

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD DECEMBER 15, 2015**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session in the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on December 15, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Board President Ryan Jacobsen.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

President Ryan Jacobsen  
Vice President Jerry Prieto, Jr.  
Director George Porter  
Director Gregory Beberian  
Director Christopher Woolf

**DIRECTORS ABSENT**

None

**STAFF PRESENT**

General Manager Gary R. Serrato  
Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch  
Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura  
Watermaster Jim Irwin  
Controller DeAnn Hailey  
Human Resources Director September Singh  
Interim Maintenance – Construction Superintendent Mike Prestridge  
Special Projects Coordinator Adam Claes  
Engineer Felix Vaquilar  
Engineer Sen Saetern  
Assistant Temporary Supervisor Chuck Grinage  
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

**OTHERS PRESENT**

FID Legal Counsel Gary Sawyers  
City of Clovis Representative Dwight Kroll  
Maricopa Orchards Representative Jason Pucheu  
Dragados-Flatiron Representative Mike Fannelli  
Independent Reporter Don Wright

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board President Jacobsen opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**REVIEW AGENDA**

President Jacobsen announced that the Board will act on items one through six and then go into Closed Session. Following Closed Session will be the Assistant General Manager's Report.

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**REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

President Jacobsen reported that January's Board meeting will be moved from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict in schedules with the Mid-Pacific Users Conference.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Dwight Kroll, Planning Director for the City of Clovis, thanked the Fresno Irrigation District Board for assisting with the exchange of land located at Sunnyside / Shepherd for a terminus park, now known as the Dry Creek Trailhead. Mr. Kroll stated that the park has received several awards and that the City of Clovis wanted to share its accomplishments with FID. Mr. Kroll presented two plaques to the Board in appreciation.

**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 Board of Regular Meetings Minutes – November 17, 2015**
- b. **November 2015 Payroll Registers**
- c. **November 2015 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- d. **November 2015 Investment Account**
- e. **Developer Pipeline Project – Wathen Castanos Homes will Re-pipe the Brown Pipeline No. 113 Located Southeast of Ashlan and Temperance Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Engineering Action Request 2015-17**
- f. **Developer Pipeline Project – The Penstar Group will Re-pipe the Braly Pipeline No. 14 Located Southwest of California and Walnut Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Engineering Action Request 2015-18**
- g. **Developer Pipeline Project – Wilson Homes Tract 6064 will Pipe the Jefferson Canal No. 112 Located Southwest of Barstow and Leonard Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Engineering Action Request 2015-19**

Director Prieto requested that item 6 b. be pulled for further discussion.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar items 6. a. and 6. c. – h. (item 6. b. was pulled for further discussion) by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

President Jacobsen stated that item 6. b. will be discussed during the Controller's Report.

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**CLOSED SESSION**

The Board went into Closed Session at 4:10 p.m.

**Natural Resource Defense Council vs. Rodgers (Government Code Section 54956.9).** To confer with counsel on pending litigation

**Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.**

Negotiators: Gary R. Serrato-FID, William Stretch-FID, and GF Land Company L.P. Properties

Property: APN 035-060-14S

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase and Sale of Real Property

**Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.**

Negotiators: Gary R. Serrato-FID, DeAnn Hailey-FID, and All American Logistics, Inc.

Property: APN 326-160-10 & 326-160-41

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase and Sale of Real Property

**Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation.** (Government Code Sections 54956.9(a), 54956.9(b) and 54956.9(d)(2). The Board may meet in Closed Session to confer with counsel on potential involvement by the District in pending proceedings before the California State Water Resources Control Board relating the so-called California Water Fix. Specifically, the Board may consider possible participation in a protest to petitions filed or to be filed by the United States and/or State of California relating to changes in water rights required in connection with that project. PRIOR TO ADJOURNING TO CLOSED SESSION, THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAY CREATE A SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION BY THE DISTRICT WILL BE DESCRIBED AND THE BOARD WILL DETERMINE WHETHER, BASED ON EXISTING FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES, EXPOSURE EXISTS

**Clarks Fork Reclamation District #2069 (Government Code Section 54956.9).** To confer with counsel on pending litigation

**CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT**

The Board came out of Closed Session at 5:23 p.m.

**REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

President Jacobsen reported that FID approved FID's participation in the Joint Defense Agreement regarding the California Water Fix Project with the Friant North Authority, Friant Water Authority, and other interested parties.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved joining the JDA by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

The Board went back into Open Session starting with item 10. f.

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**ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch reported on the following:

**f. Engineering Action Request 2015-14. Gould Canal – Friant-Kern Canal Intertie Project**

Mr. Claes started out by giving an update on the status of the intertie project followed by the current costs, plans, requirements and schedule. Mr. Claes stated that the purpose of the intertie project is to facilitate in the development of additional water supplies and funding for the present and future stability of the District.

In early 2014, FID was approached by the USBR for a banking partnership (which FID agreed to) to assist in delivering water to four small communities. In September 2014 the BOD voted to set aside \$4 million for a project followed in October 2014 by a vote to proceed with a study of an intertie project. In March of 2015 the intertie project was among a small number identified as a Priority Project in USBR's Water Management Goal Investment Strategy Final Report for the San Joaquin River Restoration Program.

Provost & Pritchard Engineering Consultants researched three possible alternatives for tying the Gould Canal with the Friant-Kern Canal: 1) the "East" pipeline, 2) the "West" pipeline, and 3) pump station. Mr. Claes reviewed the pros/cons, locations, costs and schedule of each option.

Staff's recommendation is to allocate the \$4 million that was previously set aside in the Water Purchase Fund (September 16, 2014 BOD meeting) to the Gould / Friant-Kern Canals Intertie Project and for the Board to authorize Staff to proceed with the design, environmental documentation, USBR agreement/contract preparation and execution, and construction of the 200 +/- cfs pump station alternative. After researching the project, it was determined that a permanent pumping station instead of a pipeline would be the best option. Staff will continue to explore state and federal grant funding opportunities to help offset the costs. Staff may seek additional funding from FID's Board if project costs are projected to exceed \$4 million.

After a short discussion and a few questions from the Board, a motion was made to approve Staff's recommendation including authorizing the President, General Manager-Secretary, Assistant General Manager and Chief Engineer to sign and accept all agreements, documents and maps pertaining to this project.

**M/S/C/(Beberian/Prieto)** That the Board of Directors approved Engineering Action Request 2015-14, construction of intertie pump station, as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

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**g. Resolution 2015-13: Gould Canal – Friant-Kern Canal Intertie Project Agreement with USBR**

Special Project Coordinator, Adam Claes gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the Intertie project with the Board of Directors. The presentation reviewed the alternative pipeline alignments and a pumping station. Staff's recommendation included proceeding with the pumping station and that the Board approve and adopt Resolution 2015-13 which would approve and authorize the execution of agreements between the United States and the Fresno Irrigation District for the construction of facilities on federal lands and preparation of a 25-year Warren Act contract for the conveyance of non-project water in the Friant-Kern Canal.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2015-13 as presented by Staff by the following roll call vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**h. Engineering Action Request 2015-15: USBR WaterSMART Grant for Gould Canal – Friant-Kern Canal Intertie Project**

Staff recommends that the Board authorize Staff and its consultant to proceed with the grant application process. The preparation of the USBR (\$300,000 to \$1 million dollar) grant application is estimated at \$15,000 which shall come from the Water Purchase Fund.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Woolf)** That the Board of Directors approved Engineering Action Request 2015-15 as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**i. Resolution 2015-14 – USBR WaterSMART Grant for Gould Canal – Friant Kern Canal Intertie Project**

