

# **Tulare County Flood Control Commission Regular Meeting**

**8:30 AM – Wednesday April 17, 2024**

**Board of Supervisors Chambers**

**2800 W. Burrel Ave**

**Visalia, CA 93291**

## **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, all matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Flood control Commission at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to make comments at the time the item comes up for the Flood Control Commission's consideration.

### **Agenda**

1. Call to Order – roll call
2. Public comment period (Information)
3. Review and approve minutes from January 31, 2024 meeting (Action)
4. Update on Letter of Support for Tulare Irrigation District (Information)
5. Staff advisement on need for ethics training and Form 700 due 4/2/2024 (Information)
6. Staff advisement on ongoing efforts to secure of California Office of Planning and Research Grant for Meteorological Study concerning effects of climate change (Information)
7. Staff report on Flood Control District matters, flood control projects, update on:
  - a. Sultana Storm Drain Improvements and Recharge Project (Information)
  - b. Flood Control Capital Improvement Program (Information)
  - c. Kings River Channel Cleanup Project (Information)
  - d. Strathmore / Friant Kern Canal (Design) (Information)
  - e. Juvenile Detention Facility / Cottonwood Creek (Information)
  - f. St Johns River Levees with Visalia and KDWCD (Information)
8. Channel maintenance and responsibilities (Information/Possible Action)
9. Suggestions for future agenda items (Information)
10. Adjourn meeting (Action)

Tulare County Flood Control Commission contact:  
Ross Miller (559) 624-7000, [RMiller@tularecounty.ca.gov](mailto:RMiller@tularecounty.ca.gov)

As a courtesy to those in attendance, please turn off or place in alert mode all cell phones and pagers. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Celeste Perez at (559) 624-7000.

## **April 17, 2024 Meeting Packet**

Attachment for Agenda Item No. 3  
January 31, 2023 Meeting Minutes

# Tulare County Flood Control Commission

**Summary Meeting Minutes- 8:30 AM Wednesday, January 31, 2024**  
Board of Supervisors Chambers, 2800 W Burrel Ave, Visalia, CA 93291

**1. Call to order – Roll call:**

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Vink at 8:35a.m.

- A. Commissioners: Dan Vink (Chair), Gene Kilgore, Eric Quinley, Susan Simon, Shane Smith, Eric Limas
- B. Commissioners Absent: Douglas Jackson
- C. Staff: Ross Miller (Chief Engineer), Alan Simpson (Engineer II), Lucero Hernandez (Staff Analyst/Clerk), Paula Clark (County Counsel)
- D. Public: Diana Zegarra (Tulare Irrigation District)

**2. Public Comment Period (Information):**

Diana Zegarra from Tulare Irrigation District is applying for the Water and Energy Efficiency grant and would like a letter of support from the Tulare County Flood Commission or District. Staff will review template sent.

**3. Review and approve minutes from October 20, 2023 Meeting:**

Motioned by commissioner Quinley seconded by Commissioner Limas and unanimously passed with the following vote:

*AYES: 6 (Vink, Kilgore, Quinley, Simon, Smith and Limas)*

*NOES: NONE*

*ABSENT: 1 (Jackson)*

*ABSTAIN: NONE*

**4. Select dates for remaining 2024 Flood Commission Meetings:**

Commissioners selected the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 8:30am for the remainder of 2024.

Motioned by Quinley and seconded by Gene.

*AYES: 6 (Vink, Kilgore, Quinley, Simon, Smith and Limas)*

*NOES: NONE*

*ABSENT: 1 (Jackson)*

*ABSTAIN: NONE*

**5. Flood Control Presentation on Functions and Current Operating Budget:**

Alan Simpson did a presentation on Flood Control functions and operating budget.

(Attachment A: Flood Commission Functions and Current Operating Budget)

*In addition, the Flood Control District Fund is approximately \$6.3 million as of July 1, 2024 and the annual income for tax revenues was approximately \$982,000.*

**6. Staff advisement on need for ethics training and Form 700 due 4/2/2024:**

The Clerk informed the Commissioners that ethics training must be completed as soon as possible and that the Form 700 was emailed as well.

**7. Staff report on Flood Control District matters, flood control projects, update on:**

Refer to the chart for updates (Attachment B: January 2024 Project Status Chart).

- a. Sultana Storm Drain Improvements and Recharge Project*
- b. Flood Control Capital Improvement Program*
- c. Kings River Channel Cleanup Project*

- d. Strathmore / Friant Kern Canal (Design)*
- e. Juvenile Detention Facility / Cottonwood Creek*
- f. St Johns River Levees with Visalia and KDWCD*

**8. Channel maintenance and responsibilities (no action):**

Maps of all water ways were shared with the commissioners in previous meeting. Staff will work on adding GIS layers differentiating agency boundaries as time and resources are available.

**9. Suggestions for future agenda items:**

Staff were asked to develop a procedure on how to respond back to agencies who have voiced a concern. Staff were asked for a tracking document for grants status and amount spent by providing a budgetary column within the projects chart provided to the Commission. Staff were asked to provide project progress for Antelope Creek.

