofing for all laborers (paid or voluntary). Staff will also have a District employee experienced in roofing oversee the work.

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

Board President Jeff Neely, directed Staff to move the Controller's Report on the agenda prior to the Water Report.

380: WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of March 7, Pine Flat release was 3,574 cfs with storage at 677,868 acre-feet. Pine Flat precipitation is currently at 167.3% for the year. Long-range forecast predict a couple of more storms during the month of March. Demands are picking up throughout the District as the area dries out.

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CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

- a. **Discussion with Landowner Mr. Nick Jerkovich Regarding Modifications to a Box Structure on the Brisco Canal No. 344 – S/W Gettysburg and Siskiyou Avenues**

Mr. Jerkovich did not show up for the Board meeting.

- b. **Developer and Agency Project Schedule Update for 2011-2012**

Developer Projects – pressure tests are being conducted during the startup of the water season on the completed projects.

Agency Projects – pressure tests on the Hansen Canal pipe replacement are being conducted. The contractor is taking care of any leaks that develop.

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

Water is flowing in the canal, meters are in, and some of the electrical has been completed. Staff is waiting for PG&E to perform their portion of the project. The project is expected to be completed by the beginning of April.

- c. **Three Year MFUP Update for 2010-2011 Projects**

The Long Crested Weirs have been completed, numerous flow meters have been installed, automated gate valves have been installed, and Pursell Pond has been completed. The remaining punch list items include installing several meters, site electrical and SCADA work which will be completed over the next 4-5 months.

- d. **Miscellaneous Projects Update for 2010-2011**

Oleander Basin – The Board adopted a Mitigated Negative Declaration during the February 22 meeting. Staff filed Notice of Determination with the County on February 25. Provost & Pritchard has recently submitted 50% construction plans and Staff will provide comment in the next couple of weeks. Construction is scheduled for sometime in August.

Mr. Stretch reviewed some of the Three-Year projects and showed slides and maps of projects throughout the District including: Washington Oleander Divide, Jameson Pond, Central Canal at North Central Weir, Vernon Drain, and Central Waste.

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e. Award Contract – Recovery Well construction Contract 174-1682-B as Part of the Jameson Basin Expansion Project. Action Request 2011-04

Ms. Jennifer Williams, staff engineer, presented the request/recommendation to award the bid to construct two recovery wells as part of the Jameson Basin Expansion Project. Bids were opened on March 2 with Staff recommending awarding the contract to Myers Brothers Well Drilling as they came in as the lowest bidder.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved awarding the recovery wells construction contract on the Jameson Basin Expansion Project bid to Meyers Brothers by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

Director Porter suggested planting a different shrub other than oleanders along the Jameson property line. Oleanders are a host to the glassy-wing sharpshooter pest which is extremely detrimental to vineyards.

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 and material still remains on site. Staff has not heard back from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

b. District Office Plan

Sub-contractors are working both on the inside and outside of the building. Work continues on the interior painting and on tile work in the bathrooms. Cabinets are being distributed and installed throughout the building. Lighting and HVAC ducting are being installed. The gas meter has been installed by PG&E. The entrance concrete work is being performed on the outside of the building. The fascia issue is close to being resolved.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

- Water System Operators have returned to the Water Department;
- Heavy equipment operators continue to repair canal banks and place riprap where needed;
- Heavy equipment operators worked on the Gordon Ditch and Biola Spill last week and this week they are assisting with trash removal from the trash racks;
- Spray trucks operators are helping with trash removal;
- Spray tractors are spraying the West Branch of the East Branch and Hansen systems;
- Ripping and discing has been completed at the Lincoln Avenue Pond;
- Pipeline and gate leaks continue to be repaired; and
- Trash crews continue to be busy at the usual hotspots.

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MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Flood releases on the Kings River have stopped but there is a possibility they could start up again if there are additional storms. Alta and Consolidated Irrigation Districts will start their water runs on April 1.

FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

The Bureau of Reclamation is still predicting 100% Class I and 20% Class II for the beginning of the season.

Staff is currently reviewing the draft of the *Plan for the Recirculation, Recapture, Reuse, Exchange or Transfer of Interim and Restoration Flows* and has submitted comments for review.

Staff met with representatives from the Bureau of Reclamation who are asking for assistance to develop a recapture and recirculation program. Fresno Irrigation District, Lower Tule River ID, and Arvin-Edison WSD have been identified as agencies that are able to assist in the development of the programs.

Mr. Serrato attended a San Joaquin River Restoration Program last week hosted by the Bureau of Reclamation.

OTHER

City of Clovis / FID Jameson Groundwater Banking Project

Mr. Serrato and the District's legal counsel have completed their portion of the Jameson Groundwater Banking Agreement. It is now with the City of Clovis and its attorney for their comments and changes.

Fresno County (CSA 51) Re-Amended Agreement

Mr. Serrato and the District's legal counsel have developed the final language that will re-amend the CSA-51 Agreement with Fresno County. The new language reflects the County's reducing the participation in the Waldron Banking Facility and a clarification of the water rate.

State Water Resources Control Board

A representative from the Control Board will be visiting the Jameson Groundwater Banking Facility and Waldron Banking Facility on March 17.

PG&E Power Provider Termination Letter

The District received a letter from Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) informing the District that it has filed a "Notice of Termination Of Service Agreement No. 3 under FERC

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Electric Tariff Volume N. 5 PG&E Rate Schedule FERC Nos. 212 & 214” The notice was given due to no activity during the past ten years. Staff had the letter reviewed by the Attorney and others who did not find any issues that FID should be concerned with.

Facility Tour

A tour, hosted by Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District, will take place on March 25 that will cover the Clovis Surface Water Treatment Facility, City of Fresno GAC Treatment Well, and City of Fresno Wastewater Treatment Facility. Staff recommends taking the tour and asks interested Board member to notify Staff so reservations can be made.

Special District Representation on LAFCO Board

Another meeting to discuss the potential of increasing LAFCO’s Board to include two special district seats will be held on March 29. Mr. Serrato will attend the meeting to represent the District.

EARTH Committee Meeting (Environmental Ag Resources Transportation and H2O)

On March 11 Mr. Serrato will be participating in a panel at the Fresno Chamber of Commerce Building to discuss groundwater banking and management.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. **Request for Overnight Stay for Directors/Staff to Attend the Association of California Water Agencies Conference During the Week of May 9 in Sacramento, CA**

Any Board or Staff member that would like to attend the conference should let Staff know as soon as possible as hotel reservations can be difficult to get.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Boswell) That the Board of Directors approved Staff or Board Member to attend the Spring ACWA Conference by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

- b. **Required Training**

Ms. Davis reviewed the training schedule for ethics and sexual harassment prevention training for Board and management staff. Needed classes are available through on-line training, the CSDA, and the District’s labor attorney’s office. Those needing training should make plans to attend one of the offered classes.

DIRECTORS’ REPORT

Director Boswell – Mr. Boswell donated a wonderful painting of Friant Dam painted by artist Ray Strong for the new administrative building. Mr. Strong also painted the painting of the Fresno Headgates currently displayed in the Board Room.

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Director Porter – will be making plans to hold a growers meeting for his area some time in April.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 6:25 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 54956.7. Conference with Labor Negotiators Regarding Terms and Conditions of Employment with Represented Bargaining Groups.

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)): Applegate Johnston, Inc.

OPEN SESSION

The Board President adjourned Closed Session at 7:00 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Neely announced there was nothing to report from Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board