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

Turlock, California
3 March 2020

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 3rd day of March 2020. Present were: Directors Rob Santos (President), Michael Frantz (Vice-President), Ron Macedo (Secretary), Charles Fernandes and Joe Alamo, General Manager Michelle Reimers and Executive Secretary to the Board Tami Wallenburg.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MOTION APPROVING CONSENT CALENDAR

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

A. Minutes of the regular meeting of February 11, 2020 and the special meeting of February 21, 2020.

B. Demands against the District represented by check numbers 391222 to 391742, inclusive, in the amount of $14,856,529.36.


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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Customer John Tenbrink, Jr. expressed concern over nonpayment of a claim submitted by his mother, Martha Tenbrink, in 2016. He stated there was an agreed upon amount through the District’s insurance company at that time but the adjuster had retired shortly thereafter and communications ceased between the parties. Board members stated they would discuss the matter during a closed session and respond to the party accordingly.

WEEKLY/MONTHLY REPORTS

Utility Analyst/Hydrology Olivia Cramer reported on current water conditions. Accumulated precipitation measured at the three mountain stations in the Tuolumne River watershed from September 1, 2019 to present total 11.83 inches, or 30.66 percent of normal to date. The 8-day precipitation forecast is showing a quarter to one inch locally and up to 2 inches in the upper watershed. She noted the 16-day forecast is indicating a more intense storm the following weekend with a lot of variability in a high pressure ridge. Forecasted temperatures show an average of low to mid-70s for a high, and minimum temperatures at 42-44 degrees for the next
couple of weeks. Freezing levels are projected at the 4500 ft. elevation level. San Francisco reservoirs contain 482,734 acre-feet and the Water Bank is at 553,991 acre-feet of credit. CCSF releases for the past 7-days averaged at 381 cfs with 359 cfs in diversions. Don Pedro contains 1,644,584 acre-feet and is currently at 797.8 elevation which would allow room in the reservoir if weather patterns change quickly. Average combined releases were 505 cubic feet per second with 3 cfs to TID canals, 171 cfs to Modesto Irrigation District and the remaining 331 cfs going to the Tuolumne River. Computed natural flow for the current water-year is averaging 948 cfs, and computed natural flow to date is 181,168 af or 27.1 percent of average. Turlock Lake contains 25,471 acre-feet of water. The updated weekly watershed report shows Don Pedro elevation with no changes when compared to the previous week.

Water Distribution Department Manager Mike Kavarian reported on activity during the first weekend of the irrigation season. Water was brought into the system the previous Friday and the Call Center received 912 orders on Sunday and another 471 orders on Monday. He stated staff is bringing the water in slowly while trying not to overload the canal system as some canal projects were not completed due to the early start date. Staff brought in another 220 cfs the previous day but noted some improvement districts would not receive water for another 6-7 days. He wished to thank staff in various departments who assisted in preparing the canal system for the early start to the irrigation season noting it took a lot of team effort. Board members asked several questions regarding use of District pumps and possible delays in receiving water.

MOTION CANCELING THE TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS OF MARCH 10, 2020

Moved by Director Macedo, seconded by Director Fernandes, that the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Turlock Irrigation District scheduled for March 10, 2020, be canceled.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 2020 - 14

RESOLUTION DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT WARRANTS FROM MARCH 4 THROUGH MARCH 10, 2020

WHEREAS, because the Board of Directors will not hold its regular meeting on March 10, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Water Code Section 24600 states “No claim shall be paid by the treasurer until allowed by the board, and only upon a warrant signed by the president and countersigned by the secretary”; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the District that the District pay vendors in a timely manner.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Turlock Irrigation District as follows:
1. For the period of March 4 through March 10, 2020 only, the Board of Directors delegates to the President and Vice President of the District’s Board of Directors and either of them, the authority to approve claims under Water Code Section 24600 for payment.

2. At the Board of Directors’ regular meeting on March 17, 2020, the Treasurer or the Accounting Department Manager shall report to the Board all claims paid during that period pursuant to this resolution.

Moved by Director Alamo, seconded by Director Fernandes, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

Ayes: Directors Fernandes, Frantz, Alamo, Macedo, Santos
Noes: Directors - None
Absent: Directors - None

The President declared the resolution adopted.

