

**ALTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 13, 2017**

1. CALL TO ORDER AT 9:30 A.M.

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, Attorneys Doug Jensen and Lauren Layne.

1.2. Potential Conflict(s) of Interest – None.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

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

4. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION – ACTION

4.1. Conference with Legal Counsel Regarding Pending Litigation, Government Code 54956.9(d)(1) – 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.

4.3. 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 claim(s) by landowner(s) from seepage from District canals.

4.4. 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 claim filed by employee, C. Fenton, for discrimination with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC).

5. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION – ACTION

5.1. Announcement(s) from Closed Session – The Board reconvened into open session with no reportable action taken in closed session.

6. COMMUNICATIONS – None.

7. BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

- 7.1. Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Executive Committee – Director Halford gave a brief review of KRWA activity and explained that copies of minutes from the most recent meeting are available for review at the District office.
- 7.2. Other Organizations and Items of Interest – None.

8. WATER MANAGEMENT – INFORMATIONAL

- 8.1. Pine Flat Storage Report –Pine Flat dam is greater than 95% of storage capacity. The Upper River Units are at nearly 28,000 acre-feet, cumulative total, of allowable over storage.
- 8.2. Precipitation Summary – Precipitation for the month of June totaled 0.06 inches while the cumulative total for March – June was 3.22 inches while the same period last year was 4.04 inches.
- 8.3. Monthly Headgate Diversions – Diversions may decrease from 850 cfs to 700 cfs after harvesting corn in the southern end of the district. Deliveries historically taper off in August. Canal capacity upstream of New London Pond is limiting recharge operations at this location. District staff believes additional water could be recharge if upstream restraints were fixed. Soils at Button Pond are not conducive for recharge so this site functions as temporary a layoff facility when there are mismatches between supply and demand. The General Manager continues to look for new recharge sites within the District and to develop potential partnerships with neighboring agencies for new recharge sites.
- 8.4. Monthly Water Banking Report - Diversions and pumping at Traver and Harder banks are back to normal operations. The two seepage sites collected approximately 300 acre-feet since the start of water run. The Monthly Water Banking Report was reviewed and include as an addendum to the minutes. **(INSERT)**

9. ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL – ACTION

- 9.1. Board Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2017. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Tout/Astiasuain** to approve the minutes as written.
- 9.2. Claims. None.
- 9.3. Budget. The General Manager discussed the advantages of purchasing a crew cab pickup and rolling it into the maintenance fleet instead of leasing a vehicle for the General Manager. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Marshall/Brandt** to authorize the General Manager to approve the bid from Swanson Farhney Ford in the amount of \$35,126.63 for the purchase of a pickup and financing with Ally Financing
- 9.4. Warrants. It was **M/S/C Unanimously by Halford/Marshall** to approve the payment of the June 2017 warrants in the amount of \$185,406.45. **(INSERT)**
- 9.5. Collector's Report. The Collector's Report was reviewed and made as an addendum to these minutes. **(INSERT)**

- 9.6. Treasurer's Report. As of 6/30/2017 the Treasurer's General Fund balance was \$738,379.50 plus \$282,477.72 in A/R, inventory and deposits, less allocated and restricted reserves of \$891,00.00 leaving a projected balance in operational reserves of \$129,538.61 for the fiscal year ending 9/30/2017. As of 6/30/2017 the LAIF account balance was \$1,153,248.17, earning interest at a rate of 0.98%.

10. CURRENT PROJECTS – REVIEW AND CONSIDER FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

- 10.1. Avenue 416 Widening (City of Dinuba, Rd 56 to Rd 80; 9914 & 9889a). Discuss for possible action impacts to District facilities from this road project. No update.
- 10.2. Avenue 416 Widening (Tulare Co – Caesar/AB Clark 9922 & 9923). Discuss for possible action automation for Caesar headgate. No update.
- 10.3. Reedley Pond (Floral and Reed; 9917). Discuss for possible action impacts to District facilities from the development of a 13-acre parcel within the city of Reedley, adjacent to the East Reedley Ditch. No update.
- 10.4. Mt. Campbell Pipeline (Caltrans; 7025). Discuss for possible action impacts to District facilities from the expansion of Highway 180. Caltrans does not have the right to encroach on district facilities; we continue to work with Caltrans on the project.
- 10.5. Parlier Avenue Bridge (Traver; 9928). Discuss for possible action status of a Fresno County project to replace an existing bridge crossing. No update.
- 10.6. Lincoln Avenue Bridge (Traver; 9929). Discuss for possible action status of a Fresno County project to replace an existing bridge crossing. No update.
- 10.7. Englehart Avenue Bridge (Reedley Main; 9930). Discuss for possible action status of a Fresno County project to replace an existing bridge crossing. No update.
- 10.8. Frankwood Avenue Bridge (Alta Main; 9931). Discuss for possible action status of a Fresno County project to construct a new bridge across the Alta Main. No update.
- 10.9. DUSD Alta-Kamm High School (Dinuba Town, Burum; 9932). Provide update for possible action regarding irrigation facilities impacted by development of a 77-acre parcel into a new school. The General Manager is scheduled to meet with school personnel to discuss the project. The school district has been asked to advance a \$10,000 deposit for preliminary work to provide for an engineering review and determination of required improvements.
- 10.10. Manning Bridge (Traver; 9933). Discuss for possible action status of a Fresno County project to replace an existing bridge crossing. No update.
- 10.11. Cutler-Orosi Joint USD Sports Complex (Orosi School House). Discuss for possible action 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. No update.

- 10.12. Jack Ditch Encroachment (Peters; 7036). Provide update for possible action about proposed encroachment. No update.
- 10.13. Cutler-Orosi Surface Water Treatment Plant (8875). Provide update for possible action regarding 1) developing a joint powers authority, 2) acquiring land for the SWTP, and 3) participating in outreach efforts. Cutler-Orosi PUD wants to continue to forward with a surface water treatment plant and is open to participation by all entities that want to proceed with such a facility. Cutler-Orosi PUD is also pursuing funding from various sources such as federal, State, local, or other opportunities. The State is moving forward with a feasibility analysis for wellhead treatment for users in rural Tulare County along with pursuing a regional surface water treatment plant that may service the cities of Dinuba or Orange Cove, and other rural communities. The State also mentioned that requests for Prop 1 money already exceed available funds.
- 10.14. Kings River East GSA. Provide update for possible action about 1) administrative issues; 2) committee formation; and 3) GSP development. The cities of Sanger, Parlier, Del Rey, and Kingsburg have formed the South Kings GSA and were able to eliminate any overlapping areas with the Central Kings River GSA before the June 30, 2017 deadline with the State.

11. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – TAKE ACTION

- 11.1. Water Run. Discuss and provide update on water run. The General Manager reported that diversions from the Kings River are influenced by irrigation cycles and cropping patterns within the Groundwater Only areas of the District.

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

- 12.1. AID Arch-type, CV-SALTS – No update.
- 12.2. ACWA Legislative Committee. – Attorney Layne reported on SB623. The bill would establish the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury and would provide that moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the office. The funds would be used to assist communities and individual domestic well users to address contaminate in drinking water that exceed safe drinking water standards, as specified. It also seeks a 15 year reprieve for lawsuits, essentially reversing the 27 letters sent to individual landowners. ACWA has an oppose unless amend position because it is adamantly opposed to any public goods charge.

Valley Ag Water Coalition (VAWC). Bob Reed, with VAWC, was successful in amending SB1667. The bill would require the SWRCB to adopt long-term standards for urban water conservation and water use on or before May 20, 2021.
- 12.3. Kings River Water Association (KRWA) Legislative Committee. Same as above.
- 12.4. Federal Legislation Regarding Waters of the United States (WOTUS). – No update.
- 12.5. Governor Brown Issues Executive Order B-40-17. – No update.

12.6. Manager's Report – The General Manager is investigating a recent complaint from a landowner unsatisfied with current canal operations not providing sufficient pressure to supply water to his filter station. According to the landowner, prior to the drought, he was able to take surface water deliveries. Field survey and hydraulic calculations suggest delivery is possible if assumptions are correct. District staff will continue to work with the landowner to address his concerns. In another area, a landowner has planted a permanent crop over a District easement, which also restricts historic vehicular access to a key diversion structure. The farmer will be given 45 days to remove the trees thereby restoring the District's access to the turnout. The General Manager also informed the Board of his recent appointment to the Tulare County Water Commission.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM(S) – None.

14. ADJOURNMENT – There being no further items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned until the next scheduled regular board meeting on August 10, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

Sincerely,

Chad B. Wegley

CBW: ipf