

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on February 21, 2017. Board President Ryan Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

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
Legal Counsel Jeff Boswell
Special Projects Coordinator Adam Claes
Staff Engineer Felix Vaquilar
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group Representative Ron Samuelian
Friant Water Authority COO Doug DeFlitch

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

REVIEW AGENDA

Item 6. h. was moved to the Chief Engineer's Report.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

No changes at this time.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Mr. DeFlitch, Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the Friant Water Authority (FWA) stated that FWA extended an invitation to FID for a free trial membership for the remainder of 2017. The trial membership will enable FID Directors to participate in Closed Session discussions. Mr. DeFlitch stated that there has been some significant changes

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implemented by Jason Phillips, the new executive officer at FWA, and encouraged FID to accept the trial membership.

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 Special Board Meeting Minutes – January 24, 2017**
- b. **January 2017 Check Reports**
- c. **January 2017 Payroll Registers**
- d. **January 2017 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **January 2017 Investment Account**
- f. Quitclaim Grant Deed – McCaffrey Homes will be Developing APN 310-300-14. Existing Easements for the Redbanks No. 388 Located Southwest of Ashlan and Highland Avenues are no Longer in use and Have Been Requested to be Quitclaimed to the Owner in Accordance with Board Policy. Engineering Action Request 2017-01
- g. Agency Pipeline Project – The City of Fresno will Replace Approximately 970 Feet of the Radin-Kamp No. 130 Located Northeast of Herndon and Blythe Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Engineering Action Request 2017-02

Director Prieto requested item 6 b. be pulled for discussion. Item 6 h. moved to the Chief Engineer's Report for presentation and motion.

M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved Consent Calendar items 8. a., c., d., e., f. and g. by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

Directors Prieto and Beberian requested further explanation concerning individual items from the Check Report. Staff provided the requested explanations.

M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved Consent Calendar item 8. b. by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

- a. **2016 Audit Update**

Ms. Hailey reported the auditors would be in the FID office next week to perform the on-site portion of the audit. As in previous years, the auditors will contact one Director at random to ask questions.

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b. December 2016 and January 2017 Deposits and Investments

Ms. Hailey reported on the deposits and investments. FID received the check covering the entire year of assessments from Fresno County.

WATERMASTER'S REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions Report

Mr. Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply and routing information. As of February 20, Pine Flat release was 4,401 cfs with storage at 755,485 acre-feet. Pre-Project for the Kings River is 12,211 cfs – FID's entitlement is 1,104 cfs. Pine Flat precipitation is currently at 203% (25.09 inches for the season – average is 12.36 inches).

Only three of the eight snow sensors are currently operational. Snow surveys originally scheduled for this week were postponed until next week because of predicted storms. March is forecasted for a below normal rainfall in the Fresno region which will allow the area to dry out. Mr. Irwin also provided a FID recharge report. Farmers have been slow to take water but the District will increase diversions as the demands increase.

Mr. Irwin based the routing on a March through October irrigation season.

b. Staff Recommendation to Start the 2017 Water Run on March 1, 2017

Staff's recommendation is to begin the 2017 Irrigation Season on March 1, 2017. Staff anticipates running from six to eight months. Mr. Serrato stated any grower ready to take water is encouraged to do so.

M/S/C/(Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved starting the 2017 Irrigation Season on March 1 as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

c. Staff Recommendation for Cost of Water Supply to Annex Areas

Mr. Serrato stated it is Staff's recommendation to provided water to the three Annex areas. Staff anticipates delivering 1,500 acre-feet at \$75 per acre-foot.

M/S/C/(Porter/Woolf) That the Board of Directors approved selling water to the Annex areas at \$75 per acre-foot as presented by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

Mr. Serrato commended Mr. Irwin and the Water Department staff for the great job they have been doing in managing all the storm and irrigation water within the system.

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CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Developer Projects Update 2016-17

Engineering Staff is working on reviewing projects scheduled for construction during the 2016-17 Maintenance Season. Currently, there are three projects in progress and Staff is working on several reviews for the 2016-17 Maintenance Season (seven are currently under review). Staff also provided comments on 24 developer review notices and seven utility search request during the last month.

b. Agency Projects Update 2016-17

Engineering Staff is working on several projects that are under construction and working on reviewing projects scheduled for construction during the 2016-17 Maintenance Season. Currently, there are three projects in progress and Staff is working on reviews for next maintenance season (six are currently under review).

i. High Speed Rail (HSR)

- High Speed Rail project will impact approximately 20 FID facilities (25 separate crossings);
- TPZP (contractor for north section) is working on Segment 1 (north of American Avenue);
- Caltrans is working on the relocation of State Route 99 (SR99) between Ashlan and Clinton avenues;
- DFJV is working on Segment 2-3 (south of American Avenue); and
- FID is working with all of the entities on design, agreements, issues, etc.

TPZP

- Work near Dry Creek Canal has started and will continue to advance;
- Work near Herndon Canal may start within the next few months; and
- Work on the Herndon and Dry Creek canals was postponed until after irrigation season.

Caltrans

- SR99 relocation is on-going and expected to be completed mid-2018; and
- Installation of the Victoria, Victoria Colony and Tracy pipelines was completed recently with the facilities ready to convey water for the 2017 irrigation season.

DFJV

- Gejeian and Oleander South Branches are DFJV's first priority to complete with a final design currently in review; and
- Designs for additional FID facility relocations s/o American Avenue are currently in design and under review but no construction scheduled yet.

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c. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2016-17

There was one project in progress during the past month. Currently there are no projects under review for the 2016-17 Maintenance-Construction Season; however, Staff anticipates other projects planned in the near future.

d. Other Activities

- Monthly groundwater levels were measured as part of the banking facility monitoring plan;
- Plans are being made for future maintenance projects;
- Staff is currently assisting or working on 12 FID maintenance/construction projects;
- Several surveys were performed for project design and construction;
- Thirteen construction, water or structure permits were issued during the last month; and
- Staff has been busy locating pipelines and rights-of-ways for crop conversions.

Mr. Kimura reviewed the following projects:

- Maupin Canal (Spruce and Willow) – pipeline replacement of approximately 100 feet of 30-inch CIP with 30-inch RGRCP;
- Barstow South Lateral (Gettysburg and Dickenson) – pipeline replacement of approximately 24 feet of 24-inch NRCP with 24-inch RGRCP; and
- Oleander North Branch (N/E South and Cherry) – landowner replacing approximately 300 feet of 36-inch CIP-MCP with 300 feet of 36-inch RGRCP. While working in the field, a ripper-shank damaged FID's pipeline.

CONSENT CALENDAR continued

- h. Agency Pipeline Project – California High Speed Rail will Replace Approximately 1,255 Feet of 20-inch Pipeline for the Oleander S. Branch of the S. Branch No. 19 Located Northeast of Sumner and Cedar Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Staff is Requesting the Pipe Size be Increased to 30-inch Diameter. Engineering Action Request 2017-03**

Mr. Felix Vaquilar described the removal and replacement of 20-inch PVC pipe with approximately 1,255 feet of 30-inch diameter RGRCP. As part of the California HSRA project, they will be relocating/replacing 1,150 feet of 24-inch pipe at no cost to FID. FID Staff recommends that the pipeline be upgraded to 30-inch RGRCP diameter pipe to remove a constraint point in the pipeline system. CHSRA is open to the upgrade but requires that FID pay for the cost difference between the 24- and 30-inch pipe, as it is a betterment to FID. Cost difference between the two pipes is \$30,841 with monies to come from the Capital Improvements Fund.

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M/S/C/(Prieto/Beberian) That the Board of Directors approved Staff's recommendation on Engineering Action Request 2017-03 with monies to come from the Capital Improvements Fund by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch reported on the following:

a. Maintenance and Construction Update

Mr. Stretch stated that FID's newsletter is going to the printers and will be mailed to the landowners with five-acres and above in the beginning of March. The landowner meetings have been re-scheduled for March 13, 14 and 15. The focus of the meetings will be water supply, SGMA and a possible Proposition 218 election in mid-2017.

Mr. Stretch noted all of the crews have already transitioned into the Water Department.

Following are some of the projects that FID crews and sub-contractors have been working on:

- Little Houghton (Nielsen and Dickenson) – replaced box structure with standpipe;
- Kutner Colony (S/O Shields on Leonard) – pipeline replacement of approximately 60 feet of 18-inch PVC within County easement. County crew performed the work;
- Limbaugh Pond (Olive W/O McCall) – construction of spray rig refill station (water storage);
- South Central (S/W Central and Walnut) – crew were out sloping the canal sides;
- Herndon Canal (N/E Shaw and Golden State) – crews were cleaning trash from canal. Due to floodwaters, crews were able to remove trash prior to the beginning of the irrigation season;
- Viaw Canal (S/W Malaga and Maple) – crews performed hand removal of tumbleweeds and brush from canal;
- Gould Headworks (@ Kings River) – trash crews removing debris before it passes through the weir; and
- Briggs Canal (S/E Armstrong and North) – after conferring with the landowner, crews removed private bridge for safety reasons.

Mr. Adam Claes reported on the following Fresno Headgate Area Projects:

- City of Fresno's Kings River Pipeline Diversion site as part of its Southeast Surface Water Treatment Facility consists of a new weir and turnout to the City's 72-inch diameter pipeline on the Fresno Canal immediately downstream of Trimmer Springs Road. The weir and turnout are complete and ready to pass water.

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b. Gould and Friant-Kern Canals Intertie Project Update – Now Known as the Serrato Intertie Project

Mr. Claes updated the Board on the progress of the installation of pumps at the Serrato Intertie project. Work has slowed down due to the wet weather. Most of the earthwork is complete and construction of an electrical building (controls and air conditioning) is underway. The pump supplier has committed to early May for delivery. The cost of the accelerated portion of the project was renegotiated for a savings of \$78,000.

c. Southwest Groundwater Banking Project Update

The NEPA process is moving forward. The plans are 90% complete and Staff anticipates going out to bid next month with the hope of completing the project by the end of the year.

d. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

i. North Kings GSA Update

The NKGSA Board held their Board meeting on January 26, 2017, with the next meeting scheduled for February 23. At the January meeting, the Board seated Steve Pickens from Bakman Water Company and approved the legal and technical consultants. Three subcommittees were established; two have begun to meet. The first Ad Hoc Technical Committee met for the first time last week.

Mr. Serrato stated that the NKGSA group should strive to inform the public on the agency's purpose / goals, SGMA regulations and updated progress. SGMA issues will be discussed during the upcoming growers meetings and suggest ways growers could modify their watering practices to assist in the replenishment of groundwater.

ii. Kings Subbasin GSA Update

Meetings included discussions and presentations regarding status updates of Kings Subbasin GSA formation, third-party facilitation services, outreach, funding and future Kings Subbasin GSA coordination. Eighteen tasks have been proposed; the first four tasks have been agreed to and will begin in January or February. Representatives from each of the six member participants have started to meet with a local engineering consultant firm to plan the process necessary to coordinate SGMA efforts. Discussions cover what type of data exists, how to share data, costs and proposals.

iii. Miscellaneous – County/DWR/SWB

The County GSA quarterly meeting for February was postponed. No new date is set.

e. Friant North Authority (FNA) Update

i. Staff Request Approval for Bill Stretch to Replace Gary Serrato as the Treasurer of FNA

Since the conception of the FNA, FID has acted as the fiscal agent with Gary Serrato as treasurer. Mr. Serrato proposes transferring that role to Bill Stretch.

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M/S/C/(Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved Mr. Stretch replacing Mr. Serrato as Treasurer on the FNA Board by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

ii. Staff Request Approval to Join Friant Water Authority (FWA) as a one-year Free Trial Member

FWA has extended the invitation to FID to rejoin the authority during a one-year free trial membership (remainder of 2017). Staff will provide a recommendation to the Board at the end of the trial membership whether to rejoin FWA as a full member. FID will continue to pay their normal portion of the O & M fees.

M/S/C/(Beberian/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved accepting FWA's offer of a free trial membership for the remainder of 2017 as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

iii. Staff Request Approval for Work Plan No. 3 in Accordance with the MOA Between FWA and FNA Including: 1) As-needed Representation in Policy Forums; 2) Special Counsel Support; 3) Consulting Services for Planning and Strategic Advise; and 4) Federal Lobbying Services

Mr. Stretch reviewed Work Plan No. 3. The FID Board at previous meetings approved work Plan 1 and 2. The estimated cost to implement Plan 3 is \$88,020 for 2017, which would be shared equally between FID and Chowchilla Water District. Listed services include: as-needed representation in policy forums; special counsel support; consulting services for planning and strategic advice; and federal lobbying services.

M/S/C/(Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved Work Plan #3 in accordance to the MOU between Friant Water Authority and Friant North Authority as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

MANAGER'S REPORT

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

a. Kings River Water Association Update

No additional information to report.

b. Friant Operations

No additional information to report.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Resolution 2017-03 Honoring Glen Harris for His Years of Service

Ms. Singh stated that Glenn Harris will retire after twenty years with the District. Staff's recommendation is to approve Resolution 2017-03.

M/S/C/(Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved Resolution 2017-03 honoring Glenn Harris' retirement as presented by Staff by the following roll call vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

b. Board of Directors Committee Assignments

President Jacobsen provided the new committee assignments for the Board members and Staff.

c. ACWA 2017 Spring Conference - Monterey CA

Mr. Serrato reminded the Board that the ACWA 2017 Spring Conference in Monterey, CA is coming up in May. Staff recommends that the Board approve overnight stays for any Director and upper management Staff who would like to attend.

M/S/C/(Porter/Beberian) That the Board of Directors approved the overnight stay for Directors and upper management Staff to attend the Spring 2017 ACWA Conference in Monterey, CA as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

d. Request for Overnight Stay for the HR Director and Safety Manager to Attend the SDRMA Safety Claims/Education Day in Sacramento, CA in March 2017

Ms. Singh requested authorization for overnight stay for the HR Director and Safety Manager to attend the SDRMA Safety Claim Day in Sacramento, CA. By attending, the District receives credit incentive points towards its workers' compensation insurance.

M/S/C/(Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved the overnight stay for the HR Director and Safety Manager to attend the SDRMA Safety Claims Day by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

e. Proposition 218 – Engineers Report

Mr. Serrato reviewed the District's General Fund shortfall, which could grow to \$9,706,000 by 2022. Mr. Serrato described several options to help relieve the District's deficit: property assessments; fees or charges; sell water; or a combination. The last

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time the District received an assessment increase was in 2010. Mr. Serrato reviewed the proposed rate increase over the next five years, which is needed to balance the general fund budget. The District hired Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group to develop the required engineer's report needed for a Proposition 218 election.

Staff presented two alternatives to consider for the engineers report. After a general discussion, the Board selected Alternative 2. This is a \$6.00 Water Service increase and 3% a year increase for inflation, supplemented with water sales. The Board directed Staff to: proceed with the 218 election under Section 4; proceed with engineer's report; and schedule election for mid-May. Staff anticipates that the engineer's report will be ready for Board's review by the March BOD meeting.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Beberian – attended the ACWA board meeting. ACWA is considering supporting legislation to review changes to the Proposition 218 requirement. While attending a CSDA workshop there was a discussion concerning the tree mortality issue.

Director Woolf – stated there were numerous dead trees along the road to Shaver and Huntington lakes that appear to be tagged for removal.

Director Jacobsen – confirmed Directors' attendance at the upcoming growers meetings.

Director Porter – mentioned that Raisin City BOD would be contacting the District about setting up a meeting regarding water.

Director Prieto – the City of Corcoran is increasing the current height of a levee surrounding the City of Corcoran to guard against flooding.

Open Session concluded at 6:31 p.m. A short break was taken prior to the Directors and executive Staff going into Closed Session at 6:53 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) – Matter: Proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board Regarding Petition Requesting Changes in Water Rights of the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for the California WaterFix Project.

Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation Government Code 54956.9(d)(2). Meet in closed session to confer with counsel on potential litigation arising out of claims by third parties to water rights on the Kings River. On advice of counsel, the staff has concluded that, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is significant exposure to litigation by or against the KRWA.

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Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: William Stretch – FID, DeAnn Hailey – FID, and Anderson Clayton Corporation

Properties: APN 487-042-43S

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase of Real Property.

Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: William Stretch – FID, DeAnn Hailey – FID

Properties: APN 559-061-07S

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Sale of Real Property (Clovis).

CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT

President Jacobsen adjourned Closed Session at 7:19 p.m.

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Jacobsen stated there was no reportable action from Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Jacobsen adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Submitted By,



Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board