

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD JUNE 12, 2012**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session in the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on June 12, 2012. Meeting was called to order at 5:06 p.m. by Board President Jeff Neely.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

President Jeff Neely
Vice President Ryan Jacobsen
Steven Balls
George Porter

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Jerry Rebensdorf

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary Serrato
Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Staff Engineer Felix Vaquilar
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

None

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Mr. Serrato stated that after checking with management staff, he found there were no time-sensitive issues and the June 26, 2012, meeting could be cancelled. The Board gave direction to Staff to cancel the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting of June 26, 2012.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

None given

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 – May 22, 2012**
- b. **May 2012 Check Register**
- c. **May 2012 Payroll Registers**
- d. **May 2012 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **May 2012 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- f. **May 2012 Investment Account**

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

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

Mr. Serrato informed the Board that additional information was still being gathered on the Limbaugh house repairs.

WATER REPORT

- a. **Current Water Conditions**

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of June 11, Pine Flat release was 4,991 cfs with storage at 747,370 acre-feet. KRWA Watermaster Steve Haugen announced that none of the association's member will be able to go into their Temperature Control Pool until later in the year (October/November). At this time, it was determined the District will not be able to deliver water to the entire District for the first fifteen days in August. Staff will continue to track the runoff and update the routings and present them to the Board for direction at the first meeting in July.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

- a. **Developer and Agency Project Schedule Update for 2012-2013**

Developer Projects – there are four or five Developer projects being processed at this time.

Agency Projects – there are four to five Agency projects being processed at this time.

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

Minor electrical and SCADA work remain on the Gunn and Staff believes the work will be completed prior to the City's initial testing in early August.

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b. FID Project Update for 2012-13

Basins

Herndon West Basin – Staff received the 95% construction plans from the consultant and will be reviewing them and furnishing final comments. Construction is still scheduled for this fall if funds are available.

Oleander Basin – Staff met with the potential buyers and discussed the issues of the pump and how the repairs will be handled. The pump on the property stopped working during the week of May 7. Another meeting is scheduled for the end of the week with the intention of coming to a final resolution between the parties and develop an amendment to the agreement (pertaining only to the repair of the pump) which will allow escrow to close.

Nordstrom Basin – Mr. Giacolini signed the escrow papers this week. Staff has received the 95% plans from the consultant and has sent them back with their comments. The CEQA documents have been sent to the State Clearinghouse which officially started the review period; revisions are being made to the plans by FID's consultant. This project is expected to go out to bid sometime in September.

Miscellaneous

Briggs Pipeline – An invoice was prepared and mailed last week to Consolidated Irrigation District for their 45% portion of the repairs on the Briggs Pipeline near Cornell Pond.

Mr. Stretch stated that the High Speed Rail project has come to a standstill until an agreement for invoicing can be settled.

c. Grant Application – Approve Funds to Prepare Application for DWR Local Groundwater Assistance Grant. Resolution No. 2012-05 and Action Request 2012-13

Mr. Vaquilar informed the Board about a Department of Water Resources grant the District is applying for. A total of \$4.7 million is available through AB303, with no single applicant receiving more than \$250,000. If the District is successful in obtaining the \$250,000 grant, monies would be applied toward measurement improvements at basins, including SCADA and automation improvements. The cost to prepare the grant is \$8,000 and will be done by Provost & Pritchard Consulting, Inc.

M/S/C/(Balls/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2012-05 and Action Request 2012-13 by the following roll call vote. (Ayes Balls, Neely, Porter, Jacobsen; Nays 0; Absent Rebensdorf; Abstain 0)

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ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

Mr. Kimura has met with Fresno County's Department of Environmental Health.

b. District Office Plan

Staff continues to work with legal counsel. Staff updated the Board on the stucco issue on the outside of the building. There is not enough clearance between the stucco and the concrete walkway. The Board gave Staff direction to proceed with getting the stucco issue corrected.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

Maintenance and construction work continues. Heavy equipment operators are working on seepage and rip-rap work on the Gould canal banks. The backhoe operator worked on seepage and gopher hole issues at the Jefferson Pond, Teilman, American Colony, Fancher, and Washington Colony. Spray truck operators are taking care of rodent control when windy; otherwise, they are at the Flume, Barcus, Kennedy-Owens, and Empire. Spray tractor operators are busy with the Central Waste, Valentine, and Teilman. Crews continue to work on fence repairs at the Jefferson Pond, vent repair at the Fresno Colony, gate repairs, and pipeline repairs. Trash removal continues throughout the District along with the usual hot spots and trash screens.

d. Review of Recommendations from Equipment Committee (action item)

Five vehicles were taken to auction in the Sacramento area where they brought in a total of \$44,000. The net to the District is approximately \$35,000. Staff discussed the purchase of a replacement engine for the motor grader. The replacement is needed to meet Tier 3 air regulations. A portion of the engine will be covered by an \$18,000 grant. The Board asked Staff to check with other valley dealers for quotes. Also discussed was a large engine diagnostic scanner, gas engine pipeline saws for the pipeline crews, newer SCADA computer software for the system that crashed in May, and Incode software upgrade needed for job costing and reporting.

The Board directed Staff to provide them with additional information on the request for the Incode software upgrade. Staff is to bring this issue back for additional review at a later date. The Board approved all the other items as recommended by Staff.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved the four equipment items as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes Balls, Neely, Porter, Jacobsen; Nays 0; Absent Rebensdorf; Abstain 0)

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MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Mr. Serrato announced there will be an ACWA Region 6 & 7 *Irrigated Lands Regulatory Issues & Groundwater Quality* forum held at the Farm Bureau on July 13. Mr. Serrato highly encourages any Director available to attend this forum.

The District received a Proposition 218 ballot from Consolidated Irrigation District (CID) on the 17 + acres that it owns in the CID area. It is Staff's recommendation to stay neutral and not submit a ballot. The Board agreed with Staff's recommendation.

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

The Upper Kings River IRWMP is being updated. Provost & Pritchard Consulting, Inc. was awarded the bid to update the plan which is now almost complete. The state provided a \$250,000 grant to be applied towards the updating costs. After the plan is complete, it will be brought before the District's Board for approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Assessment Dispute – John Schafer

Landowner John Schafer requested the Board consider allowing him to take advantage of the 2011 amnesty program for late assessments. Mr. Schafer stated that due to a severe accident in 2011, he was not able to participate in the amnesty program when originally offered. Staff recommends allowing Mr. Schafer participation in the program.

M/S/C/(Porter/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved allowing Mr. Schafer participation in the amnesty program as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes Balls, Neely, Porter, Jacobsen; Nays 0; Absent Rebensdorf; Abstain 0)

b. Kular Agreement – Groundwater Pump Update

This item was discussed during the Chief Engineer's Report. Staff will meet with the prospective buyers at the end of the week for a final resolution on the sale and update the Board at the next meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

None

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 6:40 p.m.

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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.

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.

CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned Closed Session at 6:50 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

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

ADJOURNMENT

Open Session adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board