



• 1985 Country Club Road, Hood River, OR 97031 Phone (541)-387-5261 www.fidhr.org •

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at the district office (back lawn) for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were directors Erick von Lubken, Tim Annala, Don Chandler, Bill Munk and Pete Siragusa; District Manager, Les Perkins; Office Manager, June Brock; Watershed Manager, Megan Saunders and Attorneys, Don Hull and Jeremy Hull.

Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 11:56 a.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the April 21, 2021, board meeting were presented and discussed. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

The O&M bills for the month of May 2021 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Pete Siragusa and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the bills in the amount of \$420,090.56. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE: Health Insurance Renewal - Medical insurance rates had an increase of 6% and dental insurance of 2% from last years rates. It was moved Pete Siragusa and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the health insurance as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) A/R Report – Les reported that the district has received \$1,155,194.25 representing 96% of total 2021 assessments charged versus 96% last year. The EOM balance, including reserves as of May 13, 2021 was \$1,864,083.99 (see attached).

b) Hydro Production – April's production was projected at 2.8 million kWh. Actual production was 2,396,989 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for April was projected at \$230,384.00. Actual revenue was \$200,984.91. Actual trending kWh for the year is at 48.30%. May's hydro looks to be below average due to very warm temperatures and high irrigation demand.

c) Manager's Report – Les reported that both the upper and lower reservoirs are full and spilling. A daily average of 6-8,000 gpm is flowing out from the pumphouse for irrigation. A letter to the patrons will be

sent out requesting smart water usage. Hopefully, we will not have to go into rotation. It was noted that this is the earliest start on record to the wildfire season (May 15th).

Irrigation pipelines and laterals are fully charged.

Reservoir Expansion: Crestline Construction has parked a dozer in preparation of farming operations to dry out the dirt still to be removed from the borrow area and the piles for their July timeline of the dam raise.

Lowline Pipe: The repair on the Lowline pipe from the earthquake rockfall is complete along with road repair (an extremely precipitous area). We also cleaned up Greenpoint Road as a courtesy since we had equipment in the area and no one else seemed to be cleaning it up.

Water Rights: Megan discussed the Instream Flow Protection requirement associated with the new storage right and the new language introduced in the recently approved flow augmentation permit. Megan and Les are working with OWRD to determine interpretation. FID may need to submit a petition for reconsideration to address the issue. Megan also reviewed the Seasonal Varying Flow conditions in the new storage right. Data is still limited, but Megan is pulling together information from recent storage seasons which suggest FID would not be able to fill the new capacity under the permit conditions (see attached graphs). Megan and Les are working with OWRD to discuss these concerns and receive written confirmation that the permit conditions can be adjusted based on the data FID will be collecting over the next few years.

LEGAL: Attorney Jeremy Hull would like a copy of the new draft personnel policy for review.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Les will provide updated job descriptions, salary ranges, and personnel policy for the board's review at the June board meeting. Heavy Equipment Operator, Doug Adams announced to Les that he will be retiring at the end of the irrigation season. Les will be sending out a job announcement in the next few weeks, it is hoped that we can hire someone soon to cross-train with Doug.

Due to conflicting schedules, the August board meeting has been cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.

Signed: _____ Erick von Lubken, Chairman

Attest: _____ Bill Munk, Secretary