

FARMERS IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, June 19, 2013, at the District office for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were directors Don Chandler, Tim Annala, Pete Siragusa and Erick von Lubken; District Manager, Jer Camarata; Administrative Assistant, June Brock and Attorney Jeff Baker.

Chairman Don Chandler called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the May 15, 2013 and May 22, 2013 board meetings were presented and discussed. It was moved by Erick von Lubken and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

The O&M bills for the month of June 2013 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Pete Siragusa and seconded by Erick von Lubken to approve the bills in the amount of \$90,319.87. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

- a) A/R report – Jer Camarata reported that the District has received \$14,991.00 in payments since the May board meeting. Accounts receivable stands at 89% this year versus 93% last year. June provided a list of delinquent accounts for the 2013 irrigation season. Much discussion ensued regarding shutting off water to delinquent accounts. It was moved by Tim Annala and seconded by Erick von Lubken to proceed with the lien process on delinquent accounts. The motion passed with all in favor.
- b) Manager’s report – Jer Camarata reported that the Hood River is flowing at approximately 560 cfs. The lower reservoir is providing about 1-2 cfs to the irrigation system. With the recent warm/dry weather, irrigation demand has been high and the crew has been unseasonably busy with line breaks and repairs, which are usually tempered in over time as folks slowly turn in. The motor at the headgates was out of commission for several weeks and we also had a hydraulic motor go out at Plant 2.

Hydro production for the month of May was projected at 2.7 million kWh, with an actual production of 2,293,410 kWh. Hydro revenue was projected at \$172,000.00 with actual revenue of \$148,918.28. The District's end of month balance for May was projected at approximately \$1.5M with an actual balance of \$1.475M (see attached).

On Monday June 10th contract loggers from Hood River County Forestry crushed a section of pipe from the new Low Line. Flow was cut back and Plant 3 was forced offline. Flows to Plant 2 were also negatively affected. The replacement pipe and materials for this damage is quoted at \$5,900. Doug Theises, Manager of the Hood River County Forestry Department met with Jer and assessed the damage last Tuesday and has indicated that the loggers were at fault. Jer will be seeking compensation for the damage and loss.

Jer reported that the District received \$72,699 in un-reimbursed funds from the ARRA project, this resulted in a reduction of \$84,176 from the balance of State Revolving Loan R06322.

Jer sold \$4,960 of RECs to Shell Energy.

Jer and June met with Alex of Gorge.Net to review the District's phone system. The District cancelled and consolidated seven lines to save approximately \$4,600 annually.

Jer is currently hoping to sell some surplus steel materials to Hanel.

Jer had a meeting with FCA and informed him that FCA hopes to receive funds from the Moore Foundation and it is Julie's hope that they will be able to pay off their loan to the District which currently stands at \$129,527.85. Much discussion ensued regarding patents, licensing, public relations, royalties and sales. Julie would like to attend the next board meeting and give an update and present options. Jer also met with Max Schillinger, an engineer working for Juneau Hydro Power who is investigating a large fish screen application in Alaska.

Memorandum of Understanding – Jer provided the board members with a packet containing final draft User Group Account Fee Subsidy, Addendum language to MOU contracts between Farmers Irrigation District and User Groups or Associations, and a revised pressurization, construction, operation and maintenance, and fees policy documents. After the additions and deletions were addressed and reviewed, it was moved by Tim Annala and seconded by Erick von Lubken to accept the revised June 2013 Pressurization Policy. The motion passed with all in favor. Notification to user group presidents requesting updated MOU contracts and signatures will be mailed out in July and due by Oct 1st. Water will be withheld to user groups who do not fully execute the new MOU by the 2014 irrigation season.

LEGAL:

Attorney Jeff Baker informed the Board that he has been working with Jer on the User Group Subsidy language, addendum to Memorandum of Understanding, and the District's personnel policies.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The draft Health Reimbursement and Vacation Policy discussions have been tabled to the July 17, 2013 board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Signed: _____
Rich Hanners, Secretary

Attest: _____
Don Chandler, Chairman