

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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November 20, 2017

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called Board meeting to order on November 20, 2017 at 9:05 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, and Vern Frederickson; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Office Manager, Lisa Baum; Guest, Shawn Kimbrel, Field Manager for the Bureau of Reclamation Hermiston Field Office and Tom Imus, Boardman water user. Directors Warren Kemper and Abe McNamee were unable to attend.

AGENDA: Mueller moved to approve the agenda. Frederickson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

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

BILLS PAYABLE: After review and discussion, Frederickson moved to approve the accounts payable list in the amount of \$69,013.30. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The financial reports for the period ending October 31, 2017 were reviewed. A proforma budget was distributed to the Board.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS:

LATERAL 11 PIPING PROJECT: The crews moved onsite today to begin the installation of the pipe. The project will be completed by Christmas. Bridgewater distributed a project budget and report. Landowners have requested that the system be pressurized by the District. The current design, while slightly oversized, will accommodate this request. Because the District is doing all the installation itself (as opposed to hiring a contractor for part of the work), there are funds in the budget to pay for the approximately \$12,000 cost of a new pump station. Discussion. Tom Imus stated that he and his neighbors support a pressurized system. He would not have to bring in 3-phase power to his property and will save him initial start-up and

ongoing costs to maintain a pump. Bridgewater indicated that all landowners except Rodelos responded with a “YES” to a recent letter that outlined the ongoing costs of the pressurized system and inquiring if they want to go with a pressurized system. This would set a precedent for the new pipelines in Boardman, at least through Lateral 18. She has already been contacted by folks on Lateral 9, the next lateral to be piped, and they want a pressurized system. The capital costs of the pump station would be paid by the District through its funds, grants or other means. This will reduce the pipe size needed for the piping projects in Boardman. We’ll come up with a standard pump station design that will be used on the systems. Frederickson moved to support pressurization of Lateral 11. Mueller seconded the motion and it passed.

PESTICIDE STORAGE: A paragraph in the Managers Report about pesticide storage was brought up. Frederickson pointed out that the boxcar we are currently using will not keep susceptible pesticides from freezing. He believes there are requirements for such storage and we should be sure we follow those. Discussion and direction given to management.

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

WATER DELIVERY PROJECTS:

- Alternative point of delivery for Kaizen is almost ready to send to the State. Vern indicated that Kaizen would pay the costs of the transfer.
- We have found ground that would take the City of Hermiston water, if that’s what we want to do. 900 gpm would be available.
- Working with the Port of Morrow on groundwater issues, there will be about 2000 gpm available. Would this go on new ground or supplemental supply? It would require a new permit.
- City of Irrigon and City of Umatilla are both working on water projects and will take water to the WEID canal. Those are two to four years out and a small amount of water.

Bridgewater will put a matrix together for these water issues and show cost benefits for new water versus shoring up the supplemental supply for the December meeting.

Discussed ensued on groundwater problems in Boardman. The Port of Morrow, ODOT, Morrow County, WEID and some landowners are working on the area off around Rippee and Root Lane. Frederickson pointed out that the issue may increase in other areas as we pipe our open laterals. Bridgewater pointed out that planning doesn’t have authority to address this problem. For now, we can continue to bring it up around development issues and work with the County and landowners on a case by case basis. Frederickson pointed out we may need to put in ditches as we pipe the laterals.

NOWA CORRESPONDENCE: The Board received correspondence from Northeast Oregon Water Association (NOWA). It was confusing and Bev will contact JR to see what is going on.

OWRC ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Bev and Vern will attend the conference in Hood River.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

REVIEW ANNUAL CUSTOMER PRESSURIZATION FEES VERSUS COSTS OF MAINTAINING THE DISTRICT BOOSTER PUMPS: Annual summary of collections and costs for each pump station for the last 14 years was distributed. The Board felt the current \$25 per acre annual fee is adequate to cover costs including operational labor costs.

ORDER 3/4 TON 4X4 PICKUP: We received bids from Ford and Chevrolet for both regular cab and extended cab for a 2018 3/4 ton pickup – 4X4 with basic options, including automatic windows, cruise control and Bluetooth. After review, Mueller made a motion to purchase the Chevrolet extended Cab for \$27,647. Frederickson seconded and motion passed.

Frederickson moved to fund the pickup using District Building Fund reserve with a three-year payback period. Mueller seconded and motion passed.

BUDGET MEETING DATE: The Board will meet as a Budget Committee following the December 18 Board meeting.

RECLAMATION MANAGER: Shawn reported that this is Day 6 of his job as Field Manager. He came from Denver. He looks forward to working in a smaller community and is here to help when he can.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson