

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
TRANQUILLITY IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

December 18, 2019

PRESENT: President Jerome F Salvador, Director William Pucheu, Director George Ayerza Jr., General Manager Danny M Wade, Assistant Manager Rodney D Wade, Counsel Lauren Layne, & Secretary/Treasurer Liz Reeves

ABSENT: Engineering Consultant Joe Hopkins

President Salvador called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None

Public Hearing – Proposition 218 – Land Based Assessments: Meeting opened at 8:30. The current assessment rate is \$7.50 per acre and we are now looking to increase the rate to a maximum of \$40.00/ac. If this passes the rate for the 2020 year will be set at \$35.00/ac. The public was allowed to voice their opinions. Questions were raised about the validity of the request. The details to substantiate this requested increase for the assessments can be found in the Engineers report on the website. This meeting was closed at 8:46.

Public Hearing – Proposition 218 – Agricultural Water Rate Increase: Meeting opened at 8:47. The potential rate increase was explained in the Engineers report as well. A separate document was also mailed to all farmers within the District to explain the proposed rate change to a maximum of \$65.00/af. The current rate is \$58.00/af. It is required that water users would have to provide a written protest to the rate increase. No written protests were received and there were no comments. Meeting closed at 8:49.

Public Hearing – Proposition 218 – Municipal Water Rate Increase: Meeting opened at 8:49. The current rate is \$45.00 per connection. The proposed maximum rate will be \$50.00 per connection. One of the conditions under the Prop 1 Grant funding for the treatment plant is that the rates be increased to \$50.00 per connection. There were no written protests to this proposed increase. There was one comment with regards to our Board meetings and ability for public attendance and they were reminded that all meetings are open to the public and the meeting times are posted on the website. This meeting was closed at 8:52.

Counting and Certification of the Ballots & Election was handled by Laurie Sales from Provost & Pritchard along with Jessie from Baker Manock & Jensen assisting.

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2019 was approved on voice count. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

TREASURER REPORT: The Cash Flow statement was presented for the month of November 2019 including the payments and balances on long-term debts. The Cash Disbursements as well as the Receivables for both city and irrigation water were also presented for review. Director Pucheu motioned for approval of the Treasurer report. Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

WATERMASTER'S REPORTS -Water use – irrigation and drinking water: Rodney Wade reported on the usage totals for the month of November 2019, the well pumping totals, and the Mendota pool reporting. The well depth and PH/TDS readings were presented to the Board along with the Flow readings from the Pool.

DIRECTOR REPORT: none

COUNSEL REPORT: In regards to legal matters affecting the District: Kings River WA: The Board was requested to review and take action to extend the negotiation period for one year under the James ID & Tranquillity ID Agreement and authorize the execution of a letter agreement regarding same. Director Pucheu motioned for approval of extending the negotiation period as well as authorizing President Salvador to sign the document. Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

SGMA : The Board was requested to review and take action to authorize the District's representative to adopt the Northern & Central Delta-Mendota GSP. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.

ENGINEERING CONSULTANT REPORT: none

MANAGER REPORT:

1. CVP-San Luis WD: The final billing has been done. There is still some unclaimed contract water that can be picked up by March 1st.
2. Water Tower/Broadband/Update: The tower is not quite up and running but they are paying the rental fee monthly for the use of the tower.
3. WINN Act update: We do still intend to pay off this debt early next year as soon as the new contract has been finalized and accepted by USBR.
4. 2020 Budget/ Review and action
 - i. Review and take action to set the 2020 District land-based assessments – the Ballots were counted. There were 51.1 ballots returned. Of those 69.9% voted yes and 32.9% voted no. Resolution 2020-02 – Authorizing TID's setting increased land-based special benefit assessment rate was presented for approval. The maximum rate is now \$40.00 /ac. The Board sets the new assessment rate to \$35.00 per acre for the 2020 year. Motion was made by Director Pucheu to approve the increased rate and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.
 - ii. Review and take action to set the 2020 Agricultural Water Rate – Resolution 2020-03 – Authorizing TID's setting increased Municipal and Agricultural water rates. The maximum Agricultural water rate will be \$65.00/af. The Board approved leaving the agricultural water rate at the current \$58.00/af. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.
 - iii. Review and take action to set the 2020 Municipal Water Rate - Resolution 2020-03 – Authorizing TID's setting increased Municipal and Agricultural water rates. The maximum Municipal water rate will be \$50.00 per connection per month. The City water rate will remain at \$45.00 per connection per month. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.
 - iv. Resolution 2020-01 Adopting 2020 Budget – after reviewing the proposed budget the Board accepted it as presented. Director Pucheu motioned for approval and Director Ayerza seconded the motion.
5. Reminder – Office Shutdown

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Closed Session Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.8
CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS
Property: Temporary Water Transfer
Agency Negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade

Negotiating Parties: TID & SLWD
Under Negotiation: Price & Terms
(no reportable action)

2. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS** Pursuant to California Government Code [Section 54956.8](#)

Property: Water Rights
Agency negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade
Negotiating parties: Various Water Users, unspecified for the benefit of the public agency
Under negotiation: Instruction to negotiator will concern price and terms of payment
(no reportable action)

3. **CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Government Code Section 54956.8

Property: Kings River Water Rights
Agency negotiator: Danny M Wade & Rodney D Wade
Negotiating parties: Lower River Units of the Kings River Water Association
Under negotiation: Instruction to negotiator will concern price and terms of payment for rental agreement.
(no reportable action)

4. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.
Name of Case: NRDC v. Jewell – U.S. District Court – Eastern District of California (Case No. 1:05-cv-01207LJO-EPG)
(no reportable action)

5. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed session pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code section 54956.9.
Name of case: *Kings River Water Association, et al. v. James Verboon, et al* (Kings County)
(no reportable action)

6. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION**

Closed Session pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)
Name of Case: James Irrigation District v. KRWA, et al.
(no reportable action)

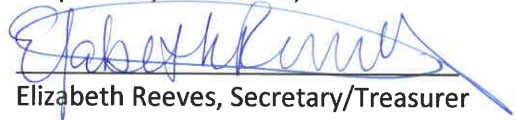
7. **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 (1 case)
(no reportable action)

The Board adjourned at 9:55 am.

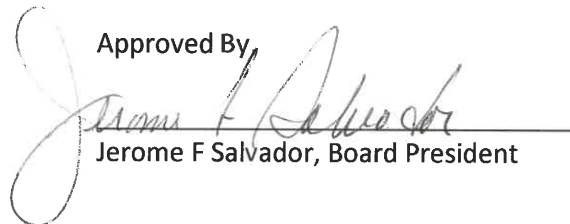
The next meeting will be held at 8:30 am on January 15, 2020 at the TID office.

Respectfully Submitted,



Elizabeth Reeves, Secretary/Treasurer

Approved By,



Jerome F Salvador, Board President