



**Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors
March 12, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District met this day in regular session at the District office located at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, California.

CALL TO ORDER

President Borba called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Borba, Gisler, Chambers, McCowan, Witzel

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, District Manager
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, District Secretary
Bryce McAteer, Eastern Tule GSA
Dave Dorrance, Sun World International
Liz Ingraham
Michael Knight, City of Porterville
Bill Wallace
Terry Schuler
Allan Lombardi
Kathy Briano
Tim Allan, Sun Pacific

AGENDA – No changes or additions were made to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – President Borba asked if there was any public comment.

District customer, Liz Ingraham, inquired about her water service and help with a District easement. The Manager was unaware of any easement that would benefit or allow this service but asked for a meeting outside of the Board meeting to get more information about this proposed easement.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S/U Gisler, Chambers to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting held February 15, 2019 as presented.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M/S/U Gisler, Witzel to authorize the Treasurer to pay all outstanding bills against the District as presented.

MONTHLY REPORTS – Financial Reports: Treasurer Griswold-Bratcher reviewed with the Board the January 2019 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. She noted that these reports are considered preliminary pending any additional year-end entries made as a result of the upcoming audit. BNY Mellon bank statement as of January 31, 2019 was also included in the meeting packet as well as Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) statement for January 2019 reflecting interest earned in the 4th Quarter 2018 of \$9,448.25.

The Manager then brought the Board's attention to some errors with the 2019 budget approved earlier this year. He explained a misunderstanding in the Assessment line items resulting in an overstatement on the first page as well as a correction in the Bond Expenses on the last page. The January financials were prepared based upon the previously approved budget and these discrepancies were discovered while entering into the accounting software in preparing the reports for this meeting. He also indicated the Water Sales figure should be revised to more accurately portray this year's rates and supplies. Before asking for the revised budget to be approved, Manager Geivet suggested that we move onto water supply discussions since the budget is so closely connected.

Tim Allan entered the Board room at 9:20.

Mr. Geivet announced that the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) has added more Class 2 water to the schedule for use by April 10th. He stated that he fully expects that the Bureau will likely declare an "unlimited uncontrolled season" as early as this Friday. He further speculated that even after an unlimited designation clears, we could stay in uncontrolled into May if hydrologic conditions remain wet. An uncontrolled season would remain in effect until the system is brought back to a manageable level. If they do declare an "unlimited uncontrolled season", this would mean the water delivered during that window would NOT count against our Class 1 / 2 allocations.

The Manager shared with the Board and guests that the Ad Hoc Committee will likely meet soon to wrap up language in the banking policy and once completed may then address leave behind/recharge credits associated for this recharge water. In response to a guest questions, he then explained the difference in recharge versus banked water. Recharge water is water sunk in the District that may be pumped back up in the future for use IN the District. While water banking is water sunk in the District that may be pulled out in the future for use either in the District boundaries, in the Eastern Tule GSA boundaries or outside of the District.

Discussion continued on the benefits of banking for both the District, its landowners as well as the banker.

M/S/U McCowan, Chambers to adopt the annual 2019 budget as revised; and to accept the preliminary financial reports as presented and to place the reports on file.

Administration Report: The Manager directed the Board's attention to a letter from Friant Water Authority regarding their review of Special Districts Website requirements that states Special Districts must establish and maintain a website no later than January 1, 2020 where they must post contact information, agendas, compensation reports and annual finance reports. He noted that he will research this and bring something to the Board in coming months.

Also included in the meeting packet is a follow up request from the Tulare County Civil Grand Jury along with the Manager's response.

Operations/Water Report: Manager Geivet directed attention to the preliminary water schedules included with the Board meeting packet. Also reviewed were Spring well measurements obtained by District staff. The Manager noted the comparison of measurements from last Spring to this Spring reflecting an average increase, very likely due to the above average water year and the extensive recharge efforts by District and local landowners again last year. Item #5.C.3. reported rainfall totals for the current year-to-date and going back through the 1960's.

SERVICE AREA #2 – Review and consider a landowner claim for damages of \$9,626.97 done during pipeline construction.

At this time, Manager Geivet announced that he would like to skip to Agenda Item #6 and asked Director Borba to step outside for a few minutes while the Board discussed. President Borba departed the Board room at 10:29 a.m.

Mr. Geivet then reviewed with the Board a claim by Borba & Sons for some damage to electrical lines leading to one of their pumps. Although it appears that the District's contractor did their due diligence in contacting USA North prior to digging, as expected, it appears that another contractor for neighboring district had the lines relocated at some point that were not marked. Borba & Sons submitted receipts to the Manager at the last meeting representing the costs to repair the lines damaged by the District's contractor during construction. The Board and guests discussed their experiences in situations like this, but they needed more information.

The Manager invited Director Borba back in at 10:42 a.m. to answer additional questions. After further discussion, the Board decided not to take action.

Manager Geivet stated that we would return to the monthly reports section of the meeting.

Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA, TRA, VAWC & FWA: The Manager reminded the Board and guests about an upcoming Friant Water Authority (FWA) Annual Meeting scheduled for April 10th in Bakersfield. He noted that ETGSA's own Bryce McAteer will be one of the speakers on the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint as well subsidence issues facing Friant Division Contractors.

Dave Dorrance and Allan Lombardi departed the Board room at 10:51.

Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA): Mr. Geivet handed the meeting over to ETGSA Executive Director, Bryce G McAteer. Mr. McAteer brought the Board and guests up to date on recent ETGSA meeting discussions and focus of the agency. He touched on the current project for subsidence analysis as well as upcoming meeting dates.

Pipeline Project: Manager Geivet noted that we will discuss this in more depth in Item #7 later in the meeting.

Future Planning: The Manager mentioned that our engineers often review for grant funds that may be available for projects like expanding service areas or upgrading flow measuring systems.

Tim Allan departed the Board room at 11:00.

FEASIBILITY STUDY – Consider authorizing a feasibility study for a potential Service Area #3 project.

Manager Geivet reviewed a proposal from Provost & Pritchard for Engineering and Land Surveying Services for the District In-Lieu Service Area 3 Feasibility Study.

M/S/U McCowan, Gisler to authorize the Manager to sign the proposal and agreement as presented from Provost & Pritchard for Engineering and Land Surveying Services for the Porterville Irrigation District In-Lieu Service Area 3 Feasibility Study.

GROUNDWATER BANKING POLICY – Review and consider adopting PID Groundwater Banking Policy.

Mr. Geivet noted this item needs to be table for a future meeting while he meets with the Ad Hoc committee again to finalize the language.

PIPELINE REPLACEMENT – Review and consider accepting a proposal to replace 650 feet of 36 inch pipeline for an estimated cost of \$150,195.00.

Manager Geivet reviewed the status of P1 Pipeline issues and stated that what he thought would be maintenance has turned into a replacement. He did follow up with the contractor to review the materials list and noted that a lesser grade pipe could reduce the quote by as much as \$20,000. The Board also encouraged the Manager to pursue obtaining other quotes before accepting a proposal although it was recognized that Vollmer Excavation may find scheduling this smaller project easier than some of the larger construction companies seeking larger projects.

Upon motion by Director Chambers, seconded by Director Witzel, to authorize the Manager to sign a proposal for replacement of 620 feet of 36 inch PVC with directive to obtain the best price possible before accepting was approved as follows:

AYES:	<i>Borba, Gisler, Chambers, Witzel</i>
NOES:	<i>McCowan</i>
ABSTAIN:	<i>None</i>
ABSENT:	<i>None</i>

Manager Geivet noted that we do not need to adjourn into closed session.

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION –
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] *City of Fresno, et al. v. United States of America*, Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 16-1276L**

No action taken.

**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION
54954.2 (RELATING TO ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA)**

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT –President Borba adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.



Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Secretary