

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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June 15, 2015

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called the meeting to order on June 15, 2015 at 8:50 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 Abe McNamee and Vern Frederickson; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Operations Manager, Ray Akers.

AGENDA: Chairman Philippi approved the agenda as prepared.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Frederickson moved to approve the minutes of the May 2015 Board meeting, as presented. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

BILLS PAYABLE: After review, Frederickson moved to approve the April accounts payable list in the amount of \$73,802.03. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The preliminary financial reports for the period ending May 31, 2015 were reviewed.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS REPORT:

COLUMBIA LANE PS VFD: Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) has been installed on the Oregon St Pump Station in Irrigon. This will help out operations as the station has taken a lot of watching to control the pressure. Only the Columbia Lane pump station which is connected to 4th Street does not have a VFD now, but this is not pressing. That station has three pumps of varying sizes.

AQUATIC HERBICIDES: An aquatic treatment of copper sulfate for algae was completed last week. With the high temperatures, another will be done in about a month. The Cascade (endothall) treatment is holding the pond weed down quite well. We hope it will last into August. Then, likely an acrolien treatment.

CREW: Walt has been ill for a couple weeks with all staff picking up the slack. Discussion ensued regarding crew. The Board felt we should look for a temp ditchrider to help with the water management.

WELDER REPLACEMENT: Replacement of the welder has been approved by the insurance company. Ray will make the purchases. Akers and the Board discussed how to protect the equipment from being stolen. Bolting to a pickup or fencing the yard were two suggestions.

SHOP: Discussion ensued about a shop. The board would like to see numbers. We will get a copy of plans from Hermiston Irrigation District for the shop they built as it resembles what Ray is interested in. Abe recommended we call John Wenholtz about some large tresses (or something like that) he has obtained.

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.

CUSTOMER ISSUES: Bridgewater reported on miscellaneous customer issues. For Wayne Reffett, it is the moving of his headgate downstream from above Phase I inlet to below Phase I inlet. This was done to accommodate the City of Hermiston Reuse water, as requested by Reffett at one of the public hearings. There is a question of meter size and location. The board agreed to have JUB review the project and recommend meter installation location and size. Reffett has contacted Sen. Wyden's office requesting information and assistance with access to the federal canal easement. Reclamation has sent this information and ROW use request procedures to him. However, Wyden's office wants to do a site visit, The visit will be July 7. Mueller indicated he would like to attend.

FIELD SERVICES GRANT: We will be identifying an archeologist to do the work for the field services grant. They will look at laterals 5 and 7. This is required by federal law and was part of the budget for the project.

COST MATCH FOR LATERAL 7: Bev would like to ask the landowners on lateral 7 for a cost match - \$5,000 to \$10,000. This will look good on any grant or loan applications. For lateral 7, piping the project will provide a benefit by increasing the head pressure and cut down on operational time. She has requested assistance from Morrow County road department for rocking the shoulder and from MCSWD for removal of Russian olives. The board discussed a 50% payback to the landowners making the donation.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT (WID) MITIGATION WATER: The WEID received 500 acre-feet of mitigation water from Westland Irrigation District for their boundary change. Although the EIS for the WID boundary change stated the water would be for WEID, Reclamation's contract with WID stated "for downstream irrigators." Reclamation has tried, off and on, to get this straightened out and the local field office is tackling this to get the language corrected. We were

notified last week that the WID Board refused to address the issue. We are not sure what the follow-up from Reclamation will be.

FINANCE DOCUMENT REVIEW: The Board has received copies of the purchasing agreement and the financing agreement for the \$500,000 bond we are doing through the Special District program. The documents were reviewed and discussed. Frederickson made a motion to accept the documents and continue towards bond closing, as outlined within the documents. McNamee seconded.

RESOLUTION NO, 15-006: Frederickson moved to approve Resolution No. 16-006 which would authorized a project management bank account at Banner Bank. Mueller seconded. The account will have the same signatures as our regular account and will hold any bond funds or advanced funds from grants or loans. It will be a money market account with the ability to write six checks per month and limited deposits. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session at 10:10 am. to communication from attorney, Douglas McDougal. Executive session was closed at 11:00 am.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board discussed water projects, such as storage. Bridgewater stated that the “well users” are trying to find a project and may have something with the City of Umatilla. The District is interested in any water it can get through Hermiston Irrigation District. Management was tasked to proceed with identifying additional water sources and storage opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson