

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD JANUARY 8, 2013**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on January 8, 2013. 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
Greg Beberian

DIRECTORS ABSENT

George Porter

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary Serrato
Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Human Resources Director September Singh
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

FID Employee Jeremy Landrith
Mr. Randy Deaver
Four Members of the Fresno County Cal Fire Department

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REORGANIZATION (including appointment of Board Secretary)

Board Secretary Gary Serrato asked the Directors if they would like to continue with the Reorganization process or postpone it until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting when Director Porter could be in attendance. The Board decided to wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting.

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved postponing the Board Reorganization until the next regularly scheduled Board meeting by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Balls, Neely, Jacobsen; Nays - 0; Absent – Porter; Abstain - 0)

President Neely resumed his role as Board President.

REVIEW AGENDA

There are no changes to the agenda.

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REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Due to the Mid Pacific Region Conference starting the day after our next regularly scheduled Board meeting, Staff requested that the Directors cancel the January 22 Board meeting to allow the attendees travel time.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved canceling the January 22 Board meeting to allow for travel time by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Balls, Neely, Jacobsen; Nays - 0; Absent – Porter; Abstain - 0)

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Cal Fire – Steve Langston, Captain – Station 87

Captain Steve Langston and Rick Laum (training officer) from Cal Fire expressed their appreciation to the Board and Staff for allowing the fire department to utilize the old administration building for training purposes. Over the last several months approximately 80-90 fire personnel were able to use the commercial structure for training.

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.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2012**
- b. **December 2012 Check Register**
- c. **December 2012 Payroll Registers**
- d. **December 2012 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **December 2012 Investment Account**

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

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

- a. **November 2012 Fund Statements**
- b. **November 2012 Notes to the Fund Statements**
- c. **November 2012 Treasurer's Report**
- d. **November 2012 Deposits and Investments**

Ms. Hailey reviewed the financial reports for the Directors. She reported that the District is within budget for the month of November 2012. December's financial statements will be presented after the auditors complete their audit. The auditors are scheduled to be at the District during the last week of February.

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Ms. Hailey stated that she will be presenting a Pacific Gas and Electric comparison between the old and new office buildings once the new building has been occupied for one year.

M/S/C/(Balls/Jacobsen) That the Board of Directors approved the November 2012 financial reports as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Balls, Neely, Jacobsen; Nays - 0; Absent – Porter; Abstain - 0)

e. 2012 Maturities in the Investment Account

Ms. Hailey presented to the Board the summary of the Investment Account. The majority of investments were in CDs. Interest earned for 2012 was \$35,000. Director Jacobsen requested that the Controller look at investing into 18-24 month CDs to see if the rate of return may be better.

f. Request for Overnight Stay for the Controller and Account Clerk III to Attend the GFOA Conference in San Francisco, CA

Ms. Hailey requested authorization for an overnight stay for the Controller and File Clerk III to attend the GFOA Conference in San Francisco, CA during the first week of June 2013. The seminar will review new laws and issues affecting government agencies.

M/S/C/(Jacobsen/Balls) That the Board of Directors approved the Controller and File Clerk III to attend the GFOA Conference by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Balls, Neely, Jacobsen; Nays - 0; Absent – Porter; Abstain - 0)

WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster Jim Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply information. As of January 7, Pine Flat release was 104 cfs with storage at 263,021 acre-feet. Pine Flat precipitation is at 115.1% of seasonal average. Six of the eight snow sensors that are reporting are showing above average water content for this time of year (135.5%). KRWA has scheduled the end of January for their first snow survey of the 2012/2013 season. The District is capturing the runoff from the Herndon Canal and directing it to the Waldron Groundwater Banking Facility (Lambrecht).

Mr. Serrato mentioned that Madera Irrigation District is looking to purchase up to 5,000 acre-feet of water from the recharge facilities. Staff will place this on the agenda for the next meeting for consideration by the Board.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

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

Developer Projects – Staff is processing approximately six Developer pipeline projects for the 2012-2013 Maintenance Season. One project has been completed since April 1, 2012. Currently Wal-Mart Department Store is replacing 1,300 feet of HDPE with 24” RGRCP at NW Kings Canyon and Peach Avenue. The project is expected to continue for another month.

Agency Projects – Staff is processing approximately six Agency projects for the 2012-2013 Maintenance Season. Currently there are no projects in progress and five projects have been completed since April 1, 2012.

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

There is nothing new to report on this project.

b. High Speed Rail Update (HSR)

Mr. Stretch met with the City of Fresno on Monday, January 7 to discuss the CHSR. There is nothing more to report on this project.

c. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2012-13

Thompson Canal Bridge for Bien – The repairs to Mr. Dwayne Bien’s bridge were completed at the end of December.

Thompson Canal Private Bridge Issues S/W Dakota & Jameson – Staff will discuss this during Closed Session.

Lower Dry Creek Canal Turnout for Schaad – This project is a 24-inch turnout located southeast of North and Howard avenues. FID crews will begin the project in about a week.

Little Sandridge Pipeline –This project will be delayed until next year – the contractor has other projects that need to be completed prior to starting this project. Floyd Johnston Construction suffered a loss when the company’s owner was killed in a recent plane crash.

d. FID Projects Update for 2012-13

Staff and FID’s consultants have completed most of the planning and engineering for the majority of the following projects:

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Basins

Nordstrom Basin – The earthwork and fencing portions of the project have been awarded to Clark Brothers. The Contractor is planning on mobilizing to the site later this week.

Waldron Recovery Well #104 – This project should start within the next two weeks and Staff anticipates having the well drilled by the end of February.

Canal Improvements

Dry Creek Trashrack at Headgates – FID’s crews have completed this project.

Gould Canal at Fancher Creek – FID crews have minor grading work remaining but have completed all of the major repairs, earthwork, filling voids with slurry, and constructing the downstream cutoff wall to the large concrete structure where the Gould Canal siphons on Fancher Creek at Clinton and Academy. Crews started making the repairs after noticing a considerable amount of leaking during the last Irrigation Season.

American Colony No. 2 N/W Lincoln and West Avenues – The project includes replacing an existing weir with a Long Crested Weir. This project should be completed soon.

Kennedy-Owens S/W Shaw and Westlawn Avenues – FID’s crews are repositioning a flapgate downstream to minimize the “bouncing”.

Miscellaneous

Limbaugh House – The house has been abated and demolished. Staff is working to finish the plans for a District water filling station.

e. Aqualastic Canal Lining Repair Product Information and Update

Questions regarding the product’s “life expectancy” were asked at the last meeting. Staff researched the Aqualastic’s website and read that the product has a 50 year useful life and approximately 800 years before it would start degrading due to UV rays. Mr. Stretch also passed out an Aqualastic informational flyer.

PowerPoint Presentation

Mr. Stretch showed slides covering the following projects: Walmart pipeline project at Kings Canyon and Peach, Brown Canal No. 113 at Ashlan and DeWolf, Gould No. 97 at Ashlan and Chestnut (Leaky Acres), Helm No. 101, Nordstrom Pond, American Colony System, Kennedy Owens flapgate relocation project, and the Thompson No. 54 landowner bridge project (Dwayne Bien).

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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 stated there are no changes to the site. A history of the rubble pile was provided to Director Beberian.

b. District Office Plan

Staff is working with SIM Architects on the plans for Phase C of the office project (removal of old building). Additional discussion of the District's new office building will take place during Closed Session.

c. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

Winter maintenance and construction work continue to take place. Heavy equipment operators have been dredging and hauling silt from the Big Sandridge Canal. The dozer operator ripped Cell 6 at the Waldron Banking Facility and will now move to the Madera Pond and Hopp Pond. The basins at Lincoln Pond are being disced before crews move over to Rolinda High. The motorgrader operators are on the Dickensen Waste, Gordon, and Thompson. The sloper crew is working on the Gray Colony, Temperance, and Gow systems. The brushing crews are working Goodrich and Fresno Colony. Repair crews are taking care of pipeline repairs, gate repairs, and gate inspections. Trash crews were at the Enterprise and Herndon systems before moving over to the Lower Dry Creek.