**ELECTRIC VEHICLE UPDATE**

Energy Services Manager Monique Hampton presented an update on the District’s Electric Vehicle Program. The program was approved in October 2018 and includes customer rebates, government and business partnerships, marketing, EV vehicles added to District fleet, an employee charging policy and an EV Rate. In 2019, there were 86 electric vehicle rebates, 33 residential charger rebates and nine commercial rebates. Staff also met with five school districts in 2019, three municipalities and several commercial customers with a high interest in Level 2 Chargers for electric forklifts. The District also purchased one battery electric vehicle, five plug-in hybrids as well as three electric buckets on line trucks and five Level 2 chargers. Marketing for the program included Facebook ads, the District’s Wire Newsletter and on the tid.org website. To date, six customers have been on the DT rate since 2019 with a few of these customers also installing solar which changed their rate schedule from DT to DG. Projections for 2020 include an increase to all EV rebates with residential going to $500 (CARES customers receive an additional $700), and an increase in commercial EV charger rebates to ten (10) per commercial account. A new rebate of $1,000 began in 2020 for electric forklifts. Also created this year is a new EV Guide which went live on March 3, and can be found at ev.tid.org. The District has an EV Guest Ride and Drive event planned for May 16th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Ten Pin Fun Center located in Turlock.

**LAND LEASE UPDATE**

Survey/Right-of-Way Manager Tristan Higgins presented an update on the proposed land lease for District property located at 600 S. Washington Road, Turlock. This consists of a 69-acre parcel south of West Main Street with 22.4-acres utilized for the existing Walnut Energy Center. The Board authorized staff in 2019 to seek proposals for long-term lease agreements for 46.6-acres of the property. As staff prepared to present the proposals to the Board for final decisions, new information on potential uses of the property came to light. After communication with the prospective lessees, it was determined awarding of the bids could be delayed while due diligence
was performed surrounding these potential uses. Staff looked into a possible Community Solar Project which would be small scale solar projects that are local and visible to the community and would assist customers in meeting renewable and/or emissions reduction goals while reducing energy costs. Mr. Higgins noted that in order to fully vet the Community Solar project while providing the Board with the best information to make a decision, it would be necessary to close the existing Request for Proposals. Board members had several questions regarding a possible community solar project, including potential impacts to the electrical system, infrastructure, potential risks to the District, short-term vs. long-term lease options, purchase power agreements and costs. Director Alamo also asked if staff could evaluate other locations for the proposed project rather than utilizing quality farm land for long term use with other board members concurring. General Manager Michelle Reimers commented the proposed project is worth evaluating and will direct staff to bring a full program proposal to the Board for their consideration at a future board meeting.

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Michelle Reimers reported on a recent trip to Washington D.C. with Directors Fernandes and Macedo, and External Affairs Department Manager Josh Weimer to attend the APPA/ACWA Legislative Conference. The team also met with federal lobbyists and various members of congress with the main topic being the Don Pedro Relicensing, Voluntary Settlement Agreements and the ASO Program. Mrs. Reimers also wished to thank District staff for all their hard work in preparing the canal system for the early start to the irrigation season, it was greatly appreciated. Next, she informed the Board of the launch of an Employee Engagement Survey to measure how the District can improve in specific areas if needed and the strategy to do so. Lastly, Mrs. Reimers reported on a joint meeting held at the District on February 21 with Directors Santos and Frantz, and also included mayors from the City of Modesto, City of Turlock and representatives from the Stanislaus Regional Water Authority (SRWA) to discuss restrictions the Bureau of Reclamation has placed on the water transfer for the SRWA Regional Surface Water Project. She noted staff will continue to work closely on this matter while moving the project forward. Director Santos stated he felt the meeting went well and all attendees seemed pleased the District is moving the process forward noting “we are all in this together.”

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Directors Fernandes and Macedo reported on their recent trip to Washington D.C. with staff. They were pleased to know that legislators were understanding of the water curtailment issues impacting California irrigation districts and felt the conversations were very productive. They also commended General Manager Michelle Reimers and External Affairs Department Manager Josh Weimer for being so prepared for the discussions and appreciated the strong relationships they have formed in D.C. over the years as it is very important for the District to be involved in these discussions.

MOTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Director Frantz, seconded by Director Fernandes, that the regular meeting of the Board of Directors be adjourned to closed session:
1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
   California Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)
   Anticipated litigation: one potential case
   - Michael Clipper, Risk & Investment Analyst
   - Sara Lima, Assistant General Counsel

2. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
   California Government Code Section 54956.9(a)
   Stavrianoudakis vs. TID
   Pegasus Claim Numbers – TID18-00016, TID17-00008, TID06-00041
   State of California, Division of Workers’ Compensation Appeals Board
   - Jorian Reed, Director of Human Resources
   - Joe Barlupo, Legal Counsel

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

   **REPORT OF ANY ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

   The President announced the following action was taken in closed session:

   Moved by Director Frantz, seconded by Director Fernandes, that the claim of Clover Prairie Farms be approved in the requested amount of $7,368.77. All voted in favor with none opposed.

   **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

   Hearing no further business, Director Macedo motioned, seconded by Director Fernandes, 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