

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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April 20, 2015

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called the meeting to order on April 20, 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, Warren Kemper, Bob Mueller and Vern Frederickson; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Operations Manager, Ray Akers. Board member Abe McNamee was not able to attend the meeting.

AGENDA: Chairman Philippi approved the agenda as prepared.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

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

BILLS PAYABLE: After review, Frederickson moved to approve the March accounts payable list in the amount of \$144,590.35. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The financial report ending March 31, 2015 was reviewed. There will be a shortfall in the Contract Administration income due to the retirement of BPA-contracted employee, Wallace "Sue" Kiele. Anticipated shortfall is \$7,000. Discussion. We will have unbudgeted income due to sale of equipment. Bridgewater explained that typically, the budget has "over and under" areas that balance out. The Board recommended we look at a budget amendment in late summer or early fall.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS REPORT:

HEADGATE 27 BOARDMAN, POSSIBLE CANAL LEAK: There is some flooding on the Bebb property that may be from the canal. It seems to be responding to increases and decreases in levels of the canal. A trench has been dug by the landowner's renter, Ira Bozarth. The water is trickling through a ditch into his field. The crew will lower the canal in this area later in the week to see if we can find a problem with the canal. Discussion ensued about possible temporary fixes to get through the 2015 irrigation season.

IRRIGON PUMP STATION METER: The meter is not working and has been sent in for repair under warranty.

TELEMETRY UPGRADES: Aqua Systems 2000 was here for three days, working on upgrades to all sites. There is now the ability for Aqua to remotely work on the system. Several sites had maintenance issues. They are working on programming for us to have written daily information.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: The 1985 backhoe is now running and ready to put out for surplus. The Board recommended sending to the Booker auction. We need to go through some type of public process, under State law. The 24-inch pipe has been advertised on Craigslist, but no serious buyers have contacted us. It will go to our Irrigon yard and be stored there while we continue to advertise it.

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 next Board meetings will be May 18, June 15, and July 20. There will be no August meeting.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 15-0005 – FLEXLEASE LOAN: Frederickson moved to approve Resolution No. 15-005 which authorizes the District to acquire \$500,000 in bond funding through the SDAO Flexlease program. The Chairman and Secretary were authorized to sign the resolution on behalf of the Board. Mueller seconded. This will be a 15-year loan. The payback terms were reviewed. Motion passed.

MOTION TO LIMIT DUTY RESCINDED: Kemper moved to rescind the motion made at the March Board meeting that would limit sprinkler irrigation to 3.5 acre-feet for the season. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN: The District's Drought Contingency Plan was reviewed by the Board. All three triggers of a drought have been met and the Board directed staff to implement the procedures. Several items were discussed:

- Purchase of rain gages to be given to landowners.

- Water nozzle exchange program – District recommends 1/8-inch nozzles

- Informing the water users of the IRZ website and how to use the site

- Regular observations of water use in the District

- Increase communication with water users, especially those using wasteful methods. Wasteful methods would include:

- Leaks on their private system

- Watering non-irrigable areas (roadways, driveways, buildings)

- Nozzles worn or too big

- Letting the water run too long (more than 2 – 4 hours) in one place

Sending information out translated to Spanish
Sending information about how to determine lawn and plant needs
Requiring meters for any habitual offenders of District policies regarding
water rate and use. These would be at landowner cost.
Increase awareness of drought and ways to conserve water

ADJOURNMENT

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

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson