



**Minutes of Regular Meeting, Board of Directors  
April 11, 2023**

The Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District met this day in regular session both in person and by teleconference from the District office located at 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, California.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Borba called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Sean P. Geivet, *District Manager*  
Nick Keller, *District Engineer*  
Jeffrey S. Row, *District Secretary-Treasurer, Assessor/Collector*  
Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, *District Assistant Secretary*  
Aubrey A. Mauritsen, *District Legal Counsel*  
Bill Wallace  
Terry Schuler  
Nick Gatti  
Allan Lombardi  
Numerous guests via Zoom and One tap mobile

**AGENDA** – There were no changes or additions made to the items on the agenda, but it was announced that the Zoom link and meeting information was prepared and posted the morning prior to the meeting.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

M/S/U Gisler, Chambers to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting of March 14, 2023 as presented.

**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY BILLS**

Director Gisler asked for clarification on field staff payroll since the last Board meeting. It was noted that the Senior Ditchtender worked around the clock several days straight during the worst of the flooding repairing District ditches as needed, coordinating local contractors to haul dirt or heavy equipment operators to reinforce river banks as well as assisting local authorities and neighboring agencies with excessive runoff and Tule River flows.

President Borba shared some of his experiences during the peak of the mid-March flooding. He noted we will start seeing bills coming into the District to cover material

hauled, backhoe/excavator and dozer work done during peak flooding as well as in the weeks following to restore or repair flood damaged areas.

Discussion ensued about who is ultimately responsible for managing river flows and maintenance. Manager Geivet reminded the Board and guests that there is a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) in place between the County of Tulare, Lower Tule River Irrigation District (LTRID), City of Porterville (City), Porterville Irrigation District, etc just for situations like this. He will reach out to LTRID to see how we should be handling these flood related bills.

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

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

**Financial Reports:** Controller Row reviewed with the Board reports in the meeting packet that included the February 2023 Balance Sheet, showing status of the banking accounts, and Income Statements for the same period. He noted that the budgeted Income Statements reflect last year's budget and that future income statements will for sure include the 2023 budget amounts.

Discussion moved to customer banking and how the District will handle the leave behind water generated by those operations.

**Administration Report:** Included in the meeting packet was the "Monthly Google Analytics Report" on the District's website for March 2023 (Enclosure #5.B.1.). Enclosure #5.B.2. reported rainfall totals going back through the 1960's. The total rainfall for the current water year, which began October 2022, is 17.57 inches.

**Operations/Water Report:** District Engineer Nick Keller reviewed a water schedule with the Board and guests that reflects the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) allocations remain at 100% for Class 1 and 70% for Class 2. This equates to almost 52,000 acre-feet for use this year. He noted that with the announced Uncontrolled Season water available, we will likely not even start on our Class 1 water supply until July.

**Status Report of Authorities: DCTRA/TRA/VAWC/FWA:** Manager Geivet, Mr. Keller and President Borba briefed those in attendance on the various authorities. Deer Creek & Tule River Authority (DCTRA) is wrapping up as it continues to dissolve. Tule River Authority (TRA) has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow. Attention was then directed to Enclosure #5.D. which is an invite for Friant Water Authority's (FWA) invite to the 2023 Annual Meeting slated for April 13<sup>th</sup> to be held at Watermill Grove in Visalia.

**Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA):** President Borba gave a brief update on current ETGSA topics.

**Success Reservoir Enlargement Project (SREP) Update:** Nothing new to report other than it appears to be in good condition even though it is not yet complete

considering how much water passed through during the peak flows that passed through in recent weeks.

**Future Planning:** Mr. Geivet shared that the Northwest Service Area (Service Area #4 or SA4) has funding options available so we will see more activity on that project in coming months.

### **BANKING POLICY – Discussion on a revised Banking Policy**

This item was tabled with nothing new to report at this time.

### **2023 BUDGET AND WATER RATES – Review and approve water rate document for public posting**

Manager Geivet directed the Board's attention to the breakdown of 2023 water rate costs and Historical Water Rate Calculations from 2019-present (Enclosure #7 in the meeting packet). The Board took under review and held discussion on the 2023 water rates. Mr. Keller reviewed how the recently approved budget gets us to this proposed water rate.

M/S/U Gisler, Chambers to approve 1 ) setting the 2023 Porterville Irrigation District water rate at \$85.00/acre-foot to be used for irrigation, recharge or banking; 2 ) set the PID managed ditch company Sharewater rate for 2023 at \$16.29/acre-foot as determined by the formulas in place that are based on a five-year rolling average using the past five years of actual data; and 3) all surface or Sharewater water available only to accounts in good standing and Assessments current.

Mr. Geivet suggested that we adjourn into closed session. All other guests departed at 10:33 a.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9, the Board adjourned into closed session at 10:34 a.m.

The Board adjourned from closed session at 11:59 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**

No reportable action.

### **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9] (1 Case)**

No reportable action.

### **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – [Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] *Arvin-Edison Water Storage***

***District v. PID, PID Board and Homer LLC, Kern County Superior Court,  
Case No. BCV-22-100617***

No reportable action.

**CLOSED SESSION ITEMS – Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required  
by Government Code Section 54957.1**

No reportable action.

**ADJOURNMENT** –President Borba adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

  
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Jody A. Griswold-Bratcher, *Asst. Secretary*