

**ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
January 12, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER: The Regular Board Meeting for Alta Irrigation District was called to order at 9:30 am by President Norman Waldner. Members present were Daniel Astiasuain, Jack Brandt, Jerry Halford, John Kalendar and Tom Marshall. Others present were General Manager Chad Wegley, Controller Irma P. Faria, Engineer Jim Wegley and Attorneys Doug Jensen and Lauren Layne.

Filling AID Board Seat Vacancy

Oath of Office, Division 6 – No action taken

Appoint Division 6: General Manager Wegley met with President Waldner, Vice President Marshall and Board Member Halford on 1/10/2017. The Ad Hoc Committee interviewed three applicants to fill the Division #6 vacancy; Larry Tout, Douglas Stucky and James Simonian. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Kalendar** to appoint James Simonian at the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: A member of the public commented on the, “white paper” from DWR regarding water that is available for replenishment.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Marshall** to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2016 as written.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS

Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Executive Committee: Director Halford shared the minutes from the last KRWA Executive Committee Meeting with the Board.

Other Organizations and Items of Interest. None.

OLD BUSINESS

Operations: Storage Report: The latest storms produced substantial runoff both in the watershed for Pine Flat Reservoir, and for local eastside waterways crossing District canals. Since District canals were designed to deliver surface water and not control flood water, the District is very limited in its ability to comingle those water supplies. During December 2016 and the first week of January 2017, the District conveyed water into both the Harder and Traver Ponds. Recent storm events increased the stored volume behind Pine Flat Dam to about 456,000 acre-feet (AF). The United States Army Corp of Engineers' flood control guidelines, generally will require flood releases when storage

encroaches into reserved flood control space – volume varies from about 525,000 to 750,000 AF. The District is currently unable to accept flood release flows due to the eastside foothill water shed.

Development Projects:

Alta Irrigation District

Avenue 416 Widening (Tulare County – Caesar; 9922): The District is working with Concepts-In-Controls regarding the acquisition for a gate actuator, gate, and SCADA equipment for the Caesar headgate. District forces are planning to install those pieces of new equipment in late March, early April, weather permitting.

Approval of Addendum Number One to Caesar Pipeline, Ave 416 Contract with Dawson-Mauldin Construction, Inc. Engineer Wegley reviewed the addendum with the Board. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Marshall/Astiasuain** to approve and authorize the President’s signature on the addendum. (INSERT 23A)

Acceptance of Project and Filing Notice of Completion: Engineer Wegley provided oversight on the portion of the project contracted out to Dawson-Mauldin Construction, Inc. This portion of the project has been completed. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Astiasuain** to accept the project and authorize filing of the Notice of Completion. The escrow account will remain open until the remaining portion of the contract with Tulare County is completed. (INSERT 23B)

Avenue 416 Widening (City of Dinuba; 9889a): The project has been completed.

Tierra Vista (Smith Mtn Ditch; 9916): The District’s portion of this project is complete with the final reimbursement to the District processed from the developer’s escrow account and submitted for approval. The next step is for the Developer to file a Notice of Completion to close the escrow account. City and the Developer also need to resolve a significant grade differential near the Smith Mountain junction box.

City of Dinuba

Avenue 416 Widening (Rd 56 to Rd 80; 9914): The leaks remain unaddressed and the City is aware of a half mile reach of open ditch, on the west side of Ed Dena’s Auto Mall, that should have been piped per a previous agreement when the industrial park was developed. City is also responsible for water quality testing. Attorney Jensen recommended the District protect its contractual rights by addressing the outstanding issues in a new agreement with the City.

City of Reedley

Reedley Pond (Floral and Reed; 9917): The initial concept was for a joint ponding basin, with a footprint of about 40-acres, project between the City and the District. Since the landowner of the larger of the two parcels that made up the joint project was not a willing seller, the City reduced the project to a smaller footprint that was not functional

for the District. The banking project is also essential for the elimination of one of the City's storm water discharge points into the Kings River.

East Reedley Medical Building (Dr. Amu; 7035): The project is complete and the Developer needs to file a Notice of Completion prior to closing the escrow account.

Fresno County

Mt. Campbell Pipeline (Caltrans; 7025): The initial engineering deposit was utilized to offset expenses incurred by the District but there is still about \$3,000 in outstanding engineering costs. Caltrans has requested an updated estimate to review the plans, but until Caltrans submits final plans, the District is unable to provide a new estimate.

Culverts and Bridges:

Reedley Main (Englehart; 9930): The General Manager is planning a meeting with Fresno County's Director of Public Works to ensure improvements do not impact District's ingress and egress to its facilities.

Main Canal (Frankwood; 7029): Same as above.

Tulare County

Traver Bridge (Insert Ditch Name; 9926): No update.

Traver Bridge (Parlier; 9928): No update.

Traver Bridge (Lincoln; 9929): No update.

Encroachments:

Traver Ditch (DLM; 7045): It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Astiasuain** to authorize the President and Secretary's signature on the DML encroachment.
(INSERT 24A)

Clough Ditch (TeVelde #2; 7046): It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Astiasuain** to authorize the President and Secretary's signature on the TeVelde encroachment.
(INSERT 24B)

State Legislation/Regulation Update:

ACWA Legislative Committee: The committee meets next week. The Governor is putting out a preliminary budget, which depends heavily on capital gains taxes and less on income taxes from the general public. The Courts in northern California ruled that in addition to powers and authorities granted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) under SGMA, the SWRCB also has jurisdiction over groundwater by way of the public trust doctrine. ACWA will submit an amicus brief opposing the SWRCB's position.

Valley Ag Water Coalition (VAWC): The last meeting was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict with a scoping meeting hosted by Semitropic Water Storage District (SWSD).

KRWA Legislative Committee: No update:

Federal Legislation: Waters of the United States (WOTUS): New leadership in Washington D.C. is likely to redefine how WOTUS is interpreted by EPA and Corp of Engineers. The Ferguson Group provided a white paper summarizing the status of the clean water rule.

Water Management:

Water Banking Monthly Report: No update.

Cutler-Orosi Surface Water Project Update

Legal issues: The steering committee met this morning. A draft of the Drinking Water Joint Powers Agreement is out for review, in anticipation of adoption in the coming months.

Governance, communication, and community outreach: It was reported that 86% of the returned ballots support formation of a joint powers authority to provide treated surface water to seven communities in eastern Tulare County.

Landownership and coordination of water resources: General Manager Wegley will meet with the landowner to identify what portion of the nearly 14-acre parcel is needed for the plant and its future expansion.

NTC Surface Water Engineering Study: The study is on hold until the Drinking Water Authority Joint Powers Agreement is signed. The State is requiring an update to the 2007 nitrate removal study before funding the remaining portions of the NTC Surface Water Engineering Study.

Groundwater Sustainability Implementation

Selection of Kings River East GSA Board Members: The Water/Irrigation Districts selected Lauren Booth as the director and Jack Paxton as the alternate. The only seat remaining to be filled is the Ag Production seat, which will be finalized at the first official meeting of the Kings River East GSA on the January 17, 2017. Alta Irrigation District will be soliciting an administrative services agreement with the GSA.

Water Quality Coalition: No update.

Nitrate Isotope Testing: A conference call with Casey Kramer, KRCD Chair, Dr. David Cehrs, Chris Kapheim and General Manager Wegley was called to discuss why KRCD has not met personally with Mr. Harder regarding the nitrate isotope testing results. Harder's 2015 study reported, 97% of the high nitrates in the San Joaquin Valley are ag

related. This study contradicts his findings. We are hoping Mr. Harder will issue an update after reviewing the isotope study.

AID arch-type, CV-SALTS: No update.

Personnel Matters: Local 39 Stationary Engineers: The union has ratified the contract and the negotiations are complete. **(INSERT 26A)**

NEW BUSINESS

California Air Resource Board report (CARB): It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Marshall** to authorize the President’s signature on the annual CARB filing.

Banking, Update Signors:

Bank of the West: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to adopt the banking resolution updating the signors. **(R2017-01-04)**

Bank of the Sierra: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to adopt the banking resolution updating the signors. **(R2017-01-05)**

LAIF Authorization: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to authorize the President and Treasurer’s signature updating the authorized signors.

Semitropic Water Storage District’s Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for Tulare Lake Storage and floodwater Protection Project: Semitropic WSD is holding a scoping meeting in Kettleman regarding its NOP regarding the capture and utilization of unused floodwaters from the Kings River. Current proposal calls for a reservoir with a capacity varying from 15,000 to 30,000 AF and pump station, which would allow discharging of water into the California Aqueduct.

Election year change; from odd to even years:

Tulare County: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to adopt the resolution to change from an odd year election to an even year election **(R2017-01-01)**

Fresno County: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to adopt the resolution to change from an odd year election to an even year election **(R2017-01-02)**

Kings County: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to adopt the resolution to change from an odd year election to an even year election **(R2017-01-03)**

Board Meeting Calendar: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Marshall** to set the Regular Board Meetings for every second Thursday of the month, except for May. The Regular Board Meeting for May will be held on the third Thursday of the month since it will conflict with ACWA’s spring convention. **(INSERT 26B)**

MANAGER'S MONTHLY REPORT: The Manager's Report was read and made an addendum to these minutes.

CLAIMS: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of December 31, 2016, the projected balance for the Treasurer's General Fund is \$753,903 plus \$224,063 in A/R, Inventory and Deposits, less allocated and restricted reserves of \$966,000 leaving a projected balance of \$11,967 in operating reserves for the fiscal year ending 9/30/2017. As of 12/31/2016 there was \$2,258,237 in LAIF with interest at 0.72%.

WARRANTS: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Brandt** to approve the November 2016 warrants in the amount of \$145,745.67. **(INSERT 27A)**

COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The Collector's December 31, 2016 Report was signed and made an addendum to these minutes. **(INSERT 27B)**

Collections Update: The Collector reported that as of December 20, 2016, there was a 94% collection rate for assessments and water surcharge, respectively.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned until the next regularly scheduled board meeting on February 9, 2017.

Sincerely,

Chad B. Wegley
General Manager and Secretary to the Board

CW:ipf