

## **MINUTES**

Oakdale, California  
March 3, 2009

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 D. Alpers, President Al Bairos, Jr., Vice President Steve Webb Frank B. Clark
Absent:	Tony Taro
Staff Present:	Steve Knell, General Manager/Secretary Kevin King, Water Operations Manager Kathy Cook, Chief Financial Officer Gary Jernigan, Contract/Special Projects Manager John Davids, District Engineer Jason Jones, Support Services Manager

### **ADDITION OR DELETION OF AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no additions or deletions of Agenda items.

### **ACTION TO TAKE VARIOUS ITEMS OUT OF SEQUENCE**

There were no items taken out of sequence.

At the hour of 9:01 a.m. the Board welcomed public comment.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ITEM NO. 1**

There being no Public Comment; Public Comment closed at 9:01 a.m. and the Board Meeting continued.

**CONSENT ITEMS**  
**ITEM NOS. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9**

**ITEM NO. 2**  
**APPROVE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES**  
**OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2009**  
**AND RESOLUTION NOS. 2009-08, 2009-09, 2009-10, 2009-11, and 2009-12**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the Board of Directors' Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2009 and Resolution Nos. 2009-08, 2009-09, 2009-10, 2009-11, and 2009-12.

**ITEM NO. 3**  
**APPROVE OAKDALE IRRIGATION**  
**DISTRICT STATEMENT OF OBLIGATIONS**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the Oakdale Irrigation District Statement of Obligations.

**ITEM NO. 4**  
**APPROVE GENERAL SERVICES AGREEMENTS**  
**FOR VARIOUS VENDORS AND CONTRACTORS**  
**(IT SOLUTIONS, B.J.'S CONSUMERS CHOICE PEST**  
**CONTROL, AND SPRAY & SONS JANITORIAL AND CARPET)**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the General Services Agreements for various vendors and contractors (IT Solutions, B.J.'S Consumers Choice Pest Control, and Spray & Sons Janitorial and Carpet).

**ITEM NO. 5**  
**APPROVE PROFESSIONAL**  
**SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH**  
**PROVOST & PRICHARD ENGINEERING GROUP**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Provost & Prichard Engineering Group.

**ITEM NO. 6**  
**APPROVE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**  
**AGREEMENT WITH DAMRELL, NELSON,**  
**SCHRIMP, PALLIOS, PACHER & SILVA**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the Professional Services Agreement with Damrell, Nelson, Schrimp, Pallios, Pacher & Silva.

**ITEM NO. 7**  
**APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO**  
**CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT WITH TEICHERT**  
**CONSTRUCTION FOR LITTLE JOHN**  
**CREEK DAM REHABILITATION PROJECT**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve Change Order No. 2 to Construction Contract with Teichert Construction for Little John Creek Dam Rehabilitation project.

**ITEM NO. 8**  
**APPROVE REJECTION OF CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES**  
**FILED BY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 52 LANDOWNERS**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to reject the claims filed by Improvement District No. 52 Landowners.

**ITEM NO. 9**  
**APPROVE RESOLUTIONS ACCEPTING THE**  
**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE**  
**CONFIDENTIAL EMPLOYEES AND EXEMPT**  
**SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES**

A motion was made by Director Bairos, seconded by Director Webb, and unanimously supported to approve the Resolutions Accepting the Memorandum of Understanding with the Confidential Employees and Exempt Supervisory Employees.

**ACTION CALENDAR**  
**ITEMS NOS. 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16**

**ITEM NO. 10**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION TO**  
**AMEND AND EXTEND THE EXISTING**  
**SCHWARTZ SUBDIVISION WILL SERVE LETTER**

The developer of the Schwartz Subdivision is requesting an extension of the Will Serve Letter for an additional two years as described in Section 10 of the current Will Serve Letter issued on March 6, 2007.

The developer has finished negotiations with the Improvement District No. 46 committee and membership over the terms and conditions required to de-annex the properties in question from within the boundaries of the improvement district.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to amend and extend the existing Schwartz Subdivision Will Serve Letter.

