

MINUTES

Oakdale, California
March 19, 2002

The Board of Directors of the Oakdale Irrigation District invited all to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and then met in Regular Session at the hour of 9:00 a.m. Upon roll call, there were present:

Directors: Jack Alpers
 Louis Brichetto
 Tony Taro
 Steve Webb
 Frank Clark

Staff Present: Steve Knell, General Manager
 Kathy Cook, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
 Mike Evans, Watermaster
 Bob Nielsen, Water Utilities Chief
 Wayne Truhett, Acting Support Services Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Lloyd Stueve commented regarding a variance that he needs to go across the Stowell Lateral. Director Alpers asked that he submit his request to the Watermaster and the General Manager in order to put this item on the Agenda for action and/or discussion.

ADDITION OR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS

General Manager Steve Knell requested that two items be addressed on the action calendar, Item #15A Approve Additional Guniting for Robert Van Lier Regulating Reservoir and Item #15B Approve 2002 Capital Budget Item No. 1 for Guniting 1,000 Feet of the South Main Canal, between the Adams 1 and Adams 2 Lateral. A two-thirds vote would be required in order to add these to the Agenda.

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Webb and unanimously supported to add Item #15A and Item #15B to the Agenda and to be heard before Item #9 on the action calendar.

Director Clark asked that Items #3, #4, #5, and #6 be removed from the consent calendar and moved to the action calendar.

Director Alpers asked that Item #8 be removed from the consent calendar and moved to the action calendar.

**ITEM NO. 1:
WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE**

General Manager Steve Knell explained that CalTrans would like to have OID provide an estimate of financial impact at each crossing resulting from additional maintenance the new highway will require. We will provide that information for CalTrans.

Henry Burtschi commented regarding the CalTrans letter and Steve Knell responded to his comments.

**ITEM NO. 2:
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Steve Knell reported the following:

- ?? Strategic Planning: The Strategic Planning meetings were concluded. Staff will now begin to go through the information and develop goals/objectives to address the issues and concerns facing the OID.
- ?? Employee Interviews: Completed all interviews except one. Steve Knell to share the comments of the employees as to where they think this organization is, some of its weaknesses, strengths and opportunities that could improve its effectiveness. This information will be provided at an upcoming Board meeting.
- ?? Water Season: Yesterday all the ditchtenders returned to their ditches and began to get ditches ready for the upcoming water season.

Mike Evans commented regarding the ditchtenders. All ditchtenders were asked to check with customers in their respective areas to ascertain their requirements for irrigation water. The only concern was from tree farmers for frost protection and the few vines that we have in the District.

Director Webb commented that he would like to see what our water budgets are, how much water we are going to be able to use every month, what our projections are, etc.

Tim O'Laughlin advised that the report as to the actual water that we get awarded would not come out until April 15th. However, we will probably be awarded 600,000 acre-feet of water.

Mr. Lloyd Stueve questioned the average flow of the river and Tim O'Laughlin responded to his questions.

ITEM NO. 2b
DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

Director Brichetto commented regarding information contained in the Informational Packet relative to insurance quotes.

Director Clark commented regarding strategic planning short-term goals that we wanted to accomplish. Director Clark wants identification of those short-term goals and setting a timeline for meeting those goals and objectives. Director Clark asked that this be included on the next Agenda as a Discussion Item.

Director Clark questioned the reporting status of capital projects and Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook answered his questions. Director Clark requested a report be prepared on capital projects so that the Board knows the status of all projects. General Manager Steve Knell advised the Board that staff is currently working on a schedule of all projects that will be shared with the Board at the next meeting, if available.

Director Clark questioned the procedures used by the District in hiring and termination of bargaining unit employees, non-exempt and exempt employees. Director Clark asked to be apprised of the procedures OI D uses when conducting a recruitment, i.e., who does the interviewing, who established OI D salaries, what kind of background checks do we do, who does it, is that all verified and part of the employee personnel folder? What input does the Board have as to any of these procedures? Director Clark asked that this be included on the Agenda for the 1st meeting in May.

Director Clark wanted to know what our policy was for cleaning and repairing drains and asked that this be put on the Agenda for discussion in one month.

Director Webb questioned the status of an Open House for the Robert Van Lier Regulating Reservoir and also a plaque for the site. General Manager Steve Knell answered his questions.

Director Webb questioned the opening of water season and addressed the problems with flooding of property and claims due to this during the season. He asked that staff make sure ditchtenders are trained properly regarding this and understand fully the liability issues involved. Watermaster Mike Evans responded to his questions.

Director Alpers commented that the Board fully supports the Watermaster and staff taking action to make sure that all personnel are trained and are aware of all their respective responsibilities and understand the importance thereof.

Director Brichetto asked that ditchtenders take extra steps to contact landowners when there is a problem or concern.

CONSENT CALENDAR

ITEM NO. 7

Review and consider replacement of the following turnout gates:

Work Order #0215 South Main – Golden West – 16” Gate

Work Order #0216 Kearney Lateral – Kamz Property – 10” & 16” Gate

Work Order #0217 Schuller Lateral – Benedix Property – 24” Gate

Work Order #0218 Riverbank Lateral – Hazelwood Property – 12” Gate

Work Order #0219 Union Lateral Headgate – 16” Gate

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the replacement of the turnout gates.

Henry Burtschi made comments regarding the drains within our system and the mapping projects.

ITEM NO. 3

APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING OF MARCH 5, 2002 AND

SPECIAL MEETING OF MARCH 11, 2002

Director Clark advised of an omission to the March 5, 2002 Minutes in Item #10 relative to the extension of the Ross Carroll, Inc. contract. A motion was made by Director Clark to deny the request for an extension, which died due to lack of a second to that motion.

A motion was made by Director Clark seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting of March 5, 2002 and Special Meeting of March 11, 2002 after a change has been made to the Minutes of March 5, 2002 under Item #10 as recited above.

ITEM NO. 4

REVIEW AND APPROVE

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S

STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS

After discussion and questions responded to by Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook, a motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Webb and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Irrigation District's Statement of Obligations.

ITEM NO. 5
REVIEW AND APPROVE
OID IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS'
STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS

Director Clark had questions that were answered by Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook. A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to approve the OID Improvement Districts' Statement of Obligations.

ITEM NO. 6
REVIEW AND APPROVE
MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE
MONTH ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2002

Director Clark had questions that were answered by Chief Financial Officer Kathy Cook. Kathy Cook is to provide information regarding the Economic Development Administration long-term debt and interest rate.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the monthly treasurer's report and unaudited financial reports for the month ending February 28, 2002.

ITEM NO. 8
CONSIDER AND REVIEW ISSUANCE
OF CONDITIONAL "WILL SERVE LETTER"

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Clark and unanimously supported to approve the issuance of conditional "will serve letter" after a correction is made to the word "rescinding."

ITEM 15A
APPROVE ADDITIONAL GUNITING FOR
ROBERT VAN LIER REGULATING RESERVOIR

After discussion a Motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Taro and unanimously supported to approve the additional guniting for Robert Van Lier Regulating Reservoir.

ITEM 15B
APPROVE 2002 CAPITAL BUDGET ITEM NO. 1
FOR GUNITING 1000 FEET OF THE SOUTH MAIN CANAL,
BETWEEN THE ADAMS 1 AND ADAMS 2 LATERAL

After discussion a Motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Alpers and unanimously supported to approve 2002 capital budget Item #1 for guniting 1,000 feet of the South Main Canal, between the Adams 1 and Adams 2 Lateral.

ITEM NO. 9
REVIEW OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
SPONSORSHIP OF OAKDALE AG LUNCHEON AND
AGRICULTURAL TRADE SHOW, FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 2002

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the sponsorship of Oakdale Ag Luncheon and Agricultural Trade Show, Friday, March 22, 2002.

ITEM NO. 10
CONSIDER GRANTING A CONTRACT TIME EXTENSION
TO ROSS F. CARROLL, INC. FOR THE
ROBERT VAN LIER REGULATING RESERVOIR

A motion was made by Director Taro, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve contract time extension to Ross F. Carroll, Inc. for the Robert Van Lier Regulating Reservoir.

ITEM NO. 11
EVALUATE MEMBERSHIP
CALIFORNIA FARM WATER COALITION

General Manager Steve Knell explained the advantages to a full contributing membership. He also advised that we are looking at all the District's professional memberships to ascertain their value.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Brichetto and unanimously supported to approve the 2002 annual membership in the amount of \$250.00.

ITEM NO. 12
CONSIDER AND APPROVE
VEHICLE PURCHASES FOR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Webb and unanimously supported to approve the vehicle purchases for various departments; Item #1 and Item #3 to be awarded to Haidlen Ford and Item #2 to be awarded to Steve's Chevrolet.

ITEM NO. 13
REVIEW AND APPROVE
SCOPE OF WORK OF R.W. BECK

After presentation by General Manager Steve Knell a motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Webb and unanimously supported to approve the scope of work of R.W. Beck to develop a decision document for post relicensing of the Tri-Dam Project.

ITEM NO. 14
REVIEW AND CONSIDER
ESTABLISHMENT OF A SINGLE
OUT-OF-DISTRICT RATE STRUCTURE FOR
ALL OUT-OF-DISTRICT WATER USERS

A motion was made by Director Brichetto, seconded by Director Webb and unanimously Supported to establish a single out-of-district rate structure for all out-of-district water users at \$38.00 per acre, \$63.00 parcel fee with a 20% surcharge.

ITEM NO. 15
REVIEW AND CONSIDER
DISTRICT HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE QUOTATIONS

A presentation was made by Mark Antrim and staff of TSM Insurance Brokers relative to the current health insurance situation in California.

No action taken.

ITEM NO. 16
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
AGRICULTURAL WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No action taken

CLOSED SESSION

At the hour of 11:45 A.M. the Board adjourned to Closed Session.

ITEM NO. 17

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION pursuant to subdivision (a) of the California Government Code 54956.9, Oakdale Irrigation District vs. Cantal, San Joaquin County Superior Court, Case No CV006932. No action taken.

LABOR NEGOTIATIONS – pursuant to Section 54957 of the California Government Code

A motion was made by Director Brichetto to award the health insurance contract to Total Access Benefits, no second of this motion was made and therefore, no vote was held.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Clark to approve Mark Antrim of TSM Insurance Agents & Brokers as our insurance broker and to approve Aetna Health Plans and Kaiser Permanente as our health insurance providers. Said motion was voted as follows:

Ayes:	Alpers, Clark, Taro and Webb
Noes:	Brichetto

DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL MATTERS – pursuant to Section 54957 of the California Government Code. No action taken.

At the hour of 12:15 the Board adjourned to the next **regular Board of Directors meeting** to be held on **Tuesday, April 2, 2002 at 9:00 A.M. at the** Oakdale Irrigation District Office, 1205 East “F” Street, Oakdale, Ca.

The next regular **Joint Board Meeting** for the **Tri-Dam Project** is scheduled for **April 18, 2002 at 9:00 A.M. in Oakdale.**

Attest:

Steve Knell
Secretary