

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD AUGUST 15, 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 August 15, 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

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Director Chris Woolf

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary R. Serrato
Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch
Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura
Operations Manager Adam Claes
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Construction/Maintenance Superintendent Mike Prestridge
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Human Resources Director September Singh
Legal Counsel Jeff Boswell
Staff Engineer Felix Vaquilar
Staff Engineer Sen Saetern
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Reporter Don Wright
Maricopa Orchards Representative

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes at this time.

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Staff's recommendation is to move the November 21 Board meeting to November 14 due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. President Jacobsen directed Staff to make the proper notification to the Board calendar.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

No presentations from the public.

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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 – July 18, 2017**
- b. **July 2017 Check Reports**
- c. **July 2017 Payroll Registers**
- d. **July 2017 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- e. **July 2017 Investment Account**

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

CONTROLLER’S REPORT

- a. **July 31, 2017 Fund Statements and Supporting Documents**

Ms. Hailey reviewed July’s financials and stated the budget is on target. Revenues are at 100% for the General Fund. Delivery System Operations & Maintenance cost are slightly above budget. Wages / Salaries / Benefits are at 58% or lower. Professional Services are at 28% but should slightly increase before the end of the year. Next, Ms. Hailey reviewed the Treasurer’s Reports as required, the Deposits and Investments, and Revenue Chart. Ms. Hailey reported that the District has gone over to a “Sweep Account” for the General Checking Account. Funds over a certain threshold will be “swept” into an interest bearing account that earns more interest than a Money Market Account.

Director Prieto asked if Staff has the ability to adjust line items within the budget. Ms. Hailey stated that Staff performs a mid-year review of the budget with department heads and reviews those proposed changes with the FID Finance Committee members, which are then brought before the full Board.

M/S/C (Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved the July 2017 Financial Reports as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

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WATERMASTER'S REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions Report

Mr. Irwin reported on the current and projected water supply and routing information. As of August 14, Pine Flat release was 5,589 cfs with storage at 803,638 acre-feet. FID's storage as of August 14 was 120,937 acre-feet. Pre-Project for the Kings River is 1,703 cfs – FID's entitlement is 1,220 cfs.

Mr. Irwin stated that the 2,000 acre-feet of water sold last year to the Kern – Tulare Water District is scheduled for delivery during the week of August 21, utilizing the Serrato Intertie Facility. It was reported that all four pumps were tested during the week of August 7.

Water deliveries to the Fresno's and Clovis' surface water treatment plants are scheduled to go off during the month of December (instead of typically in November). Maintenance on the Enterprise Canal will also be done in December.

Mr. Irwin stated that 4,160 acre-feet of credits on the Waldron/Boswell Groundwater Banking facilities were earned in the month of July; bringing it to a total of 33,000 acre-feet for this year (which runs from October 1 to September 30). This year (2017) is the third wettest season in recorded history.

Director Porter suggested publishing a newsletter/notice asking growers to irrigate their crops/fields after harvest to help replenish groundwater levels; Staff will research the different options. Mr. Serrato stated depending on the amount of water the District has remaining at the end of October, Staff could recommend extending deliveries into the first or second week of November, in order to avoid a flood release. President Jacobsen suggested the possibility of running one or two systems until the start of the 2018 Irrigation Season (March).

Mr. Serrato praised Watermaster Jim Irwin and his crew on the professional work they did on the recovery of a missing 20-year-old female presumably drowned. There was a tremendous amount of coordinated effort with City of Fresno Police Department, Fresno Fire Department and FID. Superintendent Mike Prestridge and his crew also contributed to the efforts. Unfortunately, the body was not recovered on first day but was discovered and removed from the canal three days later.

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Developer Projects Update 2017-18

- Staff reviewed projects for the 2017-18 Maintenance Season
- No projects in progress
- Seven projects under review
- Commented on 34 developer review notices and six utility search requests

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b. Agency Projects Update 2017-18

- Staff worked on projects under construction and reviewed projects for 2017-18 Maintenance Season
- One project in progress
- Five projects under review

i. High Speed Rail (HSR)

- Staff reviewed plans for crossings
- Staff reviewed agreements
- Work on the Herndon and Dry Creek canals has been postponed until late Fall 2017
- American Avenue overcrossing is currently closed due to construction
- Reconstruction of Clinton Avenue overpass/ramps is in progress
- DFJV is struggling with BNSF over agreements
- Construction of several roadway grade separations south of American Avenue is anticipated to start this summer

c. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2017-18

- No projects in progress
- Two projects under review for 2017-18 Maintenance Season

d. Other Activities

- Groundwater levels were measured as part of the banking facility monitoring plan
- Plans are being made for future maintenance projects
- Staff is assisting or working on 15 FID maintenance/construction projects
- Several surveys were performed for project design and construction
- Staff has been very busy locating pipelines and rights-of-ways for crop conversions
- Over the last month, five construction, structure or water permits were issued and monitored
- GIS Specialist/Surveyor Oscar Carreon has taken another position and is no longer with FID

Mr. Kimura reviewed the following projects:

- Gow Canal (Ashlan and Locan) – pipeline substitution of open channel with 24” RGRCP
- Lambrecht House Demolition (S/W Shaw and Goldenrod) – removal of house and clean up of property
- Washington Colony Canal (S/E North and Peach) – Turnout Flow Measurement (performed by Cal Poly ITRC)

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- e. Developer Pipeline Project – Wilson Homes will Replace an Existing Box Backup Structure on the Redbanks No. 388 with a Standpipe or Surge Chamber Located Southwest of Ashlan and Highland Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy with a Small Variance. Engineering Action Request 2017-13**

Mr. Kimura reviewed the Wilson Homes/McCaffrey Homes development project. As a condition of the development project, approximately 650 feet of 16-inch inside diameter non-reinforced concrete pipe was replaced with new 30-inch inside diameter rubber gasket reinforced concrete pipe. FMFCD is requiring the developers to install a flood break-over channel across FID's easements for the benefit of future developments. One of FID's box structures will need to be relocated due to the flood break-over channel. Staff has been working with the developers, City of Clovis and Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control on finalizing the agreements. Staff's recommendation is to:

1. Approve the pipeline (box) deferral in accordance to Board Procedure No. 100.1 with a small variance. The replacement of the pipeline and structure shall be deferred for a period of up to 24 months (2 years) or until one of the following occurs which will trigger the replacement:
 - The adjacent parcel overlying the pipeline and structure is developed or at an earlier date if requested by Wilson Premier Homes;
 - Nearby development necessitates the replacement and realignment of the facilities; or
 - Leaks and/or poor condition of the facilities necessitates realignment and replacement.
2. Wilson Premier Homes, Inc. must enter into a Pipeline Deferral Agreement with FID with a minor variance to Procedure 100.1. The Deferral Agreement shall contain the above conditions and indemnify, defend and hold FID free and harmless from all liability and claims for damage due to leaks and/or complete failure of the existing structure and or canal. The Developer will pay all plan review and deferral fees at this time. The plan review and deferral fees are estimated to be approximately \$8,639.00.

Staff also recommended that the Board approve this project and that the President, General Manager/Secretary, Assistant General Manager and Chief Engineer be authorized to sign and accept all agreements, documents and maps pertaining to this project.

M/S/C (Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved Action Request 2017-13 as presented by Staff by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

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ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Operations Manager Adam Claes updated the Board on the following:

a. Maintenance and Construction Update

- Dry Creek Canal – FID participated in the recovery efforts alongside Fresno Police Department and the Fresno Fire Department
- Boswell Pond (North and Jameson) – crews using the District's newly purchased Flail Mower to trim oleander bushes
- Herndon Canal (Shields and First) – DWR requested that FID test a new floating measuring device in the canal. The device proved to be very consistent
- Big Dry Creek (Alluvial and Clovis) – crews performed repairs to the canal banks which had started to erode
- Teilman Canal (Kearney and Marks) – gate wheel stolen
- Limbaugh Pond (Olive and McCall) – crews installed a spray rig refill tank and pad

b. Serrato Intertie Project Update

Mr. Claes stated that the pumps at the facility were tested on August 9. A manufacturing representative was present to certify each of the four pumps. There was an issue with one of the pumps, which has since been resolved.

