

**FRESNO IRRIGATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
HELD MARCH 11, 2009**

Fresno Irrigation District's Board of Directors met in regular session at the District office located at 2907 South Maple Avenue – Fresno, California on March 11, 2009. Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Board President Jeff Boswell.

DIRECTORS PRESENT

President Jeff Boswell
Vice President Jeff Neely
Steven Balls
Ryan Jacobsen
George Porter

DIRECTORS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

General Manager Gary R. Serrato
Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura
Chief Engineer Bill Stretch
Watermaster Jim Irwin
Human Resources Director Regina Davis
Controller DeAnn Hailey
Recording Secretary Lynn B. Rowe

OTHERS PRESENT

Retired California Department of Fish and Game Representative Dale Mitchell
District's Public Relations Representative Randy McFarland

REVIEW AGENDA

No changes

REVIEW OF FUTURE MEETINGS

None

PUBLIC PRESENTATION

Mr. Serrato presented a Resolution plaque to Mr. Dale Mitchell (retired Environmental Program Manager), California Department of Fish and Game, thanking him for his many years of service and support to the Fresno Irrigation District.

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

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CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2009**
- b.** February 2009 Check Register
- c.** February 2009 Payroll Registers
- d.** February 2009 Unpaid Assessment Report
- e.** February 2009 Unpaid ISIP Assessment Report
- f.** February 2009 Investment Account
- g.** February 2009 COP Investment Account
- h.** Standard Developer Project – City of Fresno will pipeline the Teague Canal #46 Located N/W Gettysburg and Polk Avenues in Accordance with Board Policy. Action Request 2009-06

M/S/C/(Neely/Porter) That Board of Directors approve the Consent Calendar by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

380: WATER REPORT

a. Current Water Conditions

Watermaster Jim Irwin reviewed the current and projected water supply and snow pack information. As of March 10, Pine Flat release was 169 cfs and storage was 312,839 acre-feet. Pine Flat precipitation is 75.5% of normal. Staff prepared and presented two routings reflecting current water conditions. The first routings indicated the ability for the District to hold off water deliveries until May 1, but would require FID to place water into either Consolidated or Alta Irrigation District's Pine Flat storage space. The second routing indicated an April 1 start for the systems with a 30-day rotation cycle and an April 16 start for the systems with a 15-day rotation cycle. FID would be able to meet its required share of the Temperature Control Pool at the end of the season. After much discussion, the Board decided to begin the water deliveries based on the April 1/April 16 scenario.

M/S/C/(Porter/Jacobsen) That Board of Directors approve the start of water season on April 1 on to the systems on the 30 day cycles and April 16 to systems on the 15 day cycles by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

Staff has been given direction by the Board to limit the reclaim water to ten days.

b. Annex Areas Water Supply

With the recent Bureau of Reclamation allocations of 25% Class I and 0% Class II, FID will not be able to provide water to the Annexed Areas of Dog Creek, Round Mountain and Trimmer Springs Water Districts. The Annex Water Districts are only entitled to purchase Friant/Kern water when it is available. Staff was able to secure a water source from the City of Fresno for the Annex Areas and will provide it at \$150 per acre foot not to exceed a total sale of 1,000 acre feet.

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M/S/C/(Neely/Porter) That Board of Directors approve the delivery of Annex Area water at \$150 per acre up to 1,000 acre feet by unanimous vote. (Ayes 5; Nays 0; Absent 0; Abstain 0)

CHIEF ENGINEER'S REPORT

Chief Engineer Bill Stretch reported on the following items:

a. Developer and Agency Project Schedule for 2008/09 Update

Developer Projects – All projects have been completed.

Agency Projects – The Gunn Pipeline project at Ashlan and Temperance Avenues is wrapping up within the next week.

b. Three-Year Maintenance and Facility Upgrade Project for 2008/09

Mr. Stretch stated the three-year projects were winding down in anticipation of the April 1 start of water season.

c. Informational Items:

- i. Report of CII's Conference in Sacramento on February 2-4, 2009, with a Theme of "Modern Water Witching". Item 2009-04

The conference focused on new water supply, technology, and policy for the agricultural and urban sectors. Mr. Stretch had an opportunity, as part of the conference, to tour the Yolo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. They traveled to Cache Creek Dam and also met with local growers.

- ii. Discuss Proposed Trail along Enterprise-Holland Colony Canal No. 122 near Palm and Gettysburg Avenues. Item 2009-05

District Staff has met several times with the County of Fresno, FMFCD, and the Fig Garden Homeowners Association. Staff agreed to leave the canal as an open canal and is continuing to work through such issues as liability, maintenance, and ownership.

ASSISTANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant General Manager Laurence Kimura reported on the following:

a. Nielsen Site Rubble Pile Update

Currently there is nothing much going on with the property. Mr. Erickson and Staff held a meeting last week to discuss the best way to proceed with the final stage of the clean-up of the pile.

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b. Waldron Banking Project Update

The project has been completed and Staff is waiting to hear from DWR on signing off on the final report. It is expected to move forward within the next few weeks.

c. District Office Plan

One of the metal buildings has passed the final inspection – the other building is waiting on a concrete pad to be completed. PG&E is expected to hook up the transformer next Saturday.

d. General Maintenance and Equipment Update

- Crews are winding down on the dredging projects
- Maintenance is still working with some of the construction crews
- Motor-graders are working out in the east area
- Brushing crews are working on the Gould
- Spraying crews are working as weather permits, including weekends
- The trash truck is busy in town

CLOSED SESSION

Staff went into Closed Session at 6:30 p.m.

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

Conference with Legal Counsel–Anticipated Litigation (Government Code Section 54956.9(b)). Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (G.C. §54956.9. Significant Exposure to Litigation pursuant to subdivision (b)): KRWA.

Government Code Section 54956.8 Real Property Transactions.

Negotiators: Laurence Kimura and Ardismae Brooks

Properties: Portion of APN 334-320-05

Terms and Conditions: Update

REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

President Boswell stated that there was no action during Closed Session to report.

Closed Session concluded at 7:15 p.m.

Open Session reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Gary Serrato reported on the following:

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KINGS RIVER WATER ASSOCIATION

Upper Kings River Agreement

KRWA Staff is in the process of accounting for the total amount of non-demand water over the Fresno Weir required to meet the Exhibit "C" flows for the Upper River. Once the accounting is completed, FID Staff will initiate the renegotiations of the required non-demand flows required for the fishery management program by the Upper River Units.

FRIANT WATER AUTHORITY / FRIANT WATER USERS AUTHORITY

This topic was discussed during Closed Session.

OTHER ISSUES

City of Fresno 2009 Water Requirement

Staff met with the City of Fresno to discuss the City's water supply and diversion needs for the 2009 season. The City agrees that the District should continue to make the daily decision which water supply to divert while maximizing storage and delivering water when it is most beneficial to the growers in the district.

Water Meters

Director Jacobsen asked if Lon Martin from the City of Fresno could come before the Board to update and explain the new water meters. Negotiations between the City and contractors on bids for the installation of water meters are currently taking place.

Stimulus Package

Staff continues to pursue funds from the stimulus package by talking to legislators and attending meetings regarding this issue. Guidelines for funding are currently being developed.

Work Program

The District has been contacted by Proteus Inc. a work development agency to explore the ability of placing people back to work. Proteus Inc has obtained Stimulus Package monies and is partnering with the local agencies to provide job training and meaningful work for people who are unemployed. The program is for 24 weeks and will start in September. The District will only be responsible to provide supervision.

Cloud Seeding

KRWA continues to participate in cloud seeding. KRWA and KRCD share the cost equally. Success of the seeding is measured by the increase flows in the streams within a targeted area.

Kings County Water District

The District was informed that the initial pump testing which was conducted last month concluded that there were no impacts to surrounding wells. The Kings County Water District's board is in favor of proceeding with the water bank project. Fresno Irrigation District and King County water District will continue to negotiate FID's participation in the ground water banking facility.

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Clovis Mayors Breakfast

The Clovis Community Foundation will be held on May 14. Any one who may want to attend should contact staff to make arrangements.

Latino Conference

Mr. Serrato will be attending a meeting hosted by Assembly Member Juan Arambula with invited Assembly Member Tony Mendosa, who is the Vice Chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus. Discussions will center on San Joaquin Valley water and agricultural issues.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a. Friant Strategic Plan Adoption

The Board has decided to take no action at this time.

DIRECTORS' REPORT

Director Porter – attended CSDA Board Member training.

Director Jacobsen – April 14 has been selected for the Easton area meeting at 8 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

President Boswell adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Submitted By,

Gary R. Serrato
Board Secretary