

**ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING  
April 13, 2017**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1. Roll Call - The Regular Board Meeting for Alta Irrigation District was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Norman Waldner. Members present were Daniel Astiasuain, Jack Brandt, Jerry Halford, John Kalender, Tom Marshall and Larry Tout. Others present were General Manager Chad B. Wegley, Controller Irma P. Faria, Engineer Jim Wegley and Attorney Lauren Layne.
- 1.2. Potential Conflict(s) of Interest – None.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- 2.1. Landowners inquired, since the District was diverting flood water through the channels, if it was appropriate for them to personally put in boards to enable deliveries onto their properties. The General Manager explained such action would negatively affect the District's control of the flow and could potentially cause flooding to neighboring parcels. The landowner would be personally liable for damages arising from such unauthorized action. Another landowner requested the maintenance crew pick up pulled trash sooner and not allow it to accumulate on his property.

**3. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA – None.**

**4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

- 4.1. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, Government Code 54956.9(d)(1) – The Board of Directors went into closed session to confer with counsel regarding Kings River Water Association, et al. v. James Verboon, et al.
- 4.2. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Anticipated Litigation, Government Code 54956.9(d)(2) – Board of Directors went into closed session to confer with counsel on potential litigation arising out of claims by third parties to water rights on the Kings River.

**5. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

- 5.1. Announcement(s) from Closed Session: It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Astiasuain** to reconvene to open session. No action taken in closed session.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS – None.**

**7. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

- 7.1. Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Executive Committee – Director Halford reminded the Board the KRWA current minutes, budget and Kings River forecast was

available for review and mentioned the PGE water use payment is projected to be 219% of normal this year.

7.2. Other Organizations and Items of Interest – None.

## 8. WATER MANAGEMENT

- 8.1. Pine Flat Storage Report –The latest storms made an impact on the reservoir; it will be interesting to see what midseason impact it has on the overall 2017 water run.
- 8.2. Precipitation Summary –Precipitation for the month of April was recorded at 1.27 inches with hail reported in some parts of the District during the week of April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- 8.3. Monthly Headgate Diversions - This year there will be no sharing of storage capacity among the upper districts, since stored water will most likely be lost to “top of the schedule” flood diversions. The District continues to divert flood release waters for channel recharge, currently at 200 cfs and slowly ramping it up as we keep an eye on the forecast to maximize diversions for recharge and increase banking operations.
- 8.4. March 2017 Groundwater Level Measurements – District wide, the average groundwater level came up 2.4 feet from 80.4 feet. The General Manager explained the District has three distinct aquifers and will start to look at groundwater data in a similar format. Each well will be assigned a zone and charted accordingly.
- 8.5. Monthly Water Banking Report – The Monthly Water Banking Report was reviewed and made an addendum to these minutes. **(INSERT )**

## 9. ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL

- 9.1. Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2017. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Marshall** to approve the minutes as written.
- 9.2. Claims. No update.
- 9.3. Warrants. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Tout** to approve payment of the March 2017 Warrants in the amount of \$137,556.72 **(INSERT )**
- 9.4. Collector’s Report. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Brandt/Astiasuain** to approve the April 2017 Collector’s Report and made an addendum to these minutes. **(INSERT )**
- 9.5. Treasurer’s Report. As of 3/31/2017, there is a projected \$768,670.37 in the Treasurer’s General Fund plus \$172,329 in A/R, Inventory and Deposits, less allocated and restricted reserves of \$891,000 leaving a projected \$49,999 in operational reserves for the fiscal year ending 9/30/2017. As of 3/31/2017 there was \$1,479,753 in LAIF with interest at .82% It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Marshall/Astiasuain** to approve the April 2017 Treasurer’s Statement and made an addendum to these minutes. **(INSERT )**

## 10. CURRENT PROJECTS

- 10.1. Avenue 416 Widening (City of Dinuba, Rd 56 to Rd 80; 9914 & 9889a). The General Manager reported he is working with the city's contractor, Papich, to resolve the leak per the District's terms; the pipe manufacturer will need to provide a product certification. The work is to be completed by April 24.
- 10.2. Avenue 416 Widening (Tulare Co – Caesar/AB Clark 9922 & 9923). A frame for the automated headgate, on the Caesar, is schedule for installation next week.
- 10.3. Reedley Pond (Floral and Reed; 9917). No update on the development status of a 13-acre parcel within the city of Reedley, adjacent to the East Reedley Ditch.
- 10.4. Mt. Campbell Pipeline (Caltrans; 7025). Caltrans is experiencing delays on the Highway 180 expansion.
- 10.5. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Crossing (Traver; 9926). No update on the status of SoCal Gas installing a new gas line across Traver Canal.
- 10.6. Parlier Avenue Bridge (Traver; 9928). The General Manager met with Fresno County on the project to replace an existing bridge crossing. Nothing new to report.
- 10.7. Lincoln Avenue Bridge (Traver; 9929). The General Manager met with Fresno County on the project to replace an existing bridge crossing. Nothing new to report.
- 10.8. Englehart Avenue Bridge (Reedley Main; 9930). The General Manager met with Fresno County on the project to replace an existing bridge crossing. Nothing new to report.
- 10.9. Frankwood Avenue Bridge (Alta Main; 9931). The General Manager met with Fresno County on the project to construct a new bridge across the Alta Main. Once the new bridge is constructed, Fresno County is planning on deeding the existing bridge, with the District's headgate measurement structure attached, to the District. The General Manager has requested the County certify the condition of the bridge before the District would take ownership of the bridge.
- 10.10. DUSD Alta-Kamm High School (Dinuba Town, Burum; 9932). The District has been notified of a scope meeting and DUSD is aware of the pipe and open ditch realignment of the irrigation facilities impacted by development of a 77-acre parcel into a new school.
- 10.11. Manning Bridge (Traver; 9933). Fresno County has been informed their project to replace an existing bridge crossing must not impact our facility or access to it.
- 10.12. Cutler-Orosi Joint USD Sports Complex (Orosi School House). The General Manager reviewed a request from COJPUD to discharge storm water runoff from a proposed sports complex and other infrastructure improvements to Orosi High School's football stadium into a nearby ditch, with the Board. The school district will need to build a recharge basin to comply with the State's policy against runoff into an open canal.

- 10.13. Jack Ditch Encroachment (Peters; 7036). No update regarding proposed encroachment.
- 10.14. Caesar Encroachment (Paulsen Trust; 7047). The property owners will need to address landownership issues prior to finalizing a proposed encroachment.
- 10.15. Button Ditch Encroachment (Batth). It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Astiasuain/ Kalender** to approve and authorize the President and Secretary's signature on the Button Ditch Encroachment with Mr. Batth. **(INSERT )**
- 10.16. Cutler-Orosi Surface Water Treatment Plant (8875). The General Manager provided an update about 1) developing a joint powers authority (JPA), 2) acquiring land for the SWTP, and 3) participating in outreach efforts. Efforts to advance the JPA are proceeding slowly since the January meeting at AID. Most of the confusion centered around the need for the JPA in this planning process – mandated by the State – and when an agency could opt-out of this process. The State is asking for final comments from all parties and mentioned during the Steering Committee conference call that this would be the last round of edits. A study of disadvantage communities in Tulare County, conducted less than five years ago, concluded well head treatment was not a long-term solution to addressing nitrate issues.
- 10.17. Kings River East GSA. The General Manager provided an update about 1) administrative issues; 2) committee formation; and 3) GSP development. The District, on behalf of the GSA, is gathering proposals from firms with experience in Prop 26 for support. The General Manager is setting up an advisory committee and will recommend participants for the technical committee.

## 11. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – TAKE ACTION

- 11.1. Water Run. At the General Manager's recommendation, it was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Marshall** to start water run on May 1, 2017 and to make the initial allocation 3 days per 20 acres at 100% entitlement land, 2.25 days for 75%, 1.5 days for 50%, 0.75 days for 25% land, and to allow a conditional groundwater-only parcel the right to make a demand equal to 25% land at an additional cost of \$3.00 per acre-foot of water measured. The allocation formula may be adjusted as necessary.
- 11.2. Moving Elections from Odd to Even Years. The District has received approvals from the Counties of Fresno, Tulare, and Kings to move to even year elections. The District will need to reimburse the counties for noticing the voters later this year.

## 12. INFORMATIONAL ITEM(S) – CONSIDER FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

- 12.1. Nitrate Isotope Testing. The General Manager discussed issuing of follow-up letters to landowners that participated in the first round of testing and setting up for a second round of water quality testing in cooperation with KRCD. New samples are needed to differentiate between potential nitrate sources.
- 12.2. AID Arch-type, CV-SALTS – No update.

- 12.3. ACWA Legislative Committee – Attorney Lane reviewed the following bills with the Board: AB321 attempts to amend the water code to specifically include agriculture in GSA decision making; bill is not receiving sufficient support to move forward. AB947 would bring back exemptions for having to notify the Department of Fish and Wildlife for routine maintenance in streambeds. AB1023 would recognize February 6 as Ronald Reagan Day. SB252 attempts to amend SIGMA by requiring counties to impose additional restrictions. SB372 create the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The bill is modeled after the KRE-GSA SB 37.
- 12.4. Valley Ag Water Coalition (VAWC) – Same as 12.3.
- 12.5. Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Legislative Committee – Same as 12.3
- 12.6. Federal Legislation Regarding Waters of the United States (WOTUS) – No update.
- 12.7. Governor Brown Issues Executive Order B-40-17 – Governor Brown has announced the drought is over, except for the three counties (Kings, Fresno, and Tulare) on the Kings River.  
**(INSERT)**
- 12.8. Manager's Report – The General Manager identified the area and key locations where PGE's power line upgrade plans impact the District's right-of-way. Utility poles impede the maintenance program. The General Manager will research title on affected property.

**13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S)** – No update.

**14. ADJOURNMENT** –There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned until the next scheduled regular board meeting on May 17, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Sincerely,

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Chad B. Wegley  
Secretary

CBW:ipf