**ITEM NO. 11**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON**  
**AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS WATER FOR ANNEXATIONS**

Section 2.2 of the District's Annexation Policy ". . . reserves the right to accept or reject all Applications for Annexation based on a case-by-case determination of the availability of District conveyance capacity and surface water supplies to provide irrigation service and the need for subsurface and terminal agricultural water return flow drainage."

Because of past annexation pressures, the Board has opted to review the availability of water for annexations on a yearly basis. Under the District's Guiding Principles for Use of Surplus Water and Service Area Expansion, adopted by the Board in October 2006, the requirement to expand into the SOI shall not negatively impact existing OID customers as it relates to water supply reliability, cost of service, availability of service, etc. Additionally, LAFCO requires "certainty" that expansion of services does not negatively impact current customers before they would consider any annexations to an irrigation district.

Under those standards, staff finds that there is no surplus water available for annexations and that any proposed annexations that require additional water supplies would negatively impact OID's existing customer base by diminishing their water supply reliability and increasing OID's cost of service.

A motion was made by Director Clark, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported that there is no surplus water available for annexations and that letters should be sent to all applicants who have applied for annexation into the District advising them that their applications have been denied and they need to re-file their request for annexation on a yearly basis.

**ITEM NO. 12**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**ON AVAILABILITY OF SURPLUS**  
**WATER FOR OUT-OF-DISTRICT LANDS**

As provided by policy, OID makes a determination on the availability of "surplus" surface irrigation water for "out-of-District" annual agreements at the first board meeting in March. Staff and Water Counsel have never supported the practice of making available out-of-district water and have pointed out the disadvantages of making such a program available.

The allowing of out-of-district water and having a use exceedance in entitlement is a risk to OID's water right. The allowing of out-of-district water and not requiring compliance with CEQA is a legal risk to the district. To staff, these risks to OID exceed the benefit of the program.

OID does not make Out-of-District Applications available until the Board determines if it will offer a program. Staff does feel that agreements need to be offered to Conde Farms and the Army Corps of Engineers. Conde Farms is in the process of finalizing annexation for the parcel in question. If the Board decided not to supply water to the Conde's due to lack of supply, the Board runs the risk of being contradictory to the ascertainment that we can

supply them water without impact to existing customers. The Army Corps property in question is the Orange Blossom Park. The park is within the District's service area, however due to certain provisions in the Water Code; federal facilities are not permitted to be under the jurisdiction of an irrigation district. However, federal facilities are allowed to contract with other agencies for service, in this case irrigation water from OID.

Staff recommends making agreements available only to Conde Farms and the Army Corps of Engineers for water year 2009.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported that there is no surplus water for out-of-district lands except for Conde Farms and Army Corps of Engineers.

**ITEM NO. 13**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON**  
**RESOLUTION SETTING 2009 WATER RATES FOR IRRIGATION**  
**OF LANDS OUTSIDE OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

As provided for in the District's Agreement for Irrigation of Lands Outside District Boundaries, surplus irrigation water is determined to be available (surplus) or not at the first meeting in March. Rates for the delivery of water to lands outside district boundaries are set before the determination of surplus water, hence the purpose of this agenda item.

Based on the attached rate analysis, the "unsubsidized" rate for water in 2009 is recommended to be the full service cost of;

- \$68 per acre foot (flow rate) or
- \$337 per acre

In 2008, the per-acre charge for out-of-district water was as follows:

- \$19.59 per acre foot, or
- \$79.30 per acre for those landowners owning less than 10 acres, and
- \$62.40 per acre for those landowners owning 10 acres or larger.

The Board is requested to set a rate for the per acre receipt of water and a per acre-foot rate for all applicants who are required to pay for the volume of out-of-district water they receive.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously supported to approve the Resolution Setting 2009 Water Rates for Irrigation of Lands Outside Oakdale Irrigation District Boundaries with no changes made to the water rates.