**10. Adjourn Meeting (Action):**

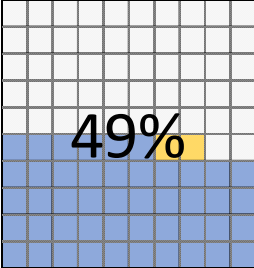
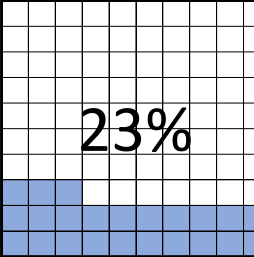
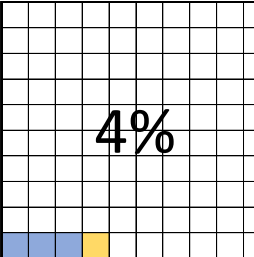
Meeting Adjourned by Dan Vink at 9:37a.m.

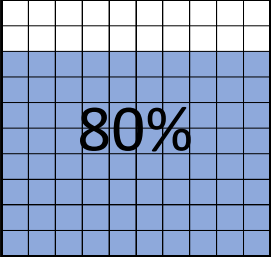
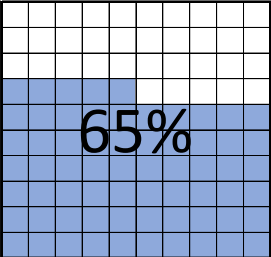
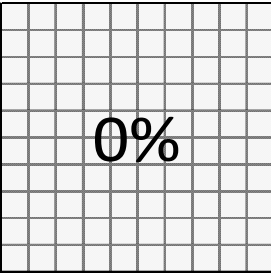
PENDING APPROVAL

## **January 31, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Attachment for Minute Item No. 7

January 31, 2024 Meeting Minutes

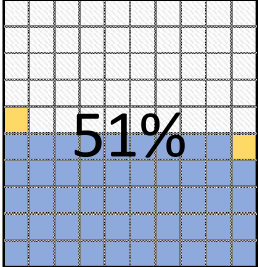
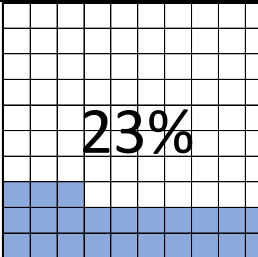
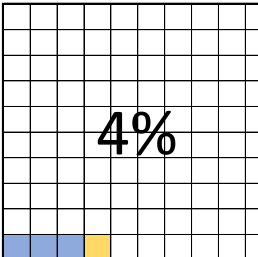
Project Name	Contacts	Description	Project Status & Update	Completion
<b>Sultana Storm Drain Improvements and Recharge Project (Design)</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Provost & Pritchard <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	The project is an expansion of the storm drain collection system and improvements to the basin in the community of Sultana and will allow connection of the system to allow for groundwater recharge in the basins. The Flood Control District will receive a sub grant in the amount of \$787,545 to complete the project, including design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff have issued response comments in regard to design questions posed by the project Consultant and are preparing for the development of a 60% plan set. A 35% plans set and response comments were previously generated and reviewed by all parties.</li> </ul>	 <p>49%</p> <p>Expected Construction Completion: Fall 2028</p>
<b>Flood Control Capital Improvement Program</b>	<b>District:</b> Countywide <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	A project to assess the current condition, capacity, and adequacy of all Flood Control Facilities countywide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff has visited and photographed all pumps throughout Tulare County and are preparing staff report on repairs and upgrades</li> <li>Staff are preparing a budget for pump replacement for fiscal year 2023</li> <li>Staff are assessing costs for continuation of in house evaluation versus outsourcing to consultant.</li> </ul>	 <p>23%</p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>Kings River Channel Cleanup Project</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	<p>A project to remove sediment build up in the Kings River channel through Tulare County, which has limited channel capacity and increased flood risk.</p> <p>The Flood Control District intends to obtain necessary approvals and permits and will bid out sediment removal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Programmatic Requests for Information were answered and completed in late October. No outstanding action items are required at this time.</li> <li>Announcement of application selection is expected by the middle of February 2024.</li> </ul>	 <p>4%</p> <p>Expected Completion: June 2024</p>

