

# WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 100 IRRIGON, OREGON 97844  
PHONE: (541) 922-3814 FAX: (541) 922-9775

November 17, 2014

## Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called the meeting to order on November 17, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. at the Irrigon Fire Hall located at 705 N. Main St. in Irrigon. Those in attendance were: Board members, Dalarie Philippi, Abe McNamee, Bob Mueller and Vern Frederickson; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Operations Manager, Ray Akers; Clyde Nobles arrived at the meeting at 9:15 am. Director Warren Kemper arrived about 11:30 am.

**AGENDA:** Mueller moved to approve the agenda as distributed. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

### MONTHLY BUSINESS

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Frederickson moved to approve the minutes of the October 2014 Board meeting. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

**BILLS PAYABLE:** After review, Mueller moved to approve the October accounts payable list for the amounts of \$75,249.64. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** The financial reports were reviewed.

### FLOOR BUSINESS

**CLYDE NOBLES:** Clyde Nobles had two issues:

- 1) Use of canal road from Powerline east and west. He stated that he owns the canal road from Powerline Road having purchased the right-of-way area from the McFarland family. He plans to continue using the road. He doesn't accept the letter he received from Reclamation stating that he does not have rights on the road (other than as an irrigator). He wants the District to let Reclamation know this.
- 2) Clyde wants to continue flood irrigation from Headgate 0 and believes the District has to provide service to him. Nobles is using that service now for 19.5 acres, leaving 3.9 acres in flood. He commented that the District did not have an easement to put in the new line along the west boundary of his "parent" property.

Nobles left the meeting at 9:30 am.

**DISCUSSION:** They asked Bridgewater to confirm the easement for the new line (it was confirmed and easement dedicated on the Nobles parcel when he did his subdivision).

## REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

**OPERATIONS REPORT:** Knapp Street project is complete. The pipe for the new project in Irrigon will be here this week.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-012 – HAPO COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION:** Frederickson moved to open an account at HAPO Community Credit Union for the purpose of short term investment. Mueller seconded. Discussion – Bridgewater has/will cash in the two CDs that we’ve held for 19-years at Banner Bank for a total of \$35,000. We can get a much higher interest rate at HAPO, thus the CDs will be moved there. Motion passed.

**MANAGER’S’ REPORT:** The written report was reviewed and discussed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-013 – RECLAMATION WATER POLICY ON GROWING CONTROLLED DRUGS:** The Board read Reclamation’s temporary policy for growing drugs (marijuana). No action was taken.

**WATER OF THE US AND CLEAN WATER ACT INFORMATION:** Information on these two federal rulemakings had been distributed. No questions.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING WITH OTHER IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARDS:** Bridgewater is working with Bob Levy, Westland Board Chairman, to get the Directors of the four federally connected irrigation districts together for awareness of issues affecting each and to open discussion on how we can work together for the benefit of all. Fredericksons have offered their home as a meeting place. January 6 or 7 was selected as the target date (later confirmed to be January 7). More information at next month’s meeting.

## DISTRICT BUSINESS

**JOB DESCRIPTIONS:** Updated job descriptions for District staff were reviewed and modified. Bev will redo and send to the Board, then to the Union.

**WALT STEAGALL, SYSTEM OPERATOR I:** The Board discussed employee Walt Steagall. Akers stated that he relies on Walt for many things. He is the watermaster, equipment operator, repairs the system & equipment and supervises crews as needed. His breathing problems have not allowed him to get the aquatic applicator license (due to the acrolien), but he can get the right-of-way license. He has his CDL and Haz Mat endorsement. McNamee moved to give Steagall a pay increase of .50 per hour and that he be told that the District expects him to get his public pesticide applicators license. Frederickson seconded. Discussion – should the

District require the pesticide license before the raise? Board thought they would give him the chance to step up and get the license to show confidence in him. Bridgewater wondered the date when the increase would be effective. McNamee amended his motion to make the pay increase retroactive to the date the Union Contract was signed. Frederickson seconded the amendment. Both the amendment and the main motion passed.

**JOB OPENINGS:** Akers is in need of an Equipment Operator and we want to start interviewing for a System Op I-II that can work into a System OP III. Discussion. We will post openings on Oregon Work Source right away.

**BOARD TRAINING:** The Board watched a video from SDAO – Board Management 101 before and during their lunch break.

**BUDGET 2015:** Bridgewater presented a draft budget and it was reviewed. Key discussion points:

The first draft showed \$320 base fee and \$52 per acre.

Other income options were presented and reviewed.

Discussion about updating customer service – website, automated payments, e-mailing invoices to customers. The Board approved setting up a website, using a specialist and a program that we can update out of the office. For 2015 bills, we can ask for customer information and for customers to let us know if they want to receive bills by e-mail.

For the IPS screen project, the permit from the Corps has not arrived. Stahls are not 100% sure of the project moving ahead this winter. More information at the next meeting about how our funding will go for this project.

How can we start piping the laterals in Boardman? How far will a \$5 increase per acre take us? The Board would like to assure the O&M improvement fees are specifically tracked for projects.

Warren would like to be sure we let the customers know what we are doing. He wants more discussion on PR and on conservation.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Beverly J. Bridgewater  
Secretary to the Board of Directors