**ITEM NO. 14**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION ON**  
**THE START OF THE 2009 WATER SEASON**

The start of the irrigation season is predicated on three criteria:

1. Water Availability
  - a. The results from the March 1<sup>st</sup> snow survey and the subsequent Bureau forecast are not available yet. Staff believes that it is premature to make any assumptions about water supply and availability until after the reports are available.
2. Soil Moisture/Crop Demand
  - a. The late February precipitation was significant enough to bring soil moisture content within the District to field capacity. With the soil/water profile full there is no need to start deliveries now until after March 17<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to monitor soil moisture and recommend the start of the irrigation season based on its depletion.
3. System Readiness.
  - a. Tri-Dam is currently still working at Lake Tulloch and have asked for SSJID and OID to defer diversions until after March 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. OID's Capital Improvement Projects are near completion however some projects are not anticipated to be finished until after March 6<sup>th</sup>.

Based on the information presented above Staff recommends that the Board defer action on this item until the March 17<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

No action was taken and this matter was deferred until the March 17, 2009 Board meeting.

**ITEM NO. 15**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**ON PURCHASE OF TWO (2) COPIERS**  
**FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE**

An element of the 2009 Capital Purchases budget is the replacement of the large copier (Konica) in the supply room and the small copier in the Finance Department (Toshiba).

The Konica Copier in the front office was purchased in May of 2003. The District asked three vendors to provide quotes; IKON (Ricoh), Smile (Sharp), and CA Redding (Sharp and Lanier). These quotes are set forth on the attachment. CA Redding submitted the lowest bid for the Sharp MX-7001N.

The Toshiba Copier in the finance department was purchased in July of 2000. The District asked three vendors to provide quotes; IKON (Ricoh), Smile (Sharp), and CA Redding (Lanier). These are set forth on the attachment. The CA Redding submitted the lowest bid for the Lanier LDO16.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Alpers, and unanimously supported to purchase the Sharp MX-7001N and the Lanier LDO16 from CA Redding.

**ITEM NO. 16**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**TO APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT FOR**  
**WIDE FORMAT COPIER, SCANNER AND PRINTER**

The Oakdale Irrigation District (OID) Engineering Department has determined that a wide format copier scanner is a necessary piece of equipment to allow three (3) primary functions to occur:

- The review, mark-up and distribution of construction documents received from outside engineering firms for OID engineering projects requires multiple copies to be produced in-house.
- The ability to reproduce existing engineering maps and drawings is currently done on a blue-print machine which should be phased out because of the ammonia-based (hazardous material) process for copying documents. Please note that not all drawings are in a format conducive to generating reproductions from the existing blue print machine.
- The ability to scan existing fragile maps and drawings currently stored in the engineering vault to create a digital format archive has been a long-term goal of the Engineering Department that only grows in importance with the passage of every year.

The Technical Memorandum discusses a review of three (3) products that will allow OID to achieve the above-described primary functions and recommends a lease of a KIP 3100 copier, scanner and printer for a period of three (3) years. The 2009 OID budget provides for \$7,200.00 of funding for this lease as shown in the attached documentation. Staff requests Board approval to enter into said lease in accordance with that amount budgeted for 2009.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to lease the KIP 3100 copier, scanner, and printer from California Surveying Drafting Supply for three (3) years.

**ITEM NO. 17**  
**REVIEW AND TAKE POSSIBLE ACTION**  
**TO PURCHASE THREE (3) 2009**  
**EXTENDED CAP COMPACT PICK-UPS**

Staff has solicited bids from eleven (11) vendors. Two (2) vendors responded. Steves Chevrolet and Buick quoted \$65,708.82 (including tax and license) and Haidlen Ford quoted \$56,674.98 (including tax and license). Tracy Toyota, Heritage Ford, Hillier Ford, Manteca, Ford and Mercury, American Chevrolet, Richardson Dodge, Chrysler and Jeep, Modesto Toyota, Fireside Dodge Hyundai, and Manteca Dodge did not respond. This bid was opened at 9:00 am on Tuesday, February 17, 2009.

