

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD April 26, 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 April 26, 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 (arrived at 5:10 pm)
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
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Curtis Rindlisbacher

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Staff recommends canceling the May 10 Board Meeting due to a conflict with the Spring ACWA Conference which Mr. Serrato and Mr. Kimura along with Director Porter will be attending – all the Directors agreed

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 – April 12, 2011

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

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

- a. January to March 2011 Fund Statements (walk in)**
- b. January to March 2011 Notes to Fund Statement (walk in)**
- c. January to March 2011 Treasurer's Report (walk in)**
- d. January to March 2011 Deposits and Investments (walk in)**

Staff requests that the Board approve the January Financial Reports as presented. The February through April Financial Reports will be presented at next month's meeting.

M/S/C/(Balls/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved the January Financial Reports as presented by the Controller by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

e. January to March 2011 Investment Maturities (walk in)

Staff reported on the Investment Maturities for the first quarter.

f. Policy 130-406 Operating Reserves Policy

Staff reviewed the Operating Reserves Policy with the Board and requested the approval and adoption of Policy 130-406 Operating Reserves as presented by the Controller.

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved Policy 130-406 as presented by the Controller 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 April 25, Pine Flat release was 8,959 cfs with storage at 696,106 acre-feet. Pine Flat precipitation was 167.8% of normal. Diversions have increased throughout the District. Flood releases are expected to continue through the month of May and possibly into the first part of June. Kings River Water Association and Pacific Gas &

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Electric will be doing additional snow surveys during the first week of May with results expected by May 10.

Mr. Serrato reported the AB 303 Grant in the amount of \$250,000 awarded to Fresno County by the Department of Water Resources to study the northeast area of the County will now be handled by Fresno Irrigation District. A meeting to start reviewing the details of the study will be held in mid May with Fresno County.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

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 – progress is being made on the two pedestrian bridges being constructed by the City of Fresno. The bridges are being fabricated and are expected to be installed in June.

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

FID needs to resolve a few issues before it can finalize its contract with PG&E. Once finalized it will take 4-6 months to energize the site. The project should be fully completed 4-6 weeks after the site has been energized. Mr. Stretch spoke to the City of Fresno for an update on the Surface Water Treatment Plant. The contract should be awarded in the next one to two months with an anticipated fourteen month construction timeframe. After construction and testing has been completed, the facility is expecting to start treating water in May 2013.

b. Three Year MFUP Update for 2010-2011 Projects

Mr. Stretch updated the Board on the few last projects. Several flow meters still need to be installed, minor electrical, and some SCADA work still needs to be completed.

Pacheco Basin – SCADA work remains and should be completed over the next several months.

Herndon West Basin – It was reported during the last Board Meeting that the District had purchased five acres at the tailend of the Herndon West Canal system located northwest of Ashlan and Plumas avenues. The consultant will soon begin engineering the project. Staff is hopeful that the project will be completed prior to the 2012 irrigation season.

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c. Miscellaneous Projects Update for 2011

Jameson Basin – SCADA work will take another one to two weeks. The well drilling contractor started construction on April 4. There will be three wells at the basin which will be drilled consecutively. After further discussion between Staff and an adjacent landowner, it was decided to plant oleander bushes as originally planned along Bishop and North avenues.

Oleander Basin – the contractor has removed the drip irrigation line, stakes/posts, and has just recently pushed over the vines. The contractor should be finished clearing the property by April 27. Staff is waiting for Provost & Pritchard to provide the construction plans which should be about 90% complete.

Mr. Stretch showed several slides on the progress on the Jameson Basin.

d. Lack of Cover Over FID Pipelines - Update

The Engineering Staff is dealing with a couple of landowners about the lack of cover over pipelines crossing their properties. Letters are being mailed and a meeting has been scheduled to try and resolve this issue.

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.

b. District Office Plan

Applegate and their sub-contractors are working on both the inside and outside of the building. Most of the painting, plumbing, and electrical have been completed on the inside. Texturing and painting continues on the foyer. The fascia, gutter, canopy, and cement work continues on the outside. The outside scaffold has now been removed.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

- Heavy equipment operators continue to repair canal banks and place riprap where needed. Last week they were performing embankment work on the Lower Dry Creek Canal east of Howard Avenue and on the Thompson Extension south of California Avenue. This week HEO are working on Enterprise Canal wash-in near Riverbend Avenue;
- Backhoe operator worked on work orders and minor ditch breaks last week and this week on some gopher holes on the G-1 and other work orders;
- Spray trucks operators have not been able to spray due to the wind but are working on gopher and ground squirrel holes and a small brush removal project;

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- Pipeline and gate leaks continue to be repaired; and
- Trash crews continue to be busy at the usual hotspots and trashrakes.

Mr. Kimura noted that the Maintenance Report of March 16 through April 15, 2011, was handed out.

Staff mentioned that a ten-foot offset disc will be going to an auction facility located in Firebaugh. Staff is hoping that this auction facility will bring in better prices than one currently being used. After weighing the disc, Staff determined it would bring in between \$400-500 if taken to a scrape iron recycler. Director Neely suggested using Craigs List, E-Bay, Madera Auction (Young Farmers), Ag Source, or the possibility of donating it to a high school. Director Neely feels the disc is worth more than the \$400-500 the disc weights for scrap iron. Staff will need to confirm that the District stays within the disposal policy.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

KRWA Lower Kings River Tour

Mr. Serrato reminded the Board of the Kings River Lower River tour scheduled tomorrow. The tour will start at the Laguna Irrigation District office.

Water Rights Fees

Mr. Serrato was informed at the Executive Committee Meeting that the water rights fees will increase. KRWA is anticipating that the fees will increase by an additional \$100,000 agency-wide (the District's portion is approximately 20 percent). This case finally came to trial with the judge ruling that the fees were not illegal; however, the way the fees have been imposed on the contractors will have to be modified.

Kings County Water Bank

Progress has been made during mediation talks between the area landowners and the Kings County Water District. There is an additional meeting scheduled to continue discussions.

AB 983 – Perea

KRWA sent a letter of support for this bill. The bill allows disadvantage communities to borrow 20 percent from a State Revolving Fund and pay it back over time when using the grant funds to improve a community's safe drinking water infrastructure.

SB 34

Water infrastructure projects – This bill would implement additional fees on water deliveries for the purpose of financing state wide projects. KRWA opposes this bill as it would impose an additional fee of \$20 per acre.

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SB 900 – Steinberg

This bill helps to eliminate some of the obstacles that hinder the appointments of board members to serve on the Regional Quality Control Board.

SBX7-7

Staff continues to track the negotiations with the Department of Water Resources which is tasked to implement the law of the Bill. Measurement at the turnout will need to be implemented by July 31, 2012. The District will need to develop and adopt an Ag Water Management Plan.

FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

Flood Control Releases continue but have decreased by 800 cfs. The exchange contractors are concerned about flooding through the Chowchilla Bypass when the snowmelt peaks.

OTHER

City of Clovis / FID Jameson Groundwater Banking Project

The agreement is almost complete – only minor language issues to work out.

Fresno County CSA 51 Re-Amended Agreement

Final language is being reviewed by FID attorney.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Required Ethics and Harassment Training – Follow-Up

Ms. Davis and Ms. Singh reviewed the available upcoming training dates.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Neely – mentioned he had thanked his water systems operators for the great job they are doing.

CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session

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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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.

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.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There was no Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned Open Session at 6:34 pm.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board