

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
HELD JUNE 11, 2012**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in special session in the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on June 11, 2012. Meeting was called to order at 5:32 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
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Provost & Pritchard Consulting, Inc. Representative Ron Samuelian

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes

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

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following items:

a. Update on Senate Bill x 7-7 (no action required)

Mr. Serrato updated the Board on the SBx 7-7 legislation process while Mr. Samuelian gave a recap of the requirements of the bill, key components, important deadlines, and answered questions from the Board.

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Key components of the bill are:

- a) Measure the volume of water delivered to customers with sufficient accuracy;
- b) Adopt pricing structure for water customers based, at least, in part on quantity delivered;
- c) An agricultural water supplier shall submit an annual report to the department that summarizes aggregated farm-gate delivery data; and
- d) Develop and implement fourteen efficient management practices providing they are cost effective. If the water delivery districts covered under this legislation have not met the requirements by the respective deadlines, they will no longer be eligible to receive state grant funds, until such time they meet the requirements.

Staff has inventoried the District's turnouts which number approximately 4,000. Staff estimated that there are 90 private laterals that consist of approximately 40,000 acres. Staff has been conducting research on what type of meters will meet the District's needs.

Proposition 218 Election Process

In 1996, California voters passed Proposition 218 which significantly altered the way local government agencies raise revenues. Staff has been working with its consultant (Provost & Pritchard Consulting, Inc.) in preparing an engineer's report to support the District's need to raise assessments for the general fund and to adhere to the requirements of SBx 7-7. Staff also recently reviewed the requirements of Proposition 218 with FID Attorney Gary Sawyers.

A number of issues related to the new bill were discussed with the Board, including financing, accounting and telemetry software, meter reading, fees, and cost. Staff is aware of the growers'/landowners' concerns. To help understand and ease their concerns, Staff is proposing to create a growers' panel that will be filled by two growers from each of the District's five divisions. Also, several grower/landlord meetings and town hall discussions will be conducted to listen to their concerns and comments.

Staff will be visiting other valley districts to observe how they have addressed the many issues that are associated with SBx 7-7.

During the month of July, Directors Neely, Jacobsen, and Staff will visit Fresno County's state legislators and discuss the economic impacts of SBx 7-7 to the District.

ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:05 pm.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board