

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2011**

Mayor Cardenas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p. m.

Councilmembers Present: Cardenas, Aguayo, Darling, Parra, & Simonian

City Staff Present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Finance Director Wong, Community Development Director Deaver, Public Works Director Weisser, City Attorney Wolfe, Acting Fire Chief Lopez

Roll call was taken. There were no public presentations.

PRESENTATION BY CONSOLIDATED IRRIGATION DISTRICT (CID): DRAFT COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

CID General Manager Phil Desatoff introduced members of the board, and gave a presentation on their proposed Cooperative Agreement with the City to address groundwater impacts. He began with a history of the District and its operations, showing maps of their large network of canals and water recharge ponds. CID has historically entered into agreements with each city within its boundaries for groundwater recharge activities and use of their canals for storm water runoff.

In recent years, due to rising costs for water recharge, canal and pond maintenance, and impacts related to new development, CID is asking the cities to approve new agreements that impose substantial fees to help pay for these expenses. For the past several years the cities have conducted a series of group meetings to evaluate and negotiate the agreements, and to date, some of the cities have taken action to approve them.

Mr. Desatoff explained that the agreement with Fowler proposes to institute a process for the City to pay contributions into a groundwater management and replenishment fund. He referred to the attached 8-year ramp up schedule, which calls for the City to make incremental payments pursuant to a calculated formula, based on groundwater usage from the prior year. The schedule breaks down the contributions into administration and district facilities costs, drainage fees, and payments to a water recharge project fund. Once the fund reaches a maximum amount of \$1 million, no contribution will be owing until the fund balance is below the maximum limit.

The Council discussed and asked questions about the proposed agreement. The consensus was to hold a workshop to further discuss the matter.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Mayor Cardenas made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Parra, to adjourn. The motion carried on a 5-0-0 roll call vote, and the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p. m.