Staff recommends the purchase of three (3) 2009 4X4 Extended Cab Compact Pick-ups from Haidlen Ford for \$56,674.98 (\$52,757.85 + \$3,917.13 for tax and license). The District has budgeted \$54,000 for this purchase.

The F150 DSO trucks that were purchased last year cost \$15,500 each. The compact 4-wheel drive pick-ups will cost the District \$18,892 each. Assuming a 5 mpg differential between large and small trucks; an average of \$2.75 per gallon fuel cost over the next 4 years; and 25K miles per year of driving; the estimated fuel savings is \$2,300 per year per vehicle. Average life of these vehicles is four (4) years which would equate to a total savings of \$9,200 per vehicle. It is for this reason that the \$3,000 additional cost is justified.

A motion was made by Director Webb, seconded by Director Bairos, and unanimously supported to purchase the three (3) 4x4 extended cab compact pick-ups from Haidlen Ford in the sum of \$56,675.98 plus the costs associated with adding the limited slip differential to the trucks.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS  
ITEM NOS. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22**

**ITEM NO. 18  
DISCUSSION FINAL PRICING AND SALE OF  
BONDS BY MICHAEL ENGELBRECHT, SR., V.P.,  
WELLS FARGO PUBLIC FINANCE WITH INPUT  
FROM FRANK SORIANO, PRESIDENT OF SUTTER SECURITIES**

Michel Engelbrecht, Sr., V.P., with Wells Fargo Public Finance gave a PowerPoint presentation on the pricing summary. Frank Soriano, President of Sutter Securities recapped the bonding procedure by the District.

**ITEM NO. 20  
DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION BY  
CONDOR EARTH TECHNOLOGIES ON THE CAPE  
HORN TUNNEL REHABILITATION PROJECT**

Ron Skaggs of Condor Earth Technologies gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Cape Horn Tunnel Rehabilitation Project.

**ITEM NO. 19  
DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION ON  
ANNE MARIE BERGEN ON THE SCIENCE PROGRAM**

Anne Marie Bergen gave a PowerPoint presentation on two (2) science programs she developed with the grant monies received from OID. The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade "Salmon Project" grows and studies the Stanislaus River Chinook Salmon. The project culminates with the release of salmon in October. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade program "From River to Tap: educates kids on the areas water cycle.



**ITEM NO. 21**  
**DISCUSSION ON OPTIONS TO ADDRESS THOSE**  
**WHO HAVE PARCELS WHICH ARE PART IN**  
**AND PART OUT OF OID'S SERVICE AREA,**  
**YET IRRIGATING ALL LANDS WITH OID WATER**

Staff is developing a policy to deal with the current practices of the district with regard to this matter. They will brief the Board on the policy's development.

This item will be placed on the agenda as an action Item for the Board Meeting to be held on March 17, 2009

**ITEM NO. 22**  
**DISCUSSION ON INCENTIVES FOR GROUND**  
**IDLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF LAND**  
**CONVERSION FROM PASTURE TO TREES**

Director Alpers requested this agenda item and led the discussion. His thoughts were to forgive the water fee for one (1) season only if someone converts their land from pasture to trees. The recommendation was referred to the Water Committee for more discussions.

**ITEM NO. 23**  
**COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**

**Safety Activities**

1. 50 days without a lost time injury accident.
2. Fall Protection Training occurred on the 18th.

**Administration Activities**

1. Staff met with TSM on insurance quotes and they are to select the best packages for recommendation to the district. These will be shared with the Personnel Committee and then with the employee bargaining groups.
2. Met with City of Oakdale staff on common goals and objectives with OID and how OID may better support these efforts that benefit us.
3. Provided Lori Presley and Doug Wey lunch for their successful DOT and BIT compliance report from the Highway Patrol inspection.
4. Working with Julia Jenness to finalize the revised PR&Rs.
5. Employee Drug and Alcohol Training and Harassment Training provided to employees on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
6. Auditors meeting on Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> with the Finance Committee.
7. SJRG Salinity Conference call held on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.
8. Knights Ferry Mandatory Settlement Conference held on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Contract and Special Project Activities**