Staff recommends that the Board approve Resolution 2015-14 for preparing a grant from the USBR WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for fiscal year 2016.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Woolf)** That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2015-14 as presented by Staff by the following roll call vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**a. Maintenance and Construction Update**

Mr. Stretch stated that maintenance and construction activities being reported on were outlined in the Assistant Manager's Report. A slide show was presented illustrating a selection of the projects that are currently taking or have taken place:

- Barcus Canal (S/E Herndon and Dower) – replaced approximately 1,300 feet of 30-inch CIP-MCP with 30-inch PVC pipe and construction of a standpipe by FID crews;

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- Flume Canal (Barstow and Chateau Fresno) – replaced 450 feet of 36-inch RCP with 42-inch RGRCP and installation of standpipes (installation of original pipe was done in the early 1920's). For this project, an excavator was rented as FID's excavator was being used on general maintenance activities elsewhere;
- Axt Pond (N/W Barstow and Chateau Fresno) – crews constructed a flow measurement stand;
- Blasingame Canal (S/W Clinton and McCall) – pipeline replacement of 700 feet of 20-inch mortar joint pipe with 21-inch PVC pipe;
- Washington Colony Center Branch Canal (S/W Lincoln and East) – replaced old check with long-crested weir;
- Dry Creek Canal (S/W North and Westlawn) – crews installed a turnout for a landowner;
- Waldron Lambrecht Banking Facility (Shaw and Goldenrod) – crews repaired cracks and voids in the liner by applying a slurry mixture;
- Deadwood Canal (Jensen and Howard) – the District rented a flail mower from another irrigation district (this is the third mower FID has tested);
- Central Canal (Central and West) – after regaining access to the canal's right-of-way, crews re-sloped and applied additional rip-rap along the banks;
- Enterprise Canal (Ashlan and Riverbend) – heavy equipment operators dredged the bottom of the canal during its annual one-month maintenance period;
- Approximately 34.5 miles of "bottom work" was performed on eight canal systems (main lines). The heavy equipment operators took dozers and flattened out the berms and removed weeds that accumulated on the bottom of the canals. Sediment was pushed to the sides where graders picked it up and then placed it on the canal banks. Canal systems included: Central (Central and West); Big Sandridge Canal (Clinton and Lake) (Clinton and Trinity); Thompson Extension (Highway 180 and Floyd); and Herndon Canal (Barstow and Grantland);
- Cardwell Pond (California and Bishop) – crews removed sediment and weeds on the bottom and sides of the pond;
- Deadwood West Branch (S/W Jensen and Sycamore) – crews performed brushing and sloping in areas where there is no easy access or right-of-ways. Crews used slopers and caterpillars to perform the clean-up;
- Central Canal (S/E Central and Marks) – brushing crews trimmed and removed trees. The District has been concentrating on brushing and clearing out locations where homeless encampments have been established as well as other areas;
- Houghton Canal (S/E Nielsen and Marks) – brushing crews were busy thinning and removing trees and shrubs;
- Houghton Canal (N/E Nielsen and Hughes) – trash crews were busy removing debris from the sides and bottom of the canal;
- Flume Canal (N/E Barstow and Monroe) – the Shop manufactured and crews installed an access gate. crews in the shop are also able to fabricate trash-racks and catwalks as needed;
- North Central Canal (S/W North and Orange) – crews removed and salvaged a gate to be relocated to another area in the District;
- Thompson Canal (Belmont and Jameson) – while performing pipeline inspections, crews discovered a crack on the Thompson Canal pipe – it is still being decided on how the repair will be made;

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- Mill Canal (S/W McKinley and Peach) – crews cleaned-up the homeless encampment and removed shrubs and bushes from the area;
- Lower Dry Creek (Highway 180 and Teilman) – crews continued with clean-up of homeless camps;
- Gould Extension (Dakota and Cedar) – homeless camp clean-up;
- Herndon Canal (McKinley and Millbrook) – homeless camp clean-up; and
- Herndon Canal (Ashlan and Fruit) – crews cleaned-up the homeless camp while City of Fresno Police Officers arrested several disorderly occupants. The District continues to work with the different local area police agencies (mainly the City of Fresno). The District has also been coordinating with the Fresno Public Utilities Department where they have assisted by providing manpower, equipment and the hauling-off of some of the materials. Mr. Stretch gave credit to FID Supervisor Murray Krum and FID Safety Officer David Burrow on staying on-top of the homeless situation.

Mr. Stretch also stated that spray tractors and truck crews are spraying pre-emergent weed spray throughout the District. The banking facilities and ponding basis are ready to receive water when the need warrants.

**b. Ag Water Management Plan Update (WMP)**

Mr. Stretch stated that FID's WMP was publically noticed in the Federal Register in November and that the 30-day public review period ends on December 28, 2015. Should there be any public comments, the District will address them; otherwise, the USBR will provide FID a letter formally accepting the WMP (anticipated in early 2016). Staff will submit the WMP and SBx7-7 Supplement report to DWR along with additional documentation. A letter was sent to the DWR several weeks ago bringing them up-to-date on the status of the WMP.

**c. Southwest Groundwater Banking Project - Update**

Staff continues to follow-up with the escrow officer at least once a week on the status of the closing. There are still a few issues concerning the documents which are being addressed. Realistically, it could take until mid-January 2016 before escrow is closed.

FID and James Irrigation District (JID) continue to meet. JID has taken the lead in pursuing some additional prospects and has reached out to several area landowners.

**d. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) – Update**

There was nothing new to report on this item.

**e. Equipment Committee Recommendations (walk in)**

Mr. Stretch announced that Director Woolf has now joined with Director Porter on the Equipment Committee (Director Beberian now sits on the Finance Committee). The most recent committee meeting was held on Monday, December 14. Staff hopes to

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have the committee's recommendations approved during December's Board meeting so that the equipment / vehicles can be ordered before the end of the year. The committee packet consisted of a summary memo by Mr. Stretch, a recommendation memo from Mr. Kimura, and two spreadsheets which outline the proposed equipment / vehicles to be purchased (crawler tractor, construction truck, on-road vehicle, computers, Wi-Fi for shop and office, and survey equipment). Mr. Stretch reviewed the needs / specifications of each item for a cost of approximately \$405,000, which was less than originally estimated.

**M/S/C/(Woolf/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved the Committee's and Staff's recommendation to purchase the 2015 Equipment and Vehicle Purchase for an estimated amount of \$405,000 with monies to come from the Water Purchase Fund as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**CONSENT CALENDAR (Item 6.) continued**

**b. November 2015 Check Report**

Director Prieto wanted clarification on consulting vendor McMillian Consulting (item 6. b. - check register).

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved Consent Calendar item 6 b. by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT**

**a. November 2015 Fund Statements and Supporting Documents**

Ms. Hailey presented the Fund Activity Summary, which includes the approved budget revisions and supporting documents (including Notes to Fund Statements, Treasurer's Report, Deposit and Investments, and Revenues [Pie Chart] for the month of November. Ms. Hailey reported that the District is within budget.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved the Fund Statements and supporting documents for the month of November as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**b. 2016 Budget**

Ms. Hailey reviewed the proposed 2016 Budget. The Finance Committee met earlier in the month and reviewed the budget and changes. There is an expected deficit in the General Fund but this has been addressed with funds from water sales during previous years.



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Mr. Serrato stated that it has been five years (2010) since the District's rates have increased from the Proposition 218 election held in 2005. Staff will be presenting the option to the Board during the next month or two on holding another Proposition 218 election in 2016.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved the 2016 Budget as presented by Staff and recommended by the Finance Committee by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**c. Sale of Nielsen and Marks Properties Update**

President Jacobsen stated there was no update during Open Session.

