

WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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December 18, 2017

Monthly Board Meeting

Chairperson Philippi called Board meeting to order on December 18, 2017 at 9:02 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, Vern Frederickson, Warren Kemper and Abe McNamee; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Office Manager, Lisa Baum; Field Supervisor, Ben de los Santos; Guest, Miff Devin, Water Quality Manager for the Port of Morrow.

AGENDA: Approved by Chair Philippi.

Introductions were made.

BOARDMAN GROUNDWATER ISSUE: Miff Devin was at the meeting to discuss the ongoing groundwater problem in Boardman. The District has been meeting with the Port of Morrow, Morrow County, ODOT, WRD and several interested parties relative to the growing drainage water problem. Discussion ensued regarding availability of groundwater for pumping into the canal, water quality, water right issues and costs of such a project. There will be more discussion at the next Board meeting. Miff left the meeting at 9:35 am.

MONTHLY BUSINESS

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

BILLS PAYABLE: After review and discussion, Mueller moved to approve the accounts payable list in the amount of \$189,862.41. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: The financial reports for the period ending November 31, 2017 were reviewed.

REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

OPERATIONS:

PICKUP APP: There is an app for pickups that will track mileage, service due and location. Vern suggested we look into this for our pickups.

LATERAL 11 PROJECT: The pipe installation, service outlets and canal work will be completed by the end of the month. The pump station will be installed later. It will be a vertical mount for the pumps. Abe said we need a roof to keep the moisture out. We will likely put up a building for the pump/VFD.

EMPLOYEE TRAINING: Employee Kasey Kroske is willing to take welding classes (fees paid by the District) and agreed to stay on three years or pay the costs back. We will put an agreement together for that. The crew went to a one-day canal safety training last week put on by Reclamation. We'll continue pump maintenance training and Abe suggested we ask Gary Wilde's partners to come in to teach basic pump maintenance.

MAIN CANAL PANELS: Bev and Ben drove most of the canal this weekend as a second inspection, except the desert area. They found 190 panels to be replaced with 60% of that a high priority. Note that this is bypassing many areas that we know are bad, but not critical such as near Three Mile Dam, along the Stahl property, Coyote Springs, and portions of Gattenbein corner. The desert area to the syphon still needs inspected and we anticipate 20 panels in that area. These panels are ones that were deteriorated last year due to the frost and we didn't have time to get to them. We will start the canal work in early January. Here is a breakout of previous years' panel work. There is floor and patching each year that is not specifically tracked. Each panel takes from 1.2 to 2 cu.yd, depending on the size of the panel.

Year	Panels	Other	Cu. Yds Conc	Concrete Cost
2013	183	Floor, patch,	284.5	\$25,695
2014	268	Floor, patch, laterals	384	\$32,026
2015	147	340 ' floor	195.5	\$17,743
2016	230	Floor, patching	268	\$25,980
2017	181	Floor, patching	242.5	\$25,290
2018 (est)	220	Floor, checks	292	\$30,000

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

OWRC ANNUAL CONFERENCE: Bev and Vern attended the conference in Hood River. Vern and Lisa attended the easement workshop. Vern reported on the conference and the meeting with Reclamation Regional Manager, Lorri Gray. They discussed return flows, the Basin modeling effort and the CTUIR water right settlement. WEID is preparing a follow-up letter to the discussion.

DISTRICT BUSINESS

OUTSIDE WATER SOURCES: Bridgewater presented a matrix showing the current and anticipated outside water sources and how they are or can be used in the District. Cost analysis of the water as supplemental or sold to new lands as primary was part of the discussion.

WATER SUPPLY MATRIX – OUTSIDE SOURCES

Description	Amount of water	Duration	Annual A/F
City of Hermiston	900 gpm	May 1 thru Oct. 31	720 AF
City of Umatilla	2019 150 gpm	June 1 thru Oct. 31	99 AF
City of Irrigon	Future – Apprx 95 gpm	Year round	McNamee will take this water
Port of Morrow/ODOT	1500 – 2500 gpm	Irrigation season	1490 – 2527 AF

ANALYSIS/ADDING NEW ACRES OR USING AS SUPPLEMENTAL SOURCE

Source	Amount GPM	Add'l Acres	Annual fee based on 2017 costs	Conj. Use Savings based on 2017 costs - 110 days	Comments
City of Hermiston	900	90	\$ 6,515	437 AF \$ 6,725.25	Gravity flow – chg to permit to April 1
POM/ODOT	1500	150	\$ 11,375	729 AF \$ 11,481.75	GW Pump
POM/ODOT	2500	250	\$ 18,725	1215 AF \$ 19,136.25	GW Pump

Lots of discussion:

- Obligation to our patrons to protect our water supply.
- Obligation to our patrons to keep our costs low.
- What about pumping costs for this water? WEID can't afford to pay.
- This water could be primary or supplemental. If supplemental, non-use doesn't count against us. But, would have to replace primary in some way.
- If it's wastewater, it becomes an issue when we have herbicide in the canal.
- Adding new ground may require a federal permit for transportation of water.
- We are able to pick up tailwater from our irrigators without a permit.

The consensus is to apply for a supplemental water right with the ability to waste the water for any of the groundwater that we pick up.

WILDLIFE SERVICES CONTRACT: Review and discussion. Abe knows a local trapper that might do the work. Frederickson made a motion to table this contract discussion to the next meeting and let the local trapper see what he can do. McNamee seconded and motion passed.

PARTLOW REQUEST – LATERAL 30: Bob Partlow would like to start planning to convert from flood to sprinkler irrigation on his land north of the golf course. He would need to take water from the spillway and need a pond or containment on his property. Discussion. Frederickson moved to approve going forward with the request with an investigation of how the change from flood to sprinkler will work and the landowner to bring more information back to the Board. Mueller seconded. Motion passed.

CONVERSION – HG86 and HG87 LAND TO SPRINKLER: Abe asked about these lands in his area as there is quite a bit of water wasting during their flood irrigation for these two landowners. Bev suggested we look at redoing their headgates for the 2020 irrigation season and send letters now. The Board would like maps and more information about this at their next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m. A budget meeting followed the Board meeting.

Signed:

Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

Dalarie Philippi, Board Chairperson