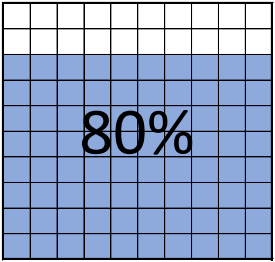
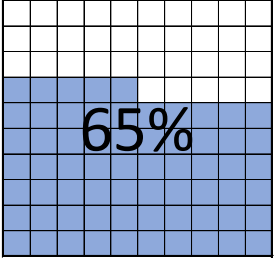
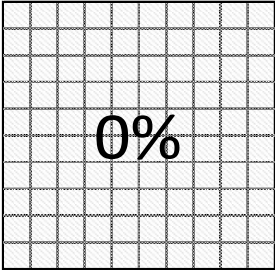
Project Name	Contacts	Description	Project Status & Update	Completion
<b>Strathmore-Friant Kern Canal Project (Design)</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 1 – Larry Micari <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	A system to convey water that gathers on the east side of the Friant Kern Canal near the community of Strathmore to the west side and ultimately into the storm drain basin. The project would replace or supplement current operations, wherein the County pumps water across the Ave 196 Bridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous encroachment permit application was rejected by Bureau of Reclamation.</li> <li>• Staff are preparing alternative design options for this project, which may include use of a force main and land acquisition north of Ave 196</li> <li>• Staff are also beginning to review potential alternate designs.</li> </ul>	 <p>80%</p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>Juvenile Detention Facility/ Cottonwood Creek Realignment Project</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	<p>The realignment of Cottonwood Creek in the vicinity of the Tulare County Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) to protect the JDF and restore the creek to its natural flow.</p> <p>The project is adjacent to a sand pit which may potentially serve as a detention or retention basin in accordance with the Cottonwood Creek Stormwater Resources Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project design completion is pending staff availability</li> <li>• County has been approached by various parties interested in the recharge capacity</li> <li>• Staff are reviewing options for grant funding for this project</li> </ul>	 <p>65%</p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>St Johns River Levees with Visalia and KDWCD</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 3 – Amy Shuklian <b>Designer:</b> TBD <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	Interagency coordination between Tulare County, City of Visalia and Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District to determine responses and areas of vulnerability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project is pending letter of understanding/MOU between all agencies. A coordinative effort will be led by Tulare County.</li> </ul>	 <p>0%</p>

# **April 17, 2024 Meeting Packet**

Attachment for Agenda Item No. 7  
Flood Control Projects Status as of  
April 11, 2024



Project Name	Contacts	Description	Project Status & Update	Completion
<b>Sultana Storm Drain Improvements and Recharge Project (Design)</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Provost & Pritchard <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	The project is an expansion of the storm drain collection system and improvements to the basin in the community of Sultana and will allow connection of the system to allow for groundwater recharge in the basins. The Flood Control District will receive a sub grant in the amount of \$787,545 to complete the project, including design.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff have issued response comments in regard to design questions posed by the project Consultant and are preparing for the development of a 60% plan set. A 35% plans set and response comments were previously generated and reviewed by all parties.</li> <li>Coordination with Alta Irrigation District is underway</li> </ul>	 <p><b>51%</b></p> <p>Expected Construction Completion: Fall 2028</p>
<b>Flood Control Capital Improvement Program</b>	<b>District:</b> Countywide <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	A project to assess the current condition, capacity, and adequacy of all Flood Control Facilities countywide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff has visited and photographed all pumps throughout Tulare County and are preparing staff report on repairs and upgrades</li> <li>Staff are preparing a budget for pump replacement for fiscal year 2023</li> <li>Staff are assessing costs for continuation of in house evaluation versus outsourcing to consultant.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>23%</b></p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>Kings River Channel Cleanup Project</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	<p>A project to remove sediment build up in the Kings River channel through Tulare County, which has limited channel capacity and increased flood risk.</p> <p>The Flood Control District intends to obtain necessary approvals and permits and will bid out sediment removal.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Programmatic Requests for Information were answered and completed in late October. No outstanding action items are required at this time.</li> <li>Project has been submitted with provisions for local match. Prepare California funds could not be completed.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>4%</b></p> <p>Expected Completion: pJune 2026</p>

Project Name	Contacts	Description	Project Status & Update	Completion
<b>Strathmore-Friant Kern Canal Project (Design)</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 1 – Larry Micari <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	A system to convey water that gathers on the east side of the Friant Kern Canal near the community of Strathmore to the west side and ultimately into the storm drain basin. The project would replace or supplement current operations, wherein the County pumps water across the Ave 196 Bridge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous encroachment permit application was rejected by Bureau of Reclamation.</li> <li>• Staff are preparing alternative design options for this project, which may include use of a force main and land acquisition north of Ave 196</li> <li>• Engineers Estimates for two potential options as well as exhibits have been prepared for presentation before commission.</li> </ul>	 <p>80%</p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>Juvenile Detention Facility/ Cottonwood Creek Realignment Project</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 4 – Eddie Valero <b>Designer:</b> Tulare County RMA <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	<p>The realignment of Cottonwood Creek in the vicinity of the Tulare County Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) to protect the JDF and restore the creek to its natural flow.</p> <p>The project is adjacent to a sand pit which may potentially serve as a detention or retention basin in accordance with the Cottonwood Creek Stormwater Resources Plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project design completion is pending staff availability</li> <li>• County has been approached by various parties interested in the recharge capacity</li> <li>• Staff are reviewing options for grant funding for this project</li> </ul>	 <p>65%</p> <p>Expected Completion: <b>ON HOLD</b></p>
<b>St Johns River Levees with Visalia and KDWCD</b>	<b>District:</b> No. 3 – Amy Shuklian <b>Designer:</b> TBD <b>Contractor:</b> TBD	Interagency coordination between Tulare County, City of Visalia and Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District to determine responses and areas of vulnerability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOU has been prepared but is under review to ensure most current version reflects all concerns.</li> </ul>	 <p>0%</p>