f. Southwest Groundwater Banking Project Update

Mr. Claes went directly into item 10. g.

g. Consideration of Awarding a Contract – Construction (Earthwork and Structures) Contract as Part of the Southwest Groundwater Recharge Project. Engineering Action Request 2017-12

FID publicly re-advertised for bids on the construction of the groundwater project. Bid opening was on August 8 (received two bids) with the lowest submission coming from Dawson-Mauldin Construction. The re-bid was for the earthwork and structures only. The SCADA and electrical portion of the project was removed from the second round of bidding. Staff recommended the Board award the contract to Dawson-Mauldin Construction at the bid amount of \$3,555,850 (no additive bid items) and that the President, General Manager/Secretary and Assistant General Manager be authorized to sign and accept all agreements, documents and maps pertaining to this project. Staff also recommends that the President and General Manager/Secretary be authorized to sign the contract. Monies will come from the Water Purchase Fund. At the completion of the project, Staff will determine what electrical and SCADA improvements will be added, and will address deep ripping and applying road base as appropriate.

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M/S/C (Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approves Action Request 2017-12 base bid (no additive items) as presented by Staff with all recommendations and monies to come from the Water Purchase Fund by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

Assistant General Manager Bill Stretch updated the Board on the following:

c. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

i. North Kings GSA Update

Mr. Stretch reported that the Technical Sub-Committee is progressing. Consultant Provost & Pritchard continues to make headway on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

ii. Kings Subbasin GSA Update

There are now seven Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. Provost & Pritchard is setting up a meeting for the end of August with the Department of Water Resources to clarify reporting requirements.

iii. Miscellaneous – County/DWR/SWB

Fresno County has hired a Natural Resource Specialist for their newly created position. Since the inception of SGMA, many counties have started to create this type of position.

d. Friant North Authority (FNA) Update

Chowchilla Water District has accepted its second complimentary 12-month trial membership with the Friant Water Authority. The managers for the three FNA members will meet to discuss FNA's future.

e. FID Water Resource Strategic Plan Element Update

Mr. Stretch stated that all the Directors should have received by now a two-page letter from Gary Sawyers of New Current Water and Land focusing on FID's strategic plan. Mr. Sawyers plans to speak with each of the Directors prior to August 25.

h. Potential Water Recharge Facility Discussion

Mr. Stretch stated that with the SGMA requirements, landowners are approaching water districts on how they could increase their groundwater levels through the construction of basins. Staff met with a large landowner in the McMullen Grade area about developing a water bank on his property, which would be used during flood-released water years. This particular banking facility would be approximately ten acres. The landowner owns the parcel and would assume construction and maintenance cost and also be charged for the removal of any water. Discussions are in the very early stages and as more information becomes available, Staff will bring it to the Board for further discussion.

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MANAGER'S REPORT

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

a. Kings River Water Association Update

KRWA Watermaster Steve Haugen reported that Pine Flat storage after the 2017 delivery season could be as much as 500,000 acre-feet, which is 50% of storage. A flood release could be initiated with one good winter storm.

b. Friant Operations Update

Mr. Serrato stated there might be a 5% residual of Class II water that FID would be able to receive. Staff should hear from the Bureau in September whether the Class II water is available.

c. Miscellaneous Updates

Mr. Serrato met with Senator Kevin de León to discuss Temperance Flat Dam. Senator León stated he was going to introduce a bill that would streamline CEQA requirements for the building industry. Mr. Serrato explained that SGMA regulations also have an effect on the building industry and encouraged the Senator to become familiar with SGMA.

President Jacobsen and Mr. Serrato participated in the signing ceremony for the Temperance Flat Proposition 1 grant application submission. Mr. Serrato stated there are also other possible water storage projects that Staff is investigating.

Staff is reviewing Senate Bill 623 (clean water). KRWA has taken the position of "wait-and-see" and ACWA is in opposition to the bill. SB 623 plans to tax the fertilizer industry and has recently included a tax on water supplies to fund the bill (similar to the State's Water Rights Fees).

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Discussion/Possible Action – Multi-Night Stays for Directors and Senior Staff to Attend the 2017 Fall ACWA Conference in Anaheim, CA from November 28 – December 1, 2017

The request is for the annual multi-night stay at the Fall ACWA Conference. Any Director or senior Staff who is interested in attending the conference should notify Staff.

M/S/C (Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved the multi-night stay for Directors and senior Staff who want to attend the 2017 Fall ACWA Conference in Anaheim, CA by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

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b. Discussion/Possible Action – ACWA Region 6 Board Ballot Recommendation

Staff's recommendation is to accept the ACWA Nominating Committee's recommended slate of proposed Board names. Two positions remain vacant.

M/S/C (Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved the ACWA Nominating Committee's recommended slate for the Region 6 Board of Directors by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

c. 2017 Regions 6 & 7 San Joaquin Valley Forum – October 13, 2017 (Visalia, CA)

President Jacobsen announced the ACWA Region 6 and 7 Water Forum will be held on October 13 in Visalia, CA. Any Director interested in attending should notify Staff; cost is \$35.

d. Discussion/Possible Action – Retire 140-506 Smoking in Workplace Policy and Replace with 140-505 Tobacco Usage in the Workplace Policy – New Policy

Ms. Singh explained it was time to retire outdated Policy 140-506 and create a new policy that includes the different types of tobacco and tobacco-related products. Proposed Policy 140-505 also expands the definitions of when and where smoking is allowed. President Jacobsen inquired if chewing tobacco was a concern or should be included in this policy. Staff stated that it would be included in the final version. Ms. Singh stated that all of FID's health insurance providers have quit-smoking programs for those employees who would like to enroll.

M/S/C (Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved retiring Policy 140-506 and replace it with Policy 140-505 and for Staff to include chewing tobacco verbiage where appropriate in Policy 140-505 by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

e. Discussion/Possible Action – Multi-Night Stay for One Staff Member to Attend the CALPELRA 2017 Annual Conference in Monterey, CA (December 2017)

Ms. Singh requested approval for a multi-night stay to attend the 2017 CALPELRA Conference in December in Monterey, CA. The conference will cover labor relations, compensation and personnel issues.

M/S/C (Porter/Prieto) That the Board of Directors approved the Human Resources Director's request for multi-night stay to attend the 2017 CALPELRA Conference by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – Woolf; Abstain – 0)

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f. 2018 CalPERS Health Insurance Rates and Open Enrollment Update

Ms. Singh provided the 2018 rates to the Board members and stated that open enrollment begins on September 11, 2017.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Beberian – would like to have someone from FID Staff give a presentation during Steve Brandau's proposal at the August 17 Fresno City Council meeting on homeless camping.

Director Woolf – absent.

Director Jacobsen – attended the Temperance Flat media event held on August 14. President Jacobsen stated he is excited about the progress that has been made to date but realizes there is still a long way to go before Temperance Flat can be built.

Director Porter – none.

Director Prieto – none.

Open Session concluded at 5:54 p.m. with the Directors and some Staff going into Closed Session at 6:10 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

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.

Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: William Stretch – FID, Gary Serrato – FID; and Friesen Property Representative

Properties: APN 512-021-03 and 512-020-09

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase of Real Property.

Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: Adam Claes – FID, William Stretch – FID, Gary Serrato – FID; and Moh Leng Kok Property Representative

Properties: APN 328-021-10

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase of Real Property.

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Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: William Stretch – FID, Gary Serrato – FID; and Shahbazian Property Representative

Properties: APN 330-160-01

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase of Real Property.

CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT

President Jacobsen adjourned Closed Session at 6:33 p.m.

REPORT IN OPEN SESSION OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Jacobsen stated there was nothing to report out of Closed Session.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, President Jacobsen adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Submitted By,



Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board