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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES (REVISED 6/18/2025)**  
**WEDNESDAY MAY 21, 2025**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the district office and via zoom for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Directors in attendance included: Bill Munk, Dani Annala, Don Chandler, and Pete Siragusa. Also in attendance were District Manager, Alexis Vaivoda and Watershed Project Manager, Megan Saunders. Director Erick von Lubken and Office Manager Cassy Stintzi were not in attendance.

Chairman Pete Siragusa called the regular meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES:**

Alexis introduced the board to FID's two new employees, Adan Beltran and Tom Springer. Both provided a bit of background about themselves, and the board introduced themselves.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:**

Three people were in attendance and said they were there to listen. Jan asked about the cost increase over the last couple years. Alexis provided a quick run-down and suggested Jan check out the newsletter and FAQs on the FID website.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS:**

The minutes of the April 16, 2025 board meeting were presented and discussed. Don Chandler moved and Bill Munk seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

The O&M bills for the month of May were presented and discussed. Bill Munk moved and Dani Annala seconded to approve the bills as presented in the amount of \$389,241.82. The motion passed with all in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION:**

**FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT:**

- a. **A/R Report** – Alexis reported that the district has received \$2,179,824 as of May 12, 2025 which represents 90% of the 2025 assessments charged, versus 95% at the same time last year. The EOM balance, including reserves as of May 12, 2025 was \$2,159,468 (see attached).
- b. **Hydro Production** – April's production was projected at 2,800,000 kWh. Actual production was 2,864,207 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for April was projected at \$230,384.00. Actual

revenue was \$240,443.41. Actual trending kWh for the year is 51% of predicted production for the year.

- c. **2024 Audit** – The audit for 2024 is almost finished. The completed audit will make 2026 budget development much easier.

#### **IRRIGATION & HYDRO STATUS REPORT:**

- a. **Hydro status:** April was a great production month with no interruptions. Bill and Alexis will discuss updating the hydropower production graph.
- b. **Reservoir status:** Both the upper and lower reservoirs are full and holding steady.
- c. **System Maintenance:**
  - 1) There was a minor issue with the Bilson pump. Zach has corrected it and done some rewiring to prevent a reoccurrence. Communication with those patrons has improved.
  - 2) The first half of April was spent preparing the system for irrigation startup. The crew was two members short. They worked really hard and did a great job. Startup went pretty smooth overall.
  - 3) The crew has been working through minor repairs (e.g. cracked regulators/valves), and also repaired a larger leak on Country Club which required Crestline's vac truck.
  - 4) FID has purchased some new batteries for the SCADA/telemetry sites. The old ones were no longer holding a charge.
  - 5) The crew patched a vertical screen panel at Forebay 3 with an extra panel of wedgewire. There will be a more permanent fix completed during the October maintenance shutdown.

#### **PROJECTS:**

**North Alameda Line** – FID is working to separate service for two properties to repair a historic issue from the piping project.

**Watershed Plan** – FID's Watershed Plan EA has been authorized. FID is working to get NRCS designs to review ASAP in order to get the construction funding request submitted ASAP. Alexis is still aiming for Farmers Canal piping to begin in fall 2026.

**Gate/Cabin Fish Screens** – FID has been struggling to make progress with the USFS on the fish screen replacement approvals. Alexis and Megan will be doing a site visit with Cindy from the Hood River Watershed Group on Friday, and hope that will open up some wetland mitigation options and forward momentum. Alexis discussed the DEQ SRF loan options (close the current loan and reapply later or meet

certain progress targets to keep current loan open). FID would need to begin updating the EA, which can be done in-house, and document some USFS commitment to progress by the end of the year. Alexis is recommending this option, with the aim of completing implementation in summer 2026. The board was supportive of keeping the loan open to keep pushing the project forward.

Don Chandler suggested that Bernie Yoo could volunteer and assist with this project if he was interested. Alexis will reach out to Bernie, if and when, there is an opportunity for volunteer participation.

**WATER RIGHTS:**

Megan provided an update on efforts to stop SB 427 and SB 1153 at the Oregon Legislature. She also updated the Board on the recent dry weather and higher than average water use, and informed them of plans to begin messaging around voluntary conservation efforts soon.

**MISCELLANEOUS:**

Alexis attended an OWRD Dam Safety Workshop and found it useful.

Alexis asked the Board how they would like to move forward with the shared private systems policy (Policy #002), as she would like to have something that represents the District's current practices. The Board agreed that a policy reflecting both past realities and current practices is needed, and that the policy would need to have enough flexibility to address the variety of historical arrangements. Alexis will incorporate the Board's feedback and add the disclaimers/acknowledgements discussed and send out a new draft by June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Alexis has been looking to using Flash Alert to communicate with patrons and will report back what she finds out. Don suggested using the County alert system.

**LEGAL:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Pete Siragusa

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Munk