1. Cape Horn Tunnel – Condor submitted the draft of the Final Project Report on February 27, 2009, which included the “As-Built” drawings. Condor Contract Close out is in progress with an anticipated close out by March 20, 2009.
2. Little John Creek Dam Project – Final work to be completed by Sierra Controls for the SCADA system and PG&E for the power installation. PG&E had originally scheduled the work for February 23<sup>rd</sup> however, their construction department indicates the site is too wet. Both activities are schedule to be completed before the start of Water Season on or about March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009.
3. Riverbank/South Main - Sierra Mountain completed all of the contract work and Punch List on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. Contract Close-out is in progress now.
4. Fairbanks/Cometa Control Structure Rehabilitation – Teichert Construction completed the Punch List items on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Contract Close-out is in progress now.
5. Fairbanks/SSJID Main – Preston Pipeline completed all of the work necessary for the Water Season. Some Hand Rail modifications are required but the steel will not be available until March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009. Also, some final grading cannot be completed until the site dries out.
6. South Main Canal and Tunnel Projects (CEQA) – The CH2M HILL CEQA team conducted the initial site investigation on February 12, 2009 followed up with a Biological Site Investigation on February 19, 2009. The investigations focused on the Upstream Portion of the project which consists of Canal between Goodwin Dam and 2-Mile and the South Main between Tunnel 7 and Willms Siphon. The initial findings were favorable to OID with a majority of the work on an Exempt Basis. The Cultural Review is schedule for the first week in March.
7. South Main Canal and Tunnel Projects (Engineering) – An Engineering Kick-off meeting was held with Condor on February 18<sup>th</sup> followed up a site investigation on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. These two meetings were held to determine the scope for the completion of the Engineering and Construction Documents for a proposal to be submitted to OID.
8. Conducted Lessons Learned meetings with Provost & Pritchard and Giuliani & Kull on the engineering and construction management of the recent projects.
9. Contract Administration activities on issued contracts to be renewed and/or issued, Work Releases and Change Orders for all contracts.
10. Project coordination with Engineering Consultants.
11. Construction Management and Contracts Administration manuals being developed.

### **Construction & Maintenance Activities**

1. Review of Job Set Up Forms
2. Review of Request For Work Approvals
3. On-going review for potential dirt sites
4. Various Landowner meetings
5. Assisting Engineering Department on upcoming Capital Projects.
6. Scheduled interviews for the Auto Shop Supervisor on March 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>.
7. Working on a District Drain Cleaning Program.
8. Installation of the Rubicon gates on in-house and outside contractor projects has been completed.
9. Albers I/II- 100% complete.
10. Dry Creek/South- 100% complete.

11. Brady Pipeline Replacement- Demo of all existing pipe and structure's completed. Started laying pipe and building new control structure.

### **Engineering Activities**

1. Ongoing Suspense Forms.
2. Board Agenda Report preparation.
3. Ongoing Encroachment Agreement preparation.
4. Working with various Irrigation Design Companies on new turnout designs for construction this winter.
5. Engineering Department Staff assisting Mr. Jernigan with construction inspection activities on this winters contracted projects.
6. 30% design submittals for 2009/2010 Capital Projects should be in for review this week.
7. Design for the North Side Reservoir is underway and several meetings have been held between the Water Operations Department, Engineering Department and P&P to discuss design related issues. Should have completed design criteria report and 30% design drawings for Engineering, Water Operations and constructability review this week. DRAFT Mitigation Plan and Updated Biological Assessment were submitted to USACE and USFWS on 2/10/09. Correspondence received from USACOE on 2/24/09 stating that the plan looked "good" and that they would reinstate Section 7 Consultation to USFWS. USFWS has two main issues thus far, the first is how we are going to minimize our impact to CTS and the second is our basis for ruling out the presence of Conservancy Fairy Shrimp within the project area. Engineering is working with CH2MHill on a response to USACOE who will facilitate review and subsequent discussions with USFWS.
8. Conde's CEQA resolution was approved at the 2/17/09 Board meeting and upon obtaining the necessary signatures it will be sent to G&K for filing at Stanislaus County.
9. Preparing various cost estimates and subsequent Requests for Work Order Approval.
10. Working on Goad Construction Issues with Jason Jones, Support Services Manager and G&K as it pertains to recording the Lot Line Adjustment. Settlement check delivered to Mike Ijams for his distribution on 2/10/09. Waiting for Mr. Goad's signature on the lot line adjustment and onsite meeting to discuss construction.
11. Water Committee meeting this afternoon to discuss DRAFT Land Acquisition Policy and outstanding Langworth Pipeline issues.
12. DRAFT Purchase Agreement for new deep well site (Furtado) completed and submitted to Water Operations for review.
13. Met with Bill Smith and Tom Gookin concerning new irrigation delivery options on Smith Parcel. Currently reviewing options with GM.