**d. Request of Overnight Stay for Controller to Attend 2016 CSMFO Conference in Anaheim, CA – March 2016**

Ms. Hailey requested approval for a four-night stay to attend the CSMFO conference. This meeting is designed for government agencies and covers topics such as budgets, finances, and investments.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Beberian)** That the Board of Directors approved the four-night stay for the Controller to attend the California Society for Municipal Finance Officers in Anaheim, CA on March 1-4, 2016 by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**WATERMASTER'S REPORT**

**a. Current Water Conditions Report**

Mr. Irwin noted that the temporary pumps have been removed from the Gould Canal / Friant-Kern Canal intertie project. The pumps can be rented again if needed. Mr. Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply and the routing information. As of December 14, Pine Flat release was 160 cfs with storage at 136,507 acre-feet. There has been an increase in storage due to the weekend's storms. Pre-Project for the Kings River is 602 cfs and FID entitlement is 141 cfs. Pine Flat precipitation is 5.22 inches for the season – average for this time is 4.04 inches (129.2 %). Six of the snow sensors have reported a range from 3.1 to 7.5 inches. Predications are for rain/snow over the weekend and temperatures increasing slightly in the following week. Mr. Irwin showed a routing based on a 100% water allotment.

Mr. Serrato stated that he attended a meeting held by Congressman Jim Costa during which the Bureau of Reclamation stated there would be less flexibility in operating the Delta Pumps in 2016, which could affect the water supply to Friant Contractors should Friant water be utilized to meet the demands of the Exchange Contractors in 2016. The Department of Fish and Wildlife stated that dropping Shasta below 1.6 million acre-feet

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did not provide enough cold water to maintain fishery temperature requirements within the river.

Mr. Irwin reported that a slight amount of water has been moved to the Surface Water Treatment Facilities, Leaky Acres and the District's Lambrecht banking facility.

A short break was called at 6:53 p.m. by President Jacobsen. No District business was discussed during the break. Open Session resumed at 7:08 p.m.

**CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

**a. Developer Projects Update 2015-16**

The Engineering Department continues to review plans of several projects that will be constructed during the 2015-16 Maintenance Season. There are four projects in progress at this time and several more are currently planned. During the last month, Staff responded to ten developer review notices and three utility search requests.

**b. Agency Projects Update 2015-16**

The Engineering Department continues to review the plans of several projects that will be constructed during the 2015-16 Maintenance Season. There are three projects in progress at this time and three projects are planned during the 2015-16 Maintenance Season.

**i. High Speed Rail**

Staff continues to work with TPZP (Tutor-Perini / Zachry-Parsons) on the Reimbursement Agreement and the Task- and Sub-Task Order Agreement for upcoming construction work. Caltrans is in the process of addressing our comments on the construction plans for the relocation of State Route 99 between Ashlan and Clinton avenues. Staff is in the process of reviewing plans for pipeline crossings under Dry Creek Canal near "H" Street, relocation plans for the Lisenby, Braly, Fresno Colony and Viau pipeline crossings, and plans for the Herndon, Dry Creek, Central and North Central Canal crossings. Work near the vicinities of the Herndon and Dry Creek canals may start in early 2016, as well as Caltrans' project to relocate State Route 99. Staff also continues to work with DFJV (Dragados-Flatiron Joint Venture) on the Task- and Sub-Task Order Agreements, and the design plans. DFJV is still evaluating the option of deepening several of FID's basins (Ventura, Pursell, and Oleander) for fill material on the project.

**c. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2015-16**

There is one landowner project in progress (turnout). Currently there is one pipeline project being planned and several other projects being considered.

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**d. Other Activities**

- Monthly groundwater levels were measured as part of the banking facility monitoring plan;
- Staff is currently assisting or working on 12 FID maintenance/construction projects;
- Staff is working with the Maintenance/Construction Department on estimates of upcoming maintenance projects;
- Several surveys were performed for project design; and
- Nineteen construction and structure permits were issued during the last month.

