BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2017

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, at the district office for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were directors Erick von Lubken, Don Chandler, Tim Annala, Bill Munk, and Pete Siragusa; District Manager, Les Perkins; and Office Manager, June Brock. Also in attendance was Julie Hammond, Insurance Broker.

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

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the October 18, 2017 board meeting were presented and discussed. It was moved by Pete Siragusa 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 November 2017 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Pete Siragusa to approve the bills in the amount of $490,982.08. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:

2018 Insurance Renewal – Insurance Broker, Julie Hammond of Brown and Brown presented the board with Starr’s Hydro Property insurance proposal for 2018 (see attached). Much discussion ensued regarding deductibles, premiums, exclusions, dams, flood, earthquakes, terrorism, and rate increases up to 5%. Julie to date, has not received the 2018 proposal from Special Districts Insurance Services (SDIS) which covers the District’s general property and auto coverage, she will provide this information as soon as it is available. Julie told the Board to expect auto and property to increase based on the national auto experience (payouts have exceeded revenue) and the large property damage claims due to natural disasters. Also, Julie informed the Board that there would be a slight increase in her brokerage fee. The 2015 Lowline pipeline incident is still in subrogation. The Board thanked Julie for her presentation and on-going support.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) A/R Report – Les reported that the 2018 Annual Billing was sent out on November 1st in the amount of $1,049,712.40 representing 5802.84 Water Right Acres and 1870 accounts.
b) Hydro Production – October’s production was projected at 1,300,000 kWh. Actual production was 1,682,717 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for October was projected at $89,076.00. Actual revenue was $116,813.16. The District’s trending percentage of actual to projected kWh for the year currently sits at 107.80%. End of month balance including reserves = $1,681,732.72. Don Chandler asked if the district could start making interest payments on Loan R32245. Les will contact DEQ for further information regarding interest payments prior to the completion of a project.

c) Manager’s Report – Les reported that the crew are still winterizing the system throughout the District. The replacement valve for the Dieck Vault arrived this week, with installation of the valve being set in the next two weeks.

Reservoir Expansion – Phase 1 of the reservoir expansion project is wrapping up, weather was a bit of a deterrent, but the inlet valve was installed, and staff are currently fabricating the trash rack with installation this week. Log removal, materials, re-shaping of barrow pits and compaction have all been completed. The coffer dam around the outlet will largely remain in place for de-watering. A channel will be cut in the coffer dam that will allow full utilization of the stored water.

GIS – Les received three proposals and has opted to go with Parametrix. Parametrix met all of the District’s criteria which included budget, ESRI, ARC-GIS access, management services, data upload, aerial maps, templates, on-line and desktop access, etc. The new system will have a much lower annual cost with more tools available. FID will maintain the system and will not require an outside contract for regular maintenance.

Les informed the board that he has been attending the Association of Oregon Counties (AOC) annual conference in Eugene this week where he also attended a CREA Board meeting. The AOC Conference is a great place to talk with other County Commissioners about energy issues and legislation to get support. Les also met with PacifiCorp’s Scott Bolton and Lori Wyman to discuss PacifiCorp’s concerns about the Hood River County Energy Plan. The meeting lasted 1.5 hours and covered all aspects of power generation and infrastructure. PAC plans to have smart meters on every home in its territory by 2019. Bolton stated that PAC knows that generation is not the future for the company, the future is in the infrastructure. This is significant and is the first time PAC has made any kind of statement like that.

Les mentioned that he had not had a review or a raise, cost of living or otherwise, since he started two years ago. He would like the Board to consider that fact for the next meeting.

LEGAL: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None
OTHER BUSINESS:  None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Signed: _______________________ Bill Munk, Secretary

Attest: ________________________ Erick von Lubken, Chairman