### **Water Operations Activities**

1. Irrigated Lands Program Annual Monitoring Report submitted to the RWQCB on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>.
2. Coordinating the installation of new Rubicon Flumegates
3. Monitoring statewide drought conditions.
4. Reviewing applications for vacant DSO position
5. Assisting Engineering with 2009 Capital Project Design Considerations
6. Various Landowner meetings being conducted
7. Water Utilities – Annual nitrate testing performed in February for all Domestic Well Sites. Results indicate that nitrate levels have actually decreased.

- a. ID 22 – Nothing to Report
- b. ID 41 – Nothing to Report
- c. ID 42 – Nothing to Report
- d. ID 45 & 49 – Nothing to Report
- e. ID 46 – Water Main failure on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> near Dillwood & White Oak Drives, repairs have been completed. Committee Meeting held on February 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Pooley lot split.
- f. ID 51 – Nothing to Report
- g. ID 52 – Well site abandonment tabled pending possible litigation
- h. RWS – Nothing to Report

### **Finance and Accounting Activities**

1. Auditors present the last two weeks and most all time devoted to that activity.

### **B. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### Personnel Committee Meeting, March 6, 2009

- Discussion on 2009 Health Benefits Options

#### Finance Committee Meeting, February 27, 2009

- Meeting with Auditors

Director Clark stated that the Finance Committee met with the auditors and they had good things to say about the Finance Department. They stated that all of the suggestions that were made had been implemented and they were satisfied that all of their recommendations had been met. They stated that the Finance Department is one of the best that they have dealt with in their encounters with other clients. Director Bairos added that auditors stated that the District is in the upper 10% of their clients as far as how the District's books are maintained.

### **C. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS**

#### Director Bairos

Director Bairos had no comments.

#### Director Webb

Director Webb asked if the Board members had read their Western Water Magazine last month. He stated that the Delta and the salmon that was discussed five years ago are still being pushed forward. He stated that he thinks it would be prudent for the District to get a PR campaign setting forth the District's position regarding the river and the salmon and the predator problem and why they are really not returning to the ocean. We have the material and we need to promote that information. Director Alpers stated that the River Group should handle the promotion of this information.

#### Director Clark

Director Clark complimented the District and their safety program which resulted in the rebate of \$874,000 which is pretty significant.

Director Alpers

Director Alpers stated that apparently we had a good year in construction, safety, and bookkeeping and the staff should be complimented.

It was determined that there was no need to go into Closed Session.

**CLOSED SESSION**  
**ITEM NO. 24**

**A. Government Code §54956.9 Existing Litigation**  
*(1) Karen Eakin v. Oakdale Irrigation District*

**OTHER ACTION**  
**ITEM NO. 25**

At the hour of 11:14 a.m. the meeting was adjourned. The next Regular Board Meeting of the **Oakdale Irrigation District Board of Directors** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room at 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA.

The next Joint Board Meeting for the **Tri-Dam Project** is scheduled for **Thursday, March 19, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.** in the board room of the Oakdale Irrigation District, 1205 East F Street, Oakdale, CA.

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Jack D. Alpers, President

Attest:

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Steve Knell, P.E., Secretary