



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at the district office for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were directors Erick von Lubken, Tim Annala, Don Chandler, Bill Munk; District Manager, Les Perkins; Office Manager, June Brock; Watershed Manager, Megan Saunders and Attorney, Don Hull

Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 11:59 a.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the June 19, 2019 board meeting were presented. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

The O&M bills for the month of July 2019 were presented. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the bills in the amount of \$39,669.95. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

A Water Right Application was submitted by MacRoy and Lynn Jackson (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the application as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

A Water Right Application was submitted by Zach and Holly Yoder (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the application as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

A Boundary Inclusion Request was submitted by Dick & Joyce Kobayashi (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the request as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

A Boundary Inclusion Request was submitted by Anita Hasegawa (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the request as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.



REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) A/R Report – Les reported that the district has received \$1,046,923.84 to date representing 98% of total 2019 assessments charged versus 98% last year. EOM balance for June, including reserves, as of July 11th was \$1,627,553.04.

b) Hydro Production – June’s production was projected at 1.1 million kWh. Actual production was 789,838 kWh (see attached) putting hydro production at 71.80% for the month and trending at 52.59% for the year. Hydro revenue for June was projected at \$86,405.00. Actual revenue was \$62,971.31. June was low due to Plant 3 coming off line the first day of June as well as Plant 2 being off line for 3 days at the end of June due to concern over a faulty valve. Hydro Projections for the summer months are anticipated to be lower than normal due to lower river and stream flows.

c) Manager’s Report – Les reported that irrigation is going well. The upper reservoir is down 12.5” and the lower reservoir is down 12.75’, spilling approximately 3.62 cfs and as of today there is ~717 acre feet remaining in the reservoirs.

A repair was made on a leaky drain on the corner of Frankton and Belmont causing irrigation outage for the surrounding patrons for ~24 hours.

Phil Richter of 1341 Martin Road has been emailing back and forth with the district regarding his lack of irrigation water and the fact that he has paid for a service that he is not receiving (his words). Upon inspection by staff, Mr. Richter’s private irrigation service is broken/dismantled and in disarray. It was explained to him that his service is to be repaired before he can connect to his point of delivery (POD). Stay tuned.

Plant 2 valve issues: On the evening of Thursday, June 27th Plant 2’ was tripped off-line by a voltage dip. When Zach and Elias brought the plant back on-line, they noticed noises and vibrations that were unusual. Zach saw pressure fluctuations on the HMI. On Friday, Les took the plant off line while contacting Gilkes and Waylon Bowers to determine the seriousness of the issue. On Sunday, Zach cleaned out the ports for the pressure sensors and they both immediately began reading as expected with no variation. After consultation Plant 2 was put back on line Monday July 1st with no issues. Our valve was thought to be a butterfly valve when in fact it is a spherical valve. Gilkes may provide spare seals (if they have them) for the valve which will be inspected for wear and tear during the October shut-down along with inspection of the penstock.

Davenport Screen: On Tuesday, July 16th members of FID and FCA staff were on site to lower the weir at the Davenport screen by 3”. This process was well orchestrated and was achieved within ~20 minutes. In the event that the flow agreement with ODFW and DEQ requires flows to drop below 40cfs, some well-placed stop logs may be needed for low lying service intakes.



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Reservoir Expansion Project – Les informed the board that the Timber Sale for the east side of the reservoir should go out some time in August. The Water Rights are all complete except for the final in-stream component. The screens at Cabin Creek and Gate Creek will be replaced sometime in 2020, the forest service had no issues with us working within our easements.

Megan reported that she is making progress with DEQ's 401 certification. It is hoped that we receive this by mid-August. The Army Corp of Engineers JPA permits are still in limbo. The Division of State Lands (DSL) permit will require an extension. Funding will be accessible once the permits are finalized.

Safety Program: Tag-out/Lock-out equipment was purchased and put into use during the Davenport Weir lowering process. Additional safety equipment has been ordered for general O&M procedures (traffic cones, signs, shoring materials etc.), along with safety trainings scheduled for staff members (confined space, CPR and basic first-aid).

Equipment Needs – The district is in need of a 1.5 ton truck, trailer, and a mini-track-hoe.

Pacific Power: Last month's public announcement regarding Pacific Power's ability to shut off electrical lines due to fire danger and their claim that Hood River County is considered a HIGH Risk zone brought several agencies together to discuss this issue. Les provided the board with a Letter of Support from all 3 irrigation districts (see attached) for a NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant Proposal from FCA providing the viability of co-locating fiber optic and energy infrastructure alongside irrigation pipelines. Funding for this county wide project may be available from the Department of Energy. Energy Trust of Oregon will be funding a feasibility for solar plus storage at Plant 3.

The Derby Screen (Reno NV) design is at 90% complete and under review. The project will break ground in September, (possible royalty check to follow).

LEGAL: Legal Council said that there has been no further action regarding the Red Barn License Agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OTHER BUSINESS: There was discussion regarding the need of an isolation valve for the Plant 2 penstock, much discussion ensued regarding type, location, cost etc.

Les also informed the board that staff enquired into the option to carry firearms while in remote areas of the district for self-protection. Some remote areas within the district are prone to habitat cougars, bears, coyotes and rattlesnakes. Legal counsel suggested a concealed carry permit, (bear spray/mace is a viable option). Les will check in with other districts as to their policy/liabilities on firearms.



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ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Signed: _____ Bill Munk, Secretary

Attest: _____ Erick von Lubken, Chairman