MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OF THE TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Turlock, California
15 January 2019

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Turlock Irrigation District was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in regular session on the 15th day of January 2019. Present were: Directors Charles Fernandes (President), Rob Santos (Vice-President), Michael Frantz (Secretary), Joe Alamo and Ron Macedo, General Manager Casey Hashimoto and Executive Secretary to the Board Tami Wallenburg.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MOTION APPROVING CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Director Macedo, seconded by Director Santos, that the consent calendar consisting of the following be approved:

A. Minutes of the regular meeting of January 8, 2019.
B. Demands against the District represented by check numbers 380220 to 380439, inclusive, in the amount of $6,385,362.05.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The President declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was none.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Utility Analyst-Hydrology Olivia Cramer reported on current water conditions and forecast. Accumulated precipitation measured at the three mountain stations in the Tuolumne River watershed from September 1, 2018 to present total 12.36 inches, or 79 percent of normal to date. San Francisco reservoirs contain 476,101 acre-feet and the Water Bank is at 555,129 acre-feet of credit. Don Pedro contains 1,439,074 acre-feet. Average combined releases are at 248 cubic feet per second. Computed natural flow is averaging 997 cfs, and Turlock Lake contains 25,480 acre-feet of water. The weekly watershed report shows Don Pedro has gone up 1 foot since this time last week. Ms. Cramer also noted that the February 1 snow survey may be delayed due to the ongoing government shut-down.

MOTION APPROVING APPLICATION FOR INSTALLATION OF A 15-INCH SIDE GATE IN THE UPPER LATERAL 2 1/2 CANAL BY JOSEPH ARIAS
Moved by Director Alamo, seconded by Director Santos, that the application of Joseph Arias, dated January 9, 2019 for installation of one 15” sidegate in Turlock Irrigation District’s Upper Lateral 2 1/2 Canal be approved.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The President declared the motion carried.

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN UPDATE

General Manager Casey Hashimoto presented a brief history and update on the State Water Resources Control Boards’ (SWRCB) recently adopted Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP). In 2009, a Notice of Preparation was issued by the SWRCB advising the public that it would begin review and update process of the previous WQCP. In December of 2012, they circulated a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) with a revised version being released in September 2016 after all comments were submitted. In 2016, the SWRCB held a series of workshops in several areas including Stockton and Modesto with TID submitting verbal and written comments each time. The SWRCB reviewed all comments submitted by various agencies and members of the public with a planned vote on the SED scheduled in November 2018. During that meeting, many agencies and members of the public again spoke and submitted comments and their vote was then postponed until December 12, 2018, at which time they voted 4-1 to adopt the SED as presented but with an amendment by SWRCB member Joaquin Esquivel. The amendment directed the SWRCB staff to provide appropriate technical and regulatory information to assist the California Natural Resources Agency in completing a Delta watershed-wide agreement, including flow and non-flow measures for the Tuolumne River, as well as associated analysis no later than March 1, 2019. Additionally, SWRCB staff shall incorporate the Delta watershed-wide agreement, including potential amendments related to the Tuolumne River, as an alternative for a future, comprehensive “Bay-Delta Plan update” that addresses the reasonable protection of beneficial uses across the Delta watershed, with the goal that comprehensive amendments to the Bay-Delta Plan across the Delta watershed may be presented to the SWRCB for consideration as early as possible after December 1, 2019. TID, along with Oakdale Irrigation District, South San Joaquin Irrigation District, and the City and County of San Francisco joined in the San Joaquin Tributaries Authority (SJTA) petition which was filed on January 10, 2019. He noted that Merced Irrigation District and Modesto Irrigation District both filed their own petitions separately, though Modesto ID is a current member of the SJTA and would still incur their share of the costs associated with the SJTA filing. Next steps will include further discussion with the Natural Resources Agency and the state board staff per the amended resolution. Also planned is public outreach and education on the Tuolumne River potential flow and non-flow measures. An evening board meeting has been scheduled for February 26 at 5:30 p.m. to keep the public up to date and answer any questions they may have concerning the WQCP. Board members asked several questions regarding current settlement discussions of which Mr. Hashimoto and Legal Counsel Art Godwin attended (though in separate meetings), and also expressed concerns and potential impacts caused by Modesto Irrigation District filing separately. Mr. Godwin addressed several concerns and also provided a brief history of the Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan (VAMP) which operated from 2000-2008.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

General Manager Casey Hashimoto stated AGM Financial Services Brian Stubbert wished to clarify a question that was asked during the previous board meeting.
During the January 8, 2019 Board Meeting, Director Frantz asked a question during the action item for the pension language changes. He asked for clarification between when someone severed employment with the District and when he or she retired. Director Frantz thought a retired person was anyone who left the District after retirement age. At that time, Mr. Stubbert told him he was unsure, but thought they had to fill out their retirement paperwork. He then obtained clarification from Human Resources. Mr. Stubbert conveyed that he was incorrect in his previous statement. The correct statement is, a person is considered retired at the time they leave employment (for any reason) after they reach retirement age and he or she is required to fill out paperwork stating they are retiring from the District. They can also fill out paperwork to start collecting their pension at a later date.

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Director Frantz reported that a tour/informational meeting was provided by District staff to SWRCB board members Joaquin Esquivel and Sean Maquire. TID’s Director of Water Resources and Regulatory Affairs Steve Boyd, Senior VP-HDR Consulting John Devine, Modesto Irrigation District’s (MID) Irrigation Operations Manager John Davids, and City and County of San Francisco’s General Counsel Ellen Levin led an afternoon discussion where the Districts FERC studies that provide the scientific basis for the Voluntary Settlement Agreement was explained. At the conclusion of the tour, additional guests were invited to a dinner held at TID Director Michael Frantz’s home. Also attending the dinner was TID Board President Charles Fernandes, MID Board members Paul Campbell and John Mensinger, and San Francisco Public Utilities Commission General Manager Michael Carlin.

Director Santos thanked General Manager Casey Hashimoto for today’s update on the Water Quality Control Plan. He also recommended the formation of an internal committee to discuss transparency solutions and volunteered to be one of two board members on the committee. General Manager Casey Hashimoto stated he was open to that recommendation.

Director Frantz questioned if any material impacts were expected due to the recent news of PG&E possibly filing for bankruptcy. General Manager Casey Hashimoto responded stating he did not anticipate any impacts to the service area agreements in place as those do not expire until 2027. On the gas side, he noted that gas is a highly regulated industry and the Public Utilities Commission simply would not allow any negative repercussions to impact the future of natural gas in the state.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Director Frantz, seconded by Director Alamo, that the regular meeting of the Board of Directors be adjourned.

All voted in favor with none opposed. The President declared the motion carried.

Tami Wallenburg
Executive Secretary to the Board of Directors