

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

P.O. BOX 100 IRRIGON, OREGON 97844

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December 21, 2015

Budget and Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called Budget meeting to order on December 21, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Irrigon Fire Hall located at 705 N. Main St. in Irrigon. Those in attendance were: Board members, Dalarie Philippi, Bob Mueller Abe McNamee and Warren Kemper; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Operations Manager, Ray Akers. Director Vern Frederickson arrived at 8:30 am.

The Board discussed the budget with staff. A preliminary budget was distributed. There are some items yet to confirm. The budget will be revisited in January.

Warren had questions about the 2015 special assessment. This was discussed.

The crew arrived at the meeting at 8:30 and were introduced to the Board. Walt Steagall is retiring the end of the month. The Board wished him well. He is interested in volunteering hours monthly to trade for health insurance, so the District will check into volunteer coverage for workers comp. Carlos Carranza was congratulated for becoming a US citizen the end of November. He led the group in the pledge of allegiance. Two new employees, Ben Svatonsky and Casey Serber were introduced. The crew left about 9 am.

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AGENDA: Chairman Philippi noted that the agenda will be modified since Director McNamee needs to leave shortly.

SHOP SECURITY: Our welder and trailer has been stolen again. Though Ray had it chained to a concrete block with heavy chain, it was cut and the trailer stolen. It happened over the Thanksgiving weekend. Ray has gotten three bids on fencing the shop yard – low bid was 485 lineal feet with two 16-foot roller gates for \$10,221. Discussion about whether to spend the money to fence. Discussion about securing the land off Oregon Street and moving some of the equipment there. We could put a berm around it to keep things from being taken and a good gate. More discussion. We will revisit this later. Abe left the meeting at 9:15 am.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

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

INSURANCE: Michael Corey, Insurance Agent for the District, arrived at 9:25 am. He reviewed the District's insurance and schedules with the Board. The SDAO has been very flat the last few years, which is where we are covered. They have good rates, and Michael wanted us to know that Wheatland does regularly check the market. SDAO has just been very good. Discussion and questions.

A motion was made by Frederickson to accept the longevity credit offer from SDAO and authorize the Secretary to sign the document. Mueller seconded. The means that the District agrees to stay with SDAO for two more years for its liability coverage and receives a rebate for doing so. Motion passed.

Corey stated he would be available at any time if the Board has more questions and left the meeting.

BILLS PAYABLE: After review, Frederickson moved to approve the November accounts payable list in the amount of \$64,366.64. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The financial reports for the period ending November 30, 2015 have been received by the Board and available for their review. Management had no comments for the Board.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS REPORT:

FENCING AND SECURITY: There was more discussion on fencing and security. The Board liked the idea of securing the yard off Oregon Street.

2016 PICKUP: It is time to order a new pickup. They are typically 90 days out. Frederickson moved to take bids from Ford and Chevrolet and make the purchase. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

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.

OWRC ANNUAL MEETING: Bev and Vern had both attended the OWRC annual meeting. Vern gave a report. He noted how important it is to be proactive. There are a lot of issues that can just sneak up on you. We had a chance to visit with

Reclamation folks, who included Tim Personius. Vern was very impressed with Tim in that he listened and seem to get things done. He specifically wanted to know about aging infrastruaction and Tim engaged. We also noticed that Tim discussed this issue during his general talk to the group later in the day. Reclamation has not answer now, but realizes something has to be done for these aging facilities. Tim also asked for specific information on the canal and a cost from us for replacing the canal.

CANAL IN ROBBINS AREA: Bridgewater reported that the engineer has engaged on studying this area and offering recommendations. The Board wants to consider a range of ideas. They asked about canal repairs. Ray said the canal is really in pretty good shape in the area as we have been doing repairs the last three years. The Board asked Ray to clear out the easement area on the south side so we can see what is going on there.

CORRESPONDENCE: Several letters to Water Resources Department and from Reclamation were reviewed and discussed.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

CRAIG COLEMAN REQUEST TO PUMP WATER INTO CANAL: Coleman stated he is pumping about 500 gpm year-round at this site on Wilson Road (formerly Bailey property). He would like to see this water go to the canal and wants the District to put in a pipeline for this. Discussion. There are things to consider – cost of pipe, who will pay pumping costs, will downstream folks complain.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-012 – Water Conservation Filed Service Grant. . Mueller moved to accept Resolution No. 15-012, authorizing the District to apply for a \$25,000 grant to upgrade District facilities. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-013 – WaterSMART Grant. Mueller moved to accept Resolution No. 15-013, authorizing the District to apply for a Multi-Year grant for up to \$1,000,000 grant to upgrade District facilities in Boardman. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 15-014 – WaterSMART Grant. Mueller moved to accept Resolution No. 15-015, authorizing the District to apply for a grant up to \$300,000 grant to upgrade District facilities in Boardman. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

BUDGET REVIEW: Postponed to the January meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session at 11:06 a.m. Executive session was closed at 11:15 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson