

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
HELD JUNE 8, 2017**

Fresno Irrigation District Board of Directors met at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California, on June 8, 2017. Meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

President Ryan Jacobsen
Vice President Jerry Prieto, Jr.
Director George Porter
Director Chris Woolf
Director Greg Beberian

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary Serrato
Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch
Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura
Operations Manager Adam Claes
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Construction Maintenance Superintendent Michael Prestridge
Legal Counsel Jeff Boswell
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Human Resources Director September Singh
Recording Secretary Lynn Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group Representative Ron Samuelian
Various Landowners and Interested Parties

President Jacobsen opened the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance.

REVIEW AGENDA

President Ryan Jacobsen stated there were no changes to the agenda.

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.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ASSESSMENT RATE INCREASE TO AFFECTED LANDS

President Jacobsen opened the Public Hearing and immediately turned it over to General Manager Gary Serrato. Mr. Serrato started by reporting that Town Hall meetings regarding the Proposition 218 Election were held during April in Easton, Clovis and Kerman. Meetings also were done with individual growers and grower groups. Mr. Serrato stated that the election was conducted under Section 4 (land based assessment) which also requires an “Engineer’s Report” supporting the need for the election. Mr. Serrato continued by describing the requirements of a Proposition 218 Election and why the Fresno Irrigation District needs to raise its assessments. The collection of ballots has been taking place since the end of April; official ballot counting

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
HELD JUNE 8, 2017**

started at 3:00 pm (June 8, 2017) and ballots will be accepted until the close of the Public Hearing at 5:30 pm. Ballot counting will conclude by the end of the evening.

Mr. Serrato reviewed the following information for the audience:

- District Objectives (to fund the General Fund to commensurate with the level of water service provided)
- History of Recent District Assessment Rates (for Water Service rate)
 - 1984 - \$17 per acre
 - 1993 - \$20 per acre
 - 1994 - \$25 per acre
 - 2006 - \$31.90 per acre
 - 2010 - \$40.38 per acre
- General Fund Shortfall
- Increase Cost of Doing Business
- Cost Cutting Measures
- Rate Increase Needed (cover cost of General Fund, reduce the sale of water, cover new regulatory fees and continue to maintain the conditions of canals, pipelines and facilities)
- Water Sales
- FID Infrastructure
- Capital Improvement Completed Projects: 2007-2016
- Pipeline Replacement Needed
- Board Motion and Direction (determined after reviewing the Engineer's Report and Section 4 of Proposition 218)
- Proposed Rate Increase (by classification and year/per acre)
- Assessment Fees Charged by Other Districts
- Other Revenue Sources
- Ballot Handling/Reporting

President Jacobsen opened the public comment period section of the Public Hearing at 4:35 p.m.

Members of the audience had the opportunity to ask questions regarding ballots, the Proposition 218 process or the management of District assessments. One landowner inquired if the District could sell more water to help balance the budget. Mr. Serrato stated the District can sell more water but it would be the decision of the Board of Directors. Director Porter interjected that the Board would prefer not to sell too much water so that it can stay within the District for its growers. The landowner also inquired if cities and county agencies were paying their fair share for maintenance. Mr. Serrato responded by stating that the Cities of Fresno and Clovis do pay their respective portion and that the City of Clovis was a major contributor towards several banking facilities. Fresno County is not assessed by the District.

A member of the audience who identified himself as Mr. Nipp stated that he had made an offer on the Armstrong property being sold by the District but that the offer was declined. President

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
HELD JUNE 8, 2017**

Jacobsen stated that this was not the forum to discuss this matter as it is a closed session item but Staff would contact him at the appropriate time if he would like to discuss it further.

Another member of the audience inquired about the unfinished ponding basin near Church and Valentine avenues. Staff informed him that the basin is owned by the Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District and provided the contact information.

With no further questions from the audience, President Jacobsen closed the public comment period of the Public Hearing at 4:46 p.m. The Hearing will stay open until 5:30 p.m.; with ballots being accepted until the close of the hearing.

With no further questions or comments from the audience or the Board, President Jacobsen closed the Public Hearing at 5:31 p.m. and stated the deadline for turning in ballots is closed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Submitted By,



Gary R. Serrato
General Manager