

# WEST EXTENSION IRRIGATION DISTRICT

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November 21, 2019

## **Monthly Board Meeting**

Chairperson Philippi called the Board meeting to order on November 21, 2019 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, Warren Kemper, Vern Frederickson, Abe McNamee and Bob Mueller; Board Secretary/Manager, Bev Bridgewater; Office Manager, Lisa Baum; Guest Sean Kimbrel, Manager Reclamation Hermiston Field Office.

**AGENDA:** Kemper moved to approve the agenda as distributed. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

### MONTHLY BUSINESS

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Kemper moved to approve the minutes of the October Board meeting as presented. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

**BILLS PAYABLE:** After review, Frederickson moved to approve the October accounts payable list in the amount of \$78,313.34. Kemper seconded. Motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** The financial reports for the period ending September 30, 2019 and a Pro-forma budget were presented and reviewed.

### REPORTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

**OPERATIONS:** Bridgewater reported on equipment and vehicle maintenance. Discussion ensued about ditchriders and their driving habits along the canal. Various options of tracking were mentioned. Frederickson said we need a protocol for driving and for maintenance. The Board suggested taking the 2011 pickup to Hermiston Transmission.

**PROJECTS:** The crew is working on installing the remaining liner today, which is being installed upstream of the siphon. This is the area where we will concentrate our winter work and plan to lay more liner this winter. The liner from last year is holding quite well and has conformed to the ground with no issues. Discussion.

We plan to start on Lateral 12 and lay pipe on the private ground (Marston) before Christmas. We are waiting for the environmental review for the rest and hope to do that work in February.

Drainage along the canal was discussed. We should start conversations with the CID and the Port of Morrow about possibly filing for this water.

We held the landowner meeting with folks on Laterals 17 (Paul Smith Road) and 18 two days ago. Because of the utilities and Morrow County's interest in this area, we will have a utility meeting in late spring on this project. Our surveyor will let us know where the landowners fences lie relative to the county easement and the ditch so we can let landowners know about their fences. We should consider upgrading our pipe to a C900, if possible due to the heavy traffic on this road. Discussion.

Discussion continued about a leak at UPS, the leak at the 4X4 gates, replacement work at HG86 and 87 requiring those properites to discontinue their current flood irrigation.

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Lisa gave a report on collections.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-009 – ORDER OF FORECLOSURE:** Mueller moved to adopt Resolution No. 18-009 which ordered foreclosure proceedings to begin on two properties. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

**MANAGER'S' REPORT:** There is no written report this month. Bridgewater reported on the following:

- Hydro potential is there. She gave figures to Vern. He did the math at 17 cfs and thought it is worth exploration, especially since more water seems available. Discussion. The Board would like to see if the CTUIR is interested in adding a hydro component to the settlement.
- Environmental review for the East Boardman project (Laterals 12 – 18) was submitted to Reclamation in early October. Due to staff changes, Reclamation has not acted on it, but understands we need to have it complete by Feb. 1 to meet our timeline. Discussion with Sean.
- Reclamation Directives & Standards (D&S) for Reclamation and possible engineering review of future District projects involving “substantial change” has received many comments from folks around the West. Discussion.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-010 – DISCRIMINATION AND HARRASSMENT POLICY:** New Oregon laws taking effect in January require certain language to be contained in employment policies. We have updated our policy to contain such language and to recognize Pay Equity. The policy was distributed and reviewed. Frederickson moved to adopt Resolution No. 19-010 which updates our policy to the required standards. McNamee seconded. Motion passed.

## **DISTRICT BUSINESS**

**UNION NEGOTIATIONS:** The negotiations over a new Union contract are ready to begin after December 10. Mike Snyder will be the District negotiator. The Board authorized Dalarie and Vern to represent the them at the negotiations.

**2020 BUDGET:** We will have the budget meeting after the December Board meeting. Plan to stay for lunch.

**SHOP BUILDING:** Our contractor, D&D Excavating and Contracting, is ready to begin the shop. We have a new cost due to regulations. The OSB needs to be on the outside, we added a third rollup door and a second exit door and there are some updates to meet the current wind load standard. There is no heat in the bid and just the plumbing for the water and bathroom is included. Cost is \$110,000 without insulation and \$118,000 with insulation. The District will lay interior finishing. Mueller moved to accept the \$118,000 bid and authorized Bev to sign the contract. Frederickson seconded. Motion passed.

The Board discussed the doors and wanted to eliminate one of the exit doors (we later learned that two are required). They were concerned that the plans did not seem to allow a 14-foot door (contractor has made that adjustment).

**SURPLUS PROPERTY:** Bridgewater mentioned that the contractor is interested in the small lot owned by the District off 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Irrigon as partial payment. This lot has the federal easement. She will do research on this lot and report back at the next meeting.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chairperson Philippi adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

Signed:

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Bev Bridgewater, Secretary

Attest:

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Dalarie Philippi, Chairperson