A short break was taken from 6:37 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. during which time no District business was discussed.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into Closed Session at 6:45 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)): Applegate Johnston, Inc.

Conference with Legal Counsel–Significant Exposure to Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)). Response to letter from attorney Nutting regarding landowner claims regarding canal widening.

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CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT

President Neely adjourned Closed Session at 7:27 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Neely stated the Board of Directors had nothing to report from Closed Session.

Open Session resumed at 7:28 p.m.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Rock Slide – Pine Flat Dam

A rock slide occurred in the front of the dam on the south end. The Army Corp of Engineers is working on the stabilization and repair of the dam. The slide blocked one of the exit doors. The cost for the repairs is estimated at \$3 million with KRWA being assessed for 33% of the cost. FID's cost share will be approximately \$112,000 with payments to be over a five-year period starting in 2014. The cost is based on the volume of storage space that was purchased by the District.

Pre-1914 Water Rights

KRWA consultants have developed a new report that was reviewed by the committee to present to the State Water Resources Control Board staff which identifies the historical diversions and the Pre-1914 water rights on the Kings River. Now that the report is complete, Watermaster Steve Haugen will schedule a meeting with State Board staff to begin the process of having the State Board recognize the total volume of Pre-1914 water that is within the current licenses. The projected timeline to complete this is April 2013.

Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority

Dave Orth (Kings River Conservation District) has scheduled a meeting with the coalition members to discuss the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Outreach and Implementation Strategy. The meeting is scheduled for January 15.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY

San Joaquin River Restoration Program

The Bureau continues to release 350 cfs from Friant Dam into the San Joaquin River as required by the settlement for river restoration flows. The flows may increase an additional 50 cfs if the Bureau of Reclamation is required to meet the required flows at Gravelly Ford. The issue with Friant will be the inability to recover the water at the Mendota Pool. Currently, Westland Water District is diverting 100 cfs at the Mendota Pool but would not be able to accept any additional water if it was released. Water that is currently being utilized for the fish flow is coming from Class I Contractors.

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Salmon Relocation

The majority of the salmon that were recently relocated went downstream. Only four of the salmon that were relocated actually swam upstream where they laid their eggs which were then taken to the fish hatchery in Friant.

OTHER

Fresno Irrigation District/Consolidated Irrigation District Joint Board Meeting

Mr. Serrato stated that the joint Board of Directors' meeting between Consolidated Irrigation District and Fresno Irrigation District originally scheduled for this week will be rescheduled to February.

Grundfos Dedication

On January 15, Grundfos will be hosting a tour and dedication to present their new electric and water energy efficiency programs. Mr. Serrato was asked that FID participate in the dedication ceremony.

End-Of-Year Event

Mr. Serrato stated Staff appreciated the attendance of the Directors who came to the event.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. **Discussion of Board of Directors Future Meeting Dates (no handouts – discussion only)**

Mr. Serrato suggested reducing the number of Board meetings to only one meeting per month and schedule special meetings or committee meetings as necessary. The third week of the month was suggested as a possible meeting date; this would allow enough time for Staff to have the financial reports ready. The Board tabled the discussion and directed Staff to place the item on the agenda for the next regular Board meeting.

- b. **Dental and Vision Benefit Provider Handouts (walk in)**

Human Resource Director September Singh provided a handout from the new dental and vision provider. The move to the new provider will result in a cost savings to the District but not diminish the coverage of the benefits. The new plans will start on February 1.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

No Directors' Reports were given.

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ADJOURNMENT

Open Session adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board