



• 1985 Country Club Road, Hood River, OR 97031 Phone (541)-386-3115 Fax (541)-386-9103 www.fidhr.org •

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2015**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, August 19, 2015, 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 and Pete Siragusa; District Manager, Jer Camarata; Water Right Specialist, Rick Brock; Office Manager, June Brock; and Attorney, Jeff Baker.

Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the July 15, 2015 board meetings were presented. It was moved by Don Chandler 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 August 2015 were presented. It was moved by Pete Siragusa and seconded by Don Chandler to approve the bills in the amount of \$220,931.65. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) provided the board members with a copy of their 2014 financial audit (see attached).

A Water Right Application was submitted by Miguel DeLa Rosa (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler to approve the application. Pete Siragusa commented that he didn't think that it was appropriate to approve middle district water right applications during such a drought year, while on rotation, and also due to the uncertainties of what future drought years might bring. Discussion ensued. The motion on the floor died for a lack of a second. Pete made a motion to deny the application, which was seconded by Tim Annala. The motion passed with one nay, being from Don Chandler.

A Water Right Application was submitted by Hector Samkow (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the application as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

A Water Right Application was submitted by Hood River Parks and Recreation (HRPR) (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to deny the application as presented due to HRPR lack of ownership in the property.



REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) A/R Report – Jer reported that the district has received \$990,954.40 to date representing 97% of total 2015 assessments charged. Jer and the board thanked June for all her hard work.

Total accounts balance, including reserves, as of August 12th was \$1,621,440.54

b) Hydro Production – No production. All plants are down for lack of flows or construction.

c) Manager's Report – Jer reported that as of August 18th, the upper reservoir was down 15' and the lower reservoir was down 10.5'. Jer estimates that we have between ~15-20 days of reservoir water left if we continue at the current burn rate. Drought relief funding application (state/fed grants and loans) documents are available at the district office. Jer provided the board with a short drought data analysis from 1977 to 2015 (see attached). Discussion about the drought and harvest schedules ensued.

On July 23rd staff members from EPA and DEQ were on site to film and interview board members Erick von Lubken, Pete Siragusa and District Manager, Jer Camarata. The EPA has awarded Farmers Irrigation District their National Sustainability Award.

Jer presented the board with a draft Public Meeting and Public Records Policy for review. The policy will be discussed and approved or denied at the September board meeting.

Jer reported that the district's application to receive an additional \$75k from the Energy Trust of Oregon (ETO) to offset the unexpected PacifiCorp expenses incurred with the Turgo project has been approved. The ETO Turgo incentive (soft funds) have now reached \$900k, payable to the district in two chunks, one at project commercial operational date (this year) and the second upon one year of successful project operation (end of 2016).

The ~6,670' of new fiber-optic lines for enhanced plant-to-plant communication has been laid. The fiber optic lines will greatly protect plant electronics from future faults, and is essentially lightening proof as compared to the old copper line that was replaced.

The district received \$5,812.88 in unbudgeted REC sales from a Tenaska Power Services deal. Jer said that he has sold all REC production up through April 2015 for \$1/REC within the last week and will also sell the May and June 2015 production for the same price. Once the new Turgo unit is online, all REC production, up to 29,295 RECs will be obligated to the Turgo-based ETO contract.



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The district has completed a roads/easements survey and draft partition plat that now sits on the HR County Surveyor's desk for review. The survey is part of an ongoing effort to clean up easements and orchestrate a land-water swap deal with the Hetzels.

LEGAL: Hood River Golf Course (HRGC) – The district received a letter dated August 12, 2015 from the Hood River Golf Course attorney, Mark Reinecke requesting to talk with the district manager regarding the drought situation, rotation schedule, and pressure issues. It appears that the HRGC is seeking relief from the drought rotation schedule, but the FID crew has made several reports of out of compliance watering. Discussion ensued. Legal counsel and management are preparing a formal response.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Gilkes Turgo – Jer took the board members on a field tour of the ongoing Plant 2 construction. Pete Siragusa and Tim Annala could not attend the tour, but expressed their intent to visit the project next week. Jer reported that the tour lasted approximately 45 minutes and that no business was discussed except that regarding Turgo construction status and general construction techniques.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting and project tour was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Signed: _____ Bill Munk, Secretary

Attest: _____ Erick von Lubken, Chairman