

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD APRIL 10, 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 April 10, 2012. 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  
HR Director September Singh  
Controller DeAnn Hailey  
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

**OTHERS PRESENT**

None

**REVIEW AGENDA**

President Neely announced that the second public hearing for the realignment of Directors Divisions was completed. There were no other changes to the agenda.

**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Staff requested the May 8 meeting be canceled due to Staff/Directors attending the 2012 Spring ACWA Conference in Monterey, CA that week – the Directors agreed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

None

**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 – March 13, 2012**
- b. **Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes – March 22, 2012**
- c. **March 2012 Check Register**
- d. **March 2012 Payroll Registers**
- e. **March 2012 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- f. **March 2012 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report**
- g. **March 2012 Investment Account**

Director Balls commented that the Minutes of Board Meeting held March 13 should reflect that he remotely attended the Brown Act Webinar presented by CSDA as reported under Director's reports.

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

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT**

Controller DeAnn Hailey reported that the auction for the old office furniture has been re-scheduled to this Saturday (April 14). It was postponed from the original scheduled date of March 30. Previews will take place this Friday afternoon and early Saturday morning before the auction.

Ms. Hailey updated the Board on the progress of repairing the FID house at Limbaugh basin located near Olive and McCall avenues that was damaged from a kitchen fire. Requests for Proposals (RFP) have been sent to contractors experienced in fire restoration projects.

Ms. Hailey reported that the lease on the old firehouse property located on Nielsen/Marks avenues is up for renewal. The current tenants have requested to renew the property at a slightly reduced rate for a one-year period. A new lease would be renegotiated once the lease expires.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Rebensdorf)** That the Board of Directors approved renewing the lease to the current tenants at a reduced rate of \$800 per month for one-year by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

The audited financials are being completed and will be ready to present to the Board by the next board meeting.

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**WATER REPORT**

**a. Current Water Conditions**

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of April 9, Pine Flat release was 1,223 cfs with storage at 647,877 acre-feet. The Water System Operators are in preparation for the coming storms. As of April 9, snow measurements are 46.6% of average. The District was able to bank 1,700 acre-feet of Exhibit "D" Flows during the month of March.

The Tulare Lake Basin WSD has agreed to help re-circulate the City of Fresno's Class I Friant water (3,100 acre-feet) in 2012 and any residual Class II Friant water from the 2011 year. Water will be returned to the District from the Tulare Lake Basin WSD Kings River water supply.

Mr. Serrato commented that the Bureau of Reclamation stated allocations could be increased an additional 10% which translates into an additional 6,000-7,000 acre-feet. An announcement will be made in May.

**b. Possible Water Transfer and Sale**

With increased snow pack on the Kings River watershed and the increased Friant allocations, Staff recommends selling up to 5,000 acre-feet of water that was developed in the Waldron Groundwater Banking Facility. Staff stated that selling the additional 5,000 acre-feet will not impact the District's deliveries to the growers. After further discussion the Board supported Staff's recommendation.

**M/S/C/(Rebensdorf/Jacobsen)** That the Board of Directors approved selling 5,000 acre-feet of water by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**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** – the two Developer Projects have been completed and tested. Any leaks that occurred have been repaired. The Sran project located on the G-9 Canal No. 68 (southeast of McKinley and Siskiyou avenues) was recently completed and the project showed no leaks.

**Agency Projects** – all projects have been completed.

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

Electrical and SCADA work remains and Staff believes the work will be completed prior to the City's initial testing in June 2012. FID Staff has discussed with the City of Fresno the District's need for an operations and management agreement in place before the first delivery of water.

**b. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2011-12**

While a grower was deep ripping his property located northwest of Whitesbridge and Blythe avenues, the District's Hawn Pipeline No. 81, which is a cast-in-place pipeline, was damaged. Crews have repaired the damage. An invoice has been sent to the property owner for \$6,000.

**c. FID Projects Update for 2011-12**

**Flowmeters**

One or two meters remain to be installed on this project. Staff will be sending an invoice to the Department of Water Resources in the amount of \$250,000 which is covered by the AB 303 Grant.

**Basins**

**Herndon West Basin** – Staff's comments have been sent over to the consultants so Staff will now wait for the revisions. If funds are available, construction is still planned for the fall of 2012.

**Boswell Groundwater Banking Facility** – all three pumps are working well. Staff will hire a pump testing company to verify the flow rate and pump efficiency.

**Oleander Basin** – water started to be diverted into the basin on March 30. There is still some SCADA work that needs to be done. The sale of the 17.3 acres continues to move forward.

**Nordstrom Basin** – Staff has received the plans from the consultants. Construction is planned to start this fall. Staff is still negotiating with Mr. Giacolini.

**Briggs Pipeline** – the replacement of 1,680 feet of pipe has been completed. Consolidated Irrigation District (CID) has agreed to pay 45% of the project cost over time. CID's Staff will be taking it to their board later this week for approval.

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- d. **Agency Project – City of Fresno will Pipeline the Bullard Canal #124 Located S/W Herndon and Valentine Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2012-08**

The City of Fresno is proposing widening Herndon Avenue between Brawley and Valentine avenues if federal grant funds become available to them. This project impacts the Bullard Canal. The City is proposing to replace the open canal with 54-inch RGRCP pipe during the fall of 2012. A walkway with landscaping will also be added. Staff is recommending this project.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Rebensdorf) That the Board of Directors approved City of Fresno's improvement of Bullard Canal southwest of Herndon and Valentine avenues by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

**ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

- a. **Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update**

There has been no significant change in the status of this project.

- b. **District Office Plan**

The 90-day window that Applegate Johnson, Inc., has to complete the items they committed to during mediation will expire later this week. There are still a few sub-contractors who come to the site to work on repairs.

- c. **General Maintenance and Equipment Update**

Water crews have moved over from maintenance. With the gusty winds, trash removal has been a high priority throughout the District for the crews. Heavy equipment operators (HEO) hauled dirt into the District's yard and restocked the other locations. Spray crews are out as weather permits. The north bank of Cornell Pond has been backfilled and compacted. Crews are performing rip-rap work on the Gould Canal. Backhoe operators are addressing gopher/rodent hole issues throughout the District. A standpipe on the Epstein Canal that was damaged by a vehicle and a pipeline damaged by PG&E on the Fairview have both been repaired. Staff will be pursuing reimbursement from the responsible parties.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

The Pre-1914 committee continues to work with the State Water Resources Control Board staff on issues regarding groundwater banking, groundwater recharge, and other issues regarding beneficial uses of Kings River water.

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**FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY**

The Bureau of Reclamation has increased its revised allocation from 25% to possibly 35% Class I water. Staff will be monitoring the projected storms this week to see if the additional snow will increase the level of contribution to the river restoration.

**OTHER**

Resolution 2012-01 (District's Director Division Realignment) has been submitted to the Fresno County Elections Office along with Map #1 for certification. Eligibility for a person to run for the District's Board will now be based on the new alignment once it has been certified.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

No Administrative Matters for this meeting.

**DIRECTORS' REPORT**

No Directors reports.

The Directors and Staff broke for recess at 6:18 p.m. followed by the Board going into Closed Session at 6:40 p.m.

**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.

**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 7:22 pm.

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**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

President Neely reported that the Board approved the settlement of negotiations with OE3 per the mediator's recommendations and to implement the same conditions for the non-represented employees.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Open Session adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato  
Secretary of the Board