

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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March 16, 2015

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called the meeting to order on March 16, 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, Abe McNamee, Warren Kemper, Bob Mueller and Vern Frederickson; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater.

AGENDA: Chairman Philippi approved the agenda as prepared.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Frederickson moved to approve the minutes of the February 2015 Board meeting. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

BILLS PAYABLE: After review, Frederickson moved to approve the February accounts payable list for the amounts of \$76,645.67. Kemper seconded. Motion passed.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS REPORT:

- Inmate crews have been working on cleaning laterals and concrete repair on the main canal. They were shutdown Feb. 19 when a prisoner escaped (not from our crew). We got one crew back on March 5.
- Main canal start up occurred Friday, March 13. Into Boardman today (16th).
- Irrigon system should be ready for April 1 start-up.
- Early start-up is appreciated by all and we will try to be ready for this time frame in future years.
- Ray will be off March 17 – March 20.
- Ray will list the 360-feet of 24-inch surplus PVC pipe on Craigslist.

MANAGER'S' REPORT: A written report was distributed to the directors and is attached to and a part of the minutes. The report was reviewed and discussed.

- The 1893 and 1906 water rights were given by decree. They were reviewed and discussed.
- The Umatilla River Exchange report was reviewed and discussed.
- Water schedules will be the same as last year. Updates will be sent out in April.

- Water delivery discussion took place. Discussion of acre-foot limit for District. Flood irrigators and sprinkler irrigators needs for water. Water are the water needs for various crops and can we get that to the water users?
- Rain gages and how they can be used. Board wants to provide rain gages to water users as tools for their use.

DUTY LIMIT – Frederickson moved to limit water duty to 3.5 acre-feet per acre for the season and those with complications can come to the Board. Mueller seconded. Discussion. Motion passed with Kemper opposed.

Frederickson moved to rescind the previous motion. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

More discussion about water use and scheduling took place. Bridgewater said if they are going to limit water, that should be done right away so folks can be contacted.

McNamee moved to limit sprinkler irrigation to 3.5 acre-feet for the season. Kemper seconded. Motion passed.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

DROUGHT: Water is expected to be tight for 2015 and drought indicators are in place.

- The District will tighten up its schedules.
- The District will have a part-time person to help oversee the use of water and enforcement against errant water users.
- The crew will manage water very closely assuring call-in procedures are followed and minimal operational spills are used.
- We have \$165,000 in our conjunctive use budget. This will purchase \$10,680 acre-feet of supplemental water. We used 10,578 acre-feet in 2014. We have \$60,000 in conjunctive use reserve in case we go over the budgeted amount.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson