

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 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 September 19, 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. (arrived at 4:07 p.m.)
Director George Porter
Director Gregory Beberian
Director Chris Woolf

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

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
Clovis Unified School District Representatives

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

President Jacobsen noted that the future meetings were updated to reflect the change of November's Board meeting.

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]

Director Woolf relayed that he has a conflict of interest for item 12. b. (Stamboom Farming, LLC damage claim). Director Woolf stated he would excuse himself from the room during the discussion and possible vote.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. **Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – August 15, 2017**
- b. **Approval of Equipment Committee Meeting Minutes – September 7, 2017**
- c. **August 2017 Check Reports**
- d. **August 2017 Payroll Registers**
- e. **August 2017 Unpaid Assessment Report**
- f. **August 2017 Investment Account**

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

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

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

Ms. Hailey reviewed August's financials and stated the budget is on target. Ms. Hailey stated there has been a high number of landowners paying delinquent assessments to the District.

M/S/C (Prieto/Porter) That the Board of Directors approved the August 2017 Financial Reports as presented by Staff 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 reported on the current and projected water supply and routing information. As of September 18, Pine Flat release was 2,737 cfs with storage at 633,956 acre-feet. FID's storage was 125,338 acre-feet. Pre-Project for the Kings River was 648 cfs – FID's entitlement was 421 cfs.

Mr. Serrato stated during October's Board meeting, Staff would recommend extending deliveries into November should demands continue. Pine Flat storage is projected to be at 50% capacity.

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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
- Nine projects under review
- Commented on 38 developer review notices and four utility search requests

b. Agency Projects Update 2017-18

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

i. High Speed Rail (HSR)

- Several streets are blocked off in the downtown area due to construction

c. Landowner Initiated Projects Update for 2017-18

- No projects in progress
- Two projects under review for the 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 14 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, 14 construction, structure or water permits were issued and monitored

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Operations Manager Adam Claes reviewed items a., b., c. and h. for the Board:

a. Maintenance and Construction Update

- Gould Canal (E/O Riverbend) – repaired / improved all weather road; landowner allowed a turn-out area for the District's vehicles/equipment

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- Pursell Pond (Jefferson and Cedar) – crews performed pipeline repairs/replacement
- Little Houghton Pump #2 (Belmont and Rolinda) – pipeline repaired on a high-pressure system
- North Branch Oleander (Clayton and Maple) – cast-in-place pipeline repaired in middle of vineyard
- North Branch Oleander (Adams and Orange) – refurbished / repaired older gate
- Fresno Canal (McKinley and Mendocino) – crews performed brushing / clearing to re-establish easement (scheduled on the Capital Improvements List)
- Herndon Canal (McKinley and Millbrook) – removal of aquatic weeds from canal by excavator
- Herndon Canal (McKinley and Millbrook) – removal of homeless trespassers and encampment
- Herndon Canal (McKinley and Millbrook) – crews removed trees / shrubs along fence line
- Herndon Canal (Palm and Hughes) – homeless encampment clean-up
- Central Canal (Muscat Avenue Line and Golden State Boulevard) – removal of homeless trespasser and belongings on long-crested weir
- Siskiyou Pipeline (S/W California and Siskiyou) – FID crews replaced 65 feet of cast-in-place pipeline with 36" RGRCP due to cracks

b. Serrato Intertie Project Update

Mr. Claes stated contractors were completing adjustments to one of the pumps.

c. Southwest Groundwater Banking Project Update

Dawson-Maulden Construction has started construction on the basin levees for the joint project between Fresno ID and James ID.

h. Discussion / Possible Action on Equipment Committee Recommendations for 2017 Equipment and Vehicles Purchases

Staff met with the Equipment Committee Members (Directors Porter and Woolf) on September 7 to review the District's current vehicles and equipment needs. Staff requested the purchase of: a backhoe, eight half-ton pickups, two dump trucks, a vehicle diagnostic scanner, a vibrating plate, a slope board for bulldozer, a GIS Software License, two Adobe Acrobat DC Licenses and a Solinst monitoring well data unit. Sub-total cost for the 2017 Recommended Equipment and Vehicles Purchases is \$815,750 with monies coming from the Power Revenue Fund. The Committee Members discussed and agreed with Staff's recommendations for the purchases and directed Staff to bring it before the entire Board. President Jacobsen inquired if it would make sense to have an Adobe Acrobat license for everyone in the Engineering Department. Staff agreed it would be more efficient and stated it would increase the number of licenses from two to four. Staff also provided the list of proposed equipment and vehicle recommendations for 2018. Staff also recommended that the smaller equipment items be purchased now using previously received quotes, and that the bids/quotes for the

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large equipment (backhoe, half-ton pickups, and dump trucks) be brought back to the Board for approval.