Mr. Kimura provided slides and reviewed the following projects:

- Bullard Canal (S/E Herndon and Milburn) – (City of Fresno Agency project) culvert replacement of approximately 150 feet with 60-inch RGRCP for Santa Fe Avenue widening project;
- Helm Canal (S/E Shaw and Minnewawa) – pipeline replacement of approximately 140 feet of 60-inch CIP-MCP with 60-in RGRCP (redevelopment project);
- Waldron Banking Facility – deep ripping of basins (sub-contractor went down five feet):
  - Waldron (Nielsen and Bishop)
  - Lambrecht (Shaw and Goldenrod)
  - Empire (Shields and Jameson); and
- Nielsen Rental Property (Nielsen Avenue) – barrier stand pipes were constructed to prevent damage to city water connection.

**e. Engineering Action Request 2015-16: Authorization to Enter into Agreements with Dragados Flatiron Joint Venture for Reimbursement of FID's Costs Related to the California High Speed Rail Project Segment 2**

Mr. Felix Vaquilar gave the Board an update on the HSR Project and requested that the Board authorize entering into an agreement with DFJV for reimbursement of FID's costs related to the HSR project.

**M/S/C/(Porter/Prieto)** That the Board of Directors approved Engineering Action Request 2015-16 to enter into agreements with Dragados Flatiron Joint Venture as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

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**KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION**

**a. Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Update**

KRWA's first snow survey is scheduled to take place at the end of January 2016.

The KRWA Watermaster reported that the Water Right Fees invoice has been received. The cost has increased from last year bringing the total to \$325,000 (FID's portion is almost \$62,000).

The James Irrigation District and Tranquility Irrigation District will be returning as regular members of the KRWA. The Lower River Agreement is set to expire on December 31, 2015; once that happens James and Tranquility will once again become members and will be required to participate in the Fisheries Management Program along with contributions required by the Kings River Water Association Agreements. It was also reported that the Temperature Control Pool of both James and Tranquility would be returned with zero water

Mr. Haugen (KRWA Watermaster) spoke extensively about SBx-88, reporting of water diversions in the river. Mr. Serrato believes that FID is already complying with the requirements of the new bill. The districts that will be affected most are those that pump water directly from the river. The bill would require meters to be installed for reporting purposes.

**b. Pre-1914 Policy**

The last Pre-1914 meeting was cancelled and will be rescheduled for January 2016.

**SAN JOAQUIN RIVER ISSUES / FRIANT NORTH AUTHORITY**

**c. San Joaquin River / Friant North Authority Update**

The FNA Board of Directors selected John Fox with Aleshire & Winder as the new legal counsel. A trial period of six months will be in effect.

Friant North Authority will be meeting with the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority to discuss a number of issues surrounding the San Joaquin River Restoration Program and its impacts to water supply and the Fishery. Mr. Serrato believes the discussion will center on water quality in the Delta and Friant's participation.

Federal Drought Legislation (S. 1894/Feinstein/HR 2898 Valadao): this bill has been pulled from the Omnibus Bill. Senator Feinstein pulled the bill stating that it needs considerable work.

The Bureau of Reclamation and other CVP contractors are working to develop a framework for the formal negotiation of the Coordinated Operations Agreement (COA) in the Delta. The state has already announced a ten percent (10%) allocation for 2016.

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Meetings continue on the Westlands Drainage Settlement.

Unreleased Restoration Flows (URF): a technical team has been developed and is working with the Bureau of Reclamation to determine how the URFs will be made available to the Friant Contractors. The USBR is developing an agreement to offer any URFs under the “other water” provisions of the Friant 9 (d) contracts.

**i. Friant Canal Operations and Maintenance Update**

FID, along with Delano-Earlimart and others, co-authored a letter to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation asking that Friant Water Authority provide other Friant contractors the ability to participate in the development of the annual budget when discussing the operations and maintenance of the Friant-Kern Canal.

**ii. Miscellaneous**

Nothing new to report at this time.

**OTHER**

**i. Fresno County – Joint Powers Agreement**

The Joint Powers Authority (JPA) was passed by the five Counties (Fresno, Madera, Kings, Tulare and Merced). At this time it is unclear who will be the representatives from the irrigation districts that will serve on the board. President Jacobsen has been contacted about having FID as a member of the JPA. Mr. Serrato stated that he believes that FID should participate on the advisory committee to the JPA and not on the board (at least for the foreseeable future).

The JPA is exploring having interested irrigation districts help with the financial obligation for the irrigation seats.

**ii. Legislative Update**

Assembly Member Perea has announced his resignation effective December 31, 2015. With one year remaining in his term, an election for Assembly Member Perea’s seat will take place around April or May 2016. Any current legislation he is sponsoring will expire unless taken up by another representative. Senator Vidak has been asked to sponsor AB 1135. Staff is arranging a meeting with Senator Vidak to discuss their concerns and suggested amendments.

**iii. FID / City of Fresno Conveyance Agreement Update**

Mr. Serrato and the City of Fresno Utilities Director Mr. Esquada continue to meet and work on the issues within the Conveyance Agreement. Discussions have centered on the City’s need for storage. Staff will follow-up with the City to schedule the next set of meetings.

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**Miscellaneous - Other**

Mr. Serrato, Mr. Stretch, and Mr. Kimura attended the 2015 ACWA Fall Conference in Indian Wells. There were a number of sessions regarding the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act which Staff attended. Staff also had the opportunity to meet with the Bureau of Reclamation, State Water Commissioners and Exchange Contractors.

**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**a. Damage Claim – Irish Construction**

In July 2015, Staff received a telephone call from Irish Construction which was contracted for a project near Fig Garden Village. While digging, Irish Construction damaged an FID pipeline and are claiming damages in the amount of \$9,766.06 for removal of their equipment, a subcontractor to fix the pipeline, and loss of production because the pipeline was not marked. Staff will research and bring back to the Board any new information regarding membership to USA (Underground Service Alert).

**M/S/C/(Beberian/Prieto)** That the Board of Directors approved paying the claim submitted by Irish Construction in the amount of \$9,766.06 by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – Porter; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**b. Special Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) Credit Incentive Program**

Once a year Ms. Singh brings before the Board a list of upcoming webinars and workshops. Providing there are two Board members willing to participate, it could result in a four - five percent (4%-5%) savings on the District's workers compensation insurance. Director Prieto volunteered to participate in two webinars. Ms. Singh will bring this back before the Board in January to see if there is another volunteer to attend one of the eligible workshops.

**c. Request for Three Night Stay for Two – Four FID Employees to Attend Cal Poly's Annual ITRC Training in San Luis Obispo, CA (January or February)**

Every year Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, CA offers irrigation training to interested organizations. This training is for three days and covers flow measurement–pipelines, flow measurement–canals and canal operations. As a requirement for advancement, the Water System Operators are required to attend this training. Typically FID sends three to four eligible employees to the training. Staff requested the Board to approve the overnights stays for two – four employees to attend the upcoming training.

**M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter)** That the Board of Directors approved sending two to four FID employees to the Cal Poly ITRC workshops in San Luis Obispo in January or February by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
HELD DECEMBER 15, 2015**

Mr. Serrato invited the Directors to attend the Year-End-Event to be held on Friday, December 18, 2015, at 1:00 p.m.

Ms. Singh mentioned that Staff is working on a “years of service” program and will bring it before the Board, possibly in January.

**DIRECTORS’ REPORT**

**Director Beberian** – will not be able to make the event as he will be out of the area. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Director Woolf** – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Director Jacobsen** – reminded the Board that January’s Board of Directors meeting has been rescheduled to January 12. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Director Porter** – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Director Prieto** – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

President Jacobsen adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato  
Secretary of the Board