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

Turlock, California
20 February 2018

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 20th day of February 2018. 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 Frantz, that the consent calendar consisting of the following be approved:

A. Minutes of the special and regular meetings of February 13, 2018.
B. Demands against the District represented by check numbers 371252 to 371456, inclusive, in the amount of $10,492,815.31.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was none.

WEEKLY UPDATES

Line Division Manager Denver Hodges presented the report for the Electrical Engineering and Line Department for the month of January. The SAIDI (System Average Interruption Duration Index) year-to-date figure is 93. (SAIDI totals the duration of each outage then divides it by the customer base, and is considered a commonly used formula in the industry). The average length of time customers were without power (due to outages) was 6 minutes. Major outage contributors in January show Third Party Damage (car/pole accidents, etc.) at 77 percent, equipment failure at 12 percent, animals at 3 percent, interference at 4 percent and unknown causes at 4 percent. Electrical Engineering sent 54 customer requests to the Line Department for completion. Construction lead time in January was 1 week, with one contracted crew for the month. The crew structure consisted of three 5-person crews, one 2-person crew, one 4-person contract crew and one 4-person crew.
RESOLUTION NO. 2018 – 9

RESOLUTION SETTING THE 2018 IRRIGATION SEASON

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Turlock Irrigation District that:

1. The 2018 Irrigation Season shall begin on Thursday, March 1, 2018 and end on Wednesday, October 31, 2018.

2. Irrigation water shall be available for purchase using the Normal Year Water Rate Schedule, pursuant to Resolution 2015-1, adopted January 13, 2015.

3. The amount of water available for each acre of irrigated land during the 2018 Irrigation Season shall be 48 inches per acre.

4. Replenishment water will be available for those parcels who need more than 48” of water to produce a crop. This water will be billed at the appropriate tier.

5. Gardenhead parcels shall be delivered irrigation water once every two (2) weeks. The fixed water charge shall be $350 for each gardenhead parcel.

6. All irrigated parcels are required to place water orders to receive irrigation water from the District.

7. Sidegates will be required to be shut when not in use.

8. Customers are required to order water on each parcel and sidegate combination.

9. The Water Distribution Department Manager may adjust the season due to weather conditions and crop requirements.

10. The Water Distribution Department Manager may make available replenishment water to lands outside the District’s irrigation service area that are within the Turlock groundwater subbasin depending on hydrological conditions.

Moved by Director Santos, seconded by Director Macedo, that the foregoing resolution be adopted.

Upon roll call the following vote was had:

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

The President declared the resolution adopted.
GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

General Manager Casey Hashimoto had no items to report.

BUSINESS OF THE BOARD

Director Santos presented information on the rebuilding of the Don Pedro Visitors Center which burned down in 2016. A steering committee was formed after the fire to make recommendations on the rebuild project. The committee consisted of representatives from TID, Modesto Irrigation District (MID) and the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF), the three agencies who share joint interests in Don Pedro Reservoir. He conveyed there has been a lot of discussion on share of cost/percentages from each agency, the location of the new Visitor’s Center and whether it should also include an educational aspect for visitors. Since the option to rebuild at a new site with additional educational features would cost far more than the replacement cost allowed by the District’s insurance policy, Director Santos wished to discuss the matter with fellow board members for their input. The board discussed costs associated with a rebuild on the original site, which would keep member costs at a minimum, or relocate the center to a different location at Don Pedro which would also include an educational aspect but would entail more out of pocket costs for member agencies. Either location would also continue to serve as the administration building for DPRA staff.

As part of the discussion, the Board also heard from TID’s Risk & Investment Analyst Michael Clipper and the District’s insurance broker, Alan Tyler, of Tyler Insurance Agency. They reviewed several options for the rebuild, replacements costs, and regulatory ADA upgrades that would need to be included as well as fire sprinklers. Board members asked several questions regarding building permits, potential FERC and CEQA issues, construction deadlines, and where the consensus of the other two member agencies stand. Though the Board felt Director Santos’ concept for the educational center was a great idea, they voiced several concerns over how the additional costs would be paid as the insurance settlement would only cover a portion, and without the other agencies fully on board to split the remaining costs, it would potentially impact District ratepayers which they were not willing to do. After further discussion, Director Alamo suggested moving forward with the rebuild of the Visitors Center in its original location and to look into a future educational building when both member agencies are on board financially. The Board then directed General Manager Casey Hashimoto to contact both CCSF and MID representatives to see if they are in agreement.

The Board and various staff then walked over to the James A. Waymire building for a tour led by Associate Civil Engineer Bill Penney, who also serves as the project manager for the Palm Street project. The former City of Turlock Police Services building was acquired by the District in 2015 and was recently remodeled to accommodate the water distribution operators and various managers.
EARLY IRRIGATION GUIDELINES WORKSHOP

The Board reconvened for the scheduled workshop in GM Conference Rm.172 at 10:35 a.m. with all officers present as per the previous session. Water Distribution Department Manager Mike Kavarian reviewed the guidelines utilized by staff when deciding to implement an early or regular irrigation season. Staff analyzes several factors including hydrology and weather. Water Distribution staff works closely with the district’s hydrology team by studying precipitation to date plus future forecasts as well as day/night temperatures and wind factors. They also take into account the demand for irrigation, how many inquiries they have received from customers, what type of crops will need water sooner than other types, and location. Lastly, staff determines the volume in storage at Don Pedro Reservoir plus expected inflows based on a dry water year scenario as well as CCSF operations, which include the reservoir level at Hetch Hetchy and their current Water Bank storage. The Board discussed possibly putting a policy in place to assist water distribution staff in making these annual decisions though some felt an actual policy was too black and white and didn’t allow enough flexibility. They also discussed future full automation of the canal system, CCSF releases, frost protection measures and problems related to cancelled water orders.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Moved by Director Frantz, seconded by Director Santos, 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