M/S/C (Porter/Beberian) That the Board of Directors approved the Committee and Staff's recommendation for the purchase of the described equipment and vehicles and approved the increase of Adobe Acrobat DC Licenses from two to four by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Woolf, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – 0)

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

d. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Update

i. North Kings GSA Update

Mr. Stretch reported the North Kings Board met last June. The next scheduled Board meeting is set for September 28. The Advisory Board met on September 8 where the subcommittees reported on their various activities and accomplishments to date. Provost & Pritchard Consulting is doing a good job of walking the Technical Subcommittee through what the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will look like. Cities, County, water agencies and others are participating in the development of the Plan. During the next three to six weeks, Provost & Pritchard will provide the overdraft numbers for the subbasin by each GSA. Within the next several months, the subcommittee will start to discuss the direction of groundwater flow.

ii. Kings Subbasin GSA Update

The North Kings GSA is one of seven members of the Kings Subbasin GSAs. The Kings Subbasin group recently hosted a meeting at FID with Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff members from the Sacramento and local offices. It was clear that the Kings Subbasin is ahead of most of the other GSAs by several months (or more). This meeting was an opportunity for the GSAs to ask questions regarding coordination efforts and the GSP. Mr. Serrato stated that DWR would prefer one Plan for the entire Basin but would accept individual Plans with a coordination agreement. DWR also expects to test the submitted groundwater modeling against a model they have at DWR. DWR will also host a workshop in Clovis on September 20 on grant funding and coordination of the GSP. Several Kings Basin GSA members will meet with Fresno County school personnel next week at a workshop sponsored by Self-Help Enterprises. There will be a chance for each school district to speak with representatives from their own GSA.

iii. Miscellaneous – County/DWR/SWB

The County has not held a meeting since October 2016 and none is currently scheduled.

Mr. Stretch noted that he has received positive feedback from the “post-harvest irrigation” newsletter that the District mailed and emailed to its landowners encouraging them to continue to take water through October.

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Fresno Metropolitan Flood Control District published an article in their most recent *Flood Line* newsletter regarding SGMA. The article was guest-authored by General Manager Dwight Miller from Biola Community Service District whose District is a member of the NKGSA.

Mr. Stretch also mentioned the large computer monitor brought into the Board Room so the Board Members could compare it against the existing projector/screen combination. Mr. Stretch noted that it could be difficult to see what is on the screen (depending on the time of day with the lighting) with the current equipment. The monitor display is brighter and larger than the current projector. One option would be to purchase a monitor and mount it on the wall, another options would be to upgrade the current projector and screen.

e. Friant North Authority (FNA) Update

The most recent meeting was held on September 11 at Madera Irrigation District. The group discussed the option of going to quarterly meetings versus monthly meetings. Discussions will continue on this during the October meeting. FID continues to weigh its options on rejoining FWA as a full member.

Friant Water Authority

Mr. Stretch stated FWA presented their 2018 proposed budget during the last meeting. The FID Board Members received a copy of a letter from Mr. Gerald Meral to Ms. Ashley Johansson, Initiative Coordinator Office for the Attorney General, regarding a request for Title and Summary for Proposed Initiative. In the letter were recommendations for specific projects including repairs to the Oroville Dam Spillway and improvements to the Friant-Kern Canal and other Friant water inter-connections. FWA is proposing a resolution in support of this initiative. Staff has not yet decided to recommend bringing a similar resolution to the FID Board. Staff believes that FID farmers / landowners should not be responsible for the costs of reconstruction of the capacity of the Friant-Kern Canal.

f. FID Water Resource Strategic Plan Element Update

Nothing new to report.

g. Proposed Basin Agreement with Landowner on the Central Waste Canal

Mr. Stretch outlined the discussions that have occurred regarding a possible basin being built by a landowner. A memorandum describing project details and location maps were provided to the Board Members. The basin would be no less than ten acres, FID could possibly divert CVP Class II water, landowner would cover all costs associated to the building / maintenance of the basin and the landowner would pay for any water that he removed.

Staff requested that the Board give direction for Staff to pursue developing an agreement with the landowner. After a discussion on the seven working points,

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including lift pump, land, credits and annexation, the Board gave Staff direction to continue with the negotiation process and asked in-house counsel to develop an agreement, which would include language concerning flood easement and prorated credits for FID. Staff believes this may be the first of many basins proposed by landowners and developers.

MANAGER'S REPORT

KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

a. Kings River Water Association Update

Mr. Serrato stated that after 33 years, Mr. Larry Holmberg has retired from KRWA, which brings its staff down to three. However, it was announced during the recent Executive Committee meeting that two new employees were hired and will begin work on September 25.

Mr. Serrato stated a settlement was reached on the mitigated lands on the San Joaquin River near the Mendota Pool area.

Water Right Fees, both for the Kings River and FID, will increase again to fund three new positions at the State Water Resources Control Board.

b. Friant Operations Update

Friant Water Authority has decided to join the Joint Powers Authority for Temperance Flat. The Temperance Flat Executive Summary was delivered to the California Water Commission in Sacramento late last week – all deadlines have been met for the Temperance Flat application process.

The California WaterFix (Twin Tunnels) proposal continues to be discussed during the Board meetings. Costs for the project, water quality issues and total benefits (if any) have still not been determined for Friant. It was announced that the Westlands Water District Board has voted not to participate in the project.

Staff recently met with Board of Reclamation Regional Director David Murillo. Discussions covered the Twin Tunnels, water supplies, Friant-Kern Canal correction and San Joaquin River restoration.

Mr. Serrato stated Senator Feinstein has called the parties back to the table to improve efforts on the San Joaquin River Restoration plan. Senator Feinstein is concerned that the restoration project is progressing too slowly.

c. Miscellaneous Updates

Staff met with various newly elected local city council members to discuss water supply and FID's role as it relates to the Cities of Fresno and Clovis.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. **CalPERS Open Enrollment Period: September 11, 2017 to October 6, 2017 (Reminder)**

Ms. Singh reminded the Board that “open enrollment” is currently underway for health and dental/vision insurance.

President Jacobsen stated that Director Woolf left the Board Room while discussion / vote for the following damage claim submission took place:

- b. **Discussion / Possible Action on Damage Claim Submitted by Stamboom Farming, LLC**

Mr. Stretch explained the circumstances surrounding the box leak on the Boss No. 35 Canal. Water flooded one row of almonds causing \$414.45 in damage. There was no permanent damage to the trees. Staff recommended approving the claim and paying Stamboom Farming, LLC. Mr. Boswell proposed that Stamboom Farming sign a release agreement prior to payment of claim.

M/S/C (Prieto/Beberian) That the Board of Directors approved payment of the damage claim submitted by Stamboom Farming, LLC in the amount of \$414.45 and directed Staff to prepare a release form to be signed by the claimant prior to payment by the following vote. (Ayes – Beberian, Jacobsen, Porter, Prieto, Jr.; Nays – 0; Absent – 0; Abstain – Woolf)

Director Woolf reentered the Board Room following the vote.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Beberian – none.

Director Woolf – none.

Director Jacobsen – none.

Director Porter – none.

Director Prieto – noted the expense involved to remove trash / debris left by trespassers from land he owns in the Corcoran area.

Open Session concluded at 6:04 p.m. with the Directors and some Staff going into Closed Session at 6:15 p.m. No District business was discussed during the break.

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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 William H. Wagner and William H. Wagner as Trustee

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

Terms and Conditions: Negotiations of Purchase of Real Property
Resolution 2017-14

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
Resolution 2017-15

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
Resolution 2017-16

CLOSED SESSION ADJOURNMENT

President Jacobsen adjourned Closed Session at 6:55 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 6:56 p.m.

Submitted By,



Gary R. Serrato
Secretary of the Board