



**Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors
June 12, 2018**

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 9:01 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean P. Geivet, District Manager
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, District Secretary
Michael Knight, City of Porterville
Jerry Holliman
Terry Schuler
Larry Harris
Alan Changala
Tom Thomas
Bill Wallace
Jorge Ramirez
Kathy Briano
Giovanna DePaoli
Zachary Foster, Sun World International
Liz Ingraham

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

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

District Landowner Kathy Briano inquired about the scheduling of the two landowner meetings regarding the Proposition 218 Election in progress. The Manager noted that historically the best attendance has been seen at the late morning meetings after the farmers/managers get their water and crews going.

District landowner Alan Changala asked a few questions about the current election. In particular, how will the parcels that are not currently paying full District Assessment be handled during the upcoming vote and billing should the proposition pass. Manager Geivet shared that he feels all parcels over 5 acres should be able to vote on the proposition, but also noted that the parcels or those portions of parcels that are currently in the categories of not being assessed the full rate will NOT be subject to the increase.

Jerry Holliman complained about the pipeline that is leaking. President Borba reminded those in attendance that the pipeline is owned by the handful of landowners that initially installed it. Director McCowan asked that guests be limited in the time they are allowed to speak as Mr. Holliman has exceeded a standard allowance.

Alan Changala departed the Boardroom at 9:13 a.m.

Director Gisler entered the Boardroom at 9:15 a.m.

District Landowner Liz Ingraham also commented on the leaks and asked if they can be repaired during the off-season. Mr. Geivet responded that the District does not have the budget available for such repairs, but noted that the proposed budget for the 218 Election does take this item into account.

District Landowner Jorge Ramirez Sr. also commented about the leaks noting that they are affecting his yard and driveway by frequent flooding. Director Chambers took the opportunity to explain his support for the Proposition 218 as a means to allow the budget to get caught up with necessary maintenance to help prevent such frequent occurrences.

Jerry Holliman and Jorge Ramirez Sr departed the Boardroom at 9:32 a.m.

President Borba reminded the Board and guests again that this pipeline was installed by select landowners after a vote to fund a distribution system failed twice, so they funded to put their own system in however they have not maintained it.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

M/S/U McCowan, Gisler to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting held May 8, 2018 as presented.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS

M/S/U Chambers, 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 April 2018 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. She reminded the Board 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 April 30, 2018 was also included in the meeting packet as well as Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) statement for April 2018 reflecting interest earned in the 1st Quarter of \$8,451.83.

In response to a question last month about the balance in the Construction in Progress, Manager Geivet stated that he briefly reviewed the Treasurer's accounting and it appears that the majority of these expenses are indeed for the expansion projects as predicted.

Some monies have come in from landowners and grant funds to offset those expenses, but it appears that the current PID balance of the projects is in the neighborhood of \$1.2 million after landowner and remaining grant funds are received.

M/S/U Gisler, Chambers to accept the financial reports as presented and to place the reports on file.

Administration Report: The Manager noted that we would come back to this topic later in the meeting.

Operations/Water Report: Manager Geivet noted that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) has decreased their official declaration to 85% Class 1 allocation noting that this figure is subject to change should conditions change once the reservoir is under control. He speculated that could increase to 90% before all is said and done. He also stated that PID's ditch companies have a fair amount of Tule River (Tule) water and will likely not be able to use it all during the short Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID) run from July 2nd – August 20th window. He is talking to the City of Porterville (City) to run some Tule water at Class 1 rates allowing PID to transfer a like amount to LTRID from the canal.

The Manager distributed the District's USBR Water Schedule with predictions for use the remainder of the season. Also included in the meeting packet for the Board's information as a recap of May 2018 water as ordered, although not necessarily taken, from FWA for USBR water.

Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA, TRA, VAWC & FWA: Nothing new to report.

Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA): Manager Geivet noted that the ETGSA has a candidate that will start mid-July. They spoke highly of this candidate and think he will hit the ground running.

Pipeline Project: Mr. Geivet noted they have encountered issues with the new meters not working properly in Service Area 1 (SA1). Nicholas Construction and project engineers are aware and working on solutions.

Administration Report (revisited): The Manager discussed the timeline of the Proposed 218 Election may need some reconsideration. Should the proposition pass, the Board has the flexibility to surpass collecting for the 2018 tax year and start in 2019 instead. This is the Manager's recommendation to relieve the burden on landowners to come up with additional funds for both years as well as noting that the higher water rate in 2018 will help balance some of the 2018 budgetary needs.

It was also clarified that the smaller, less than 5 acres, parcels will only be notified of their option to be included if the proposition passes.

All guests departed the Boardroom at 10:50 a.m.

**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**

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, the Board adjourned into closed session at 10:51 a.m.

Director McCowan departed the Boardroom at 10:52 a.m.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 11:07 a.m.

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 11:08 a.m.



Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, Secretary