

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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JANUARY 26, 2015

Organizational Meeting 2015

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called the meeting to order on January 26, 2015 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, Vern Frederickson, Bob Mueller, Abe McNamee and Warren Kemper; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Operations Manager, Ray Akers.

ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

OATH OF OFFICE: The following newly elected director took his oath of office:
Division One: Robert (Bob) Mueller (three-year term)

BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES: The Board was given an excerpt from Oregon's "Guide for Public Officials" prepared by Oregon Ethics Commission. Key points were reviewed. The Board is encouraged to go on-line to review the full handbook at www.oregon.gov/OGEC/Pages/Forms-Publications.aspx.

OFFICER ELECTION: Philippi asked for nominations for officers of the Board. Frederickson nominated Dalarie Philippi to continue as Chairman. Mueller seconded the nomination. Philippi asked for other nominations. Hearing none, the nominations were closed. A unanimous vote in favor of Philippi was cast and Dalarie Philippi was elected as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Philippi asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of the Board. Mueller nominated Vern Frederickson. McNamee seconded the nomination. Philippi asked for other nominations. Hearing none, the nominations were closed. A unanimous vote in favor of Frederickson was cast and Vern Frederickson was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-001 - REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2015 and ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING FOR 2016: Mueller to adopt Resolution No. 15-001 which sets the monthly meetings for the District. Frederickson seconded the motion. The Board will meet on the third Mondays of each month at 9:00 am. Meetings will be held at the Irrigon Fire Hall. The Board will be flexible and may change dates and times from time to time if conflicts arise. The organization meeting for 2016 will be on Monday, January 19 at 9:00 am. Motion passed.

BANKING: Mueller moved to continue banking with Banner Bank of Oregon and Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP). McNamee seconded. Banking and authorizations will continue as they have the past 12 months. Motion passed.

BANKING SIGNATORS: There are no changes to the accounts, so no action was needed.

AGENDA: The agenda for the rest of the meeting was approved by Chair Philippi.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mueller moved to approve the minutes of the December 2014 Board meeting. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

BILLS PAYABLE: After review and discussion, McNamee moved to approve the Accounts Payable List for a total amount of \$54,681.44. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS REPORT: Ray reported:

- IPS is almost complete
- Prison crews (2) start next Monday. One crew will clean the laterals and one crew will do concrete work on the main canal. Cate Gomes will supervise the lateral cleaning
- Two new employees start Monday, Feb. 16
- There are 320 feet of 24-inch pipe left from the IPS project
- Lateral 63 pipe is in. Abe will do that work for the District. Abe reported there is excess pipe on this job – 8-inch. He wondered what the plan is for selling the excess pipe.
- Ray met with the contractor that will provide a bid for lining the penstock pipe (30-36 inch) at the Irrigon Pump “Station. We don’t have a bid yet, but will plan this work for next fall, assuming the screens will be going in.

MANAGER’S’ REPORT: A written report was provided and is attached to and a part of the minutes. The report was reviewed. Bridgewater reported that she was not able to complete the Water SMART grant in time for submittal. She will start work on the Field Services Grant for piping Lateral 7. The board discussed the Boardman project. They need to see the cost of pressurizing Boardman versus the cost of enclosing the laterals. Bridgewater explained that we will look at this during the update of the Boardman Master Plan and decide which way to go. She will get the engineers to a meeting once we have more definite layouts and cost comparisons for better discussion. Key points during discussion:

- How much pressure would be provided? Growers may want different pressures, so how would that be accommodated?
- Cost comparison pressure – non-pressure
- Gravity would mean smaller pumps – energy difference?
- What are the next steps?

RL1 PROJECT: McNamee wondered about the RL1 project – piping the open canal on the Strebin property. This would save water and it would be good to get one conservation project completed. Discussion. Abe has the time to put the pipe in. Bev will call Strebin. Ray will confirm pipe type and length. The Board agreed to do the project if Abe has time prior to the season.

FLEXLEASE LOAN: We have funds payable to Stahls for the work done thus far on the Irrigon Fish Screen project. He will compile the costs incurred and get a bill to us. Bev anticipates \$150,000 - \$175,000. The Board agreed to go ahead with the Flexlease funding. While the project is delayed for now, we need to pay what we owe and be ready for the project this fall..

DISTRICT BUSINESS

STIFFLER REQUEST TO CONVERT FROM FLOOD TO SPRINKLER AND CHANGE POINT OF DELIVERY: 4N2515 tax lot 600 – 36 acres. Stifflers have purchased the 36 acres of flood-irrigated land from Dan Barclay in Boardman. They are draining the land and will install a drip system. They would like to move the delivery point from Lateral 12 to Lateral 15. They take water one day a week on lateral 15 to their pond and provide drip irrigation from their pond to the blueberries. Adding the 36 acres would give them water one day every week to the pond. Frederickson moved to approve the request. McNamee seconded. Discussion. This would not impact the irrigators on 15 as they do not take water on Thursdays, which is the day Stiffler would have the water. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-002 - 2015 COLLECTION OF INCURRED CHARGES: Mueller moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-002 which would increase the customer service fee to \$350, set the O&M fee to \$52 per acre and increase the improvement fees by \$5 per acre with a one-acre minimum. McNamee seconded. Discussion. We will borrow funds through the SDAO FlexLease Program and apply for loans and grants to start piping the open laterals. Payments on the Flexlease loan will start this year. We are doing piping work with or without outside funding. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

FEEES FOR SENIORS & WATER LEASE: The Board discussed discounts for seniors. State statutes require we charge all people equally. How would we give a discount to any group of water users without setting a precedent? It would be unfair to all. The board said to focus on letting irrigators know about leasing their water rights to a farmer or someone interested in using them as a way to cut down their

annual fee. They need to be aware that water leased cannot be used on the leasing property during the season.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-003 – FEES: Frederickson moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-003 which sets the rental and fee structure for equipment and services. McNamee seconded the motion. Discussion. Motion passed.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: McNamee and Ray said the District has surplus equipment that could be sold. The District will address this at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson