



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, September 18, 2019, 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, Les Perkins; Office Manager, June Brock; Watershed Manager, Megan Saunders and Attorney, Wayne Annala.

Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS:**

The minutes of the July 17, 2018 board meeting was presented, (there was no August board meeting). 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 months of August and September 2019 were presented. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the bills in the amounts of \$186,861.67 and \$276,144.38. The motion passed with all in favor.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

A Water Right Application was submitted by Randall Johnson (see attached). It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Pete Siragusa to approve the application as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

**REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:**

**a) A/R Report** – Les reported that the district has received \$1,070,294.21 to date representing 100% of total 2019 assessments charged versus 99.19% of last year's assessments. 1 lien satisfied.

Total accounts balance, including reserves, as of September 12th was \$1,705,345.55.

**b) Hydro Production** – August's production was projected at 700,000 kWh. Actual production was 633,525 kWh (see attached) putting hydro production at 87.80% for the month and trending at 58.44% for the year. Hydro revenue for August was projected at \$54,985.00. Actual revenue was \$50,761.32.



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**c) Manager's Report** – Les reported that the upper reservoir is empty and the lower is almost empty.

With cooler temperatures and harvest underway, we hope to make it to the end of the irrigation season.

Minor irrigation fixes are being repaired, however, squirrels, greydiggers, and RUS's have wreaked havoc with the Forebay 3 level sensor, the switchyard, and backhoe hoses and wires.

River Flows – During August and early September the Hood River flows dropped off significantly, enough so that we had to adhere to the MOA with DEQ, ODFW for our LIHI certification. If flows drop below 250 cfs daily mean for 3 consecutive days we are required to reduce flows to our irrigation right only (40 cfs). To date we have had 11 days of reduced flows. 40 cfs is still diverted for irrigation and any flows not used for irrigation can be used for generation at Plant 2.

October shutdown is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>, projects include the cleanout of forebay 2, headgates intake, Farmers Canal and tunnel cleanout, draining of plant 2 penstock, reworking P2's MIV hydraulics, replacement parts for the cooling fan at P2 and any other necessary plant maintenance. A fish salvage will take place at Joe's Creek and Farmers Canal in conjunction with CTWS and ODFW.

Megan is working on our (extended) LIHI certification, a draft will be sent to LIHI for review. Due to changes in LIHI's standards/criteria we are hoping that our certificate will qualify for 10 years of recertification instead of 5 years. It is anticipated that the new LIHI MOA will allow the District to shut down during the last 2 weeks of August instead of the first two weeks of October, this will allow for gains in hydro production in October while putting water in-stream for fish in late August when stream flows are typically lowest. Megan is still monitoring river and stream temperatures with more data available as per DEQ and ODFW requirements for our LIHI certification and also for our own understanding of stream conditions throughout the District. Also on her list, is updating the Sustainability Plan.

Reservoir Expansion – We have received our 401 water quality certification from DEQ, and looking to have the 404 permit from the Army Corp of Engineers by the end of September. We have to apply for an extension to our DSL remove and fill permit. When all permits are received we can begin work on the project and bill to either funding source. Attorney, Don Hull has been working on the timber sale contract for timber located on the west side. We will likely contract to have the east side logged and then sell the logs in sorted decks in order to get the work done this year. We have an In-Water Work Exemption from ODFW. Les has applied to OWRD for a grant extension.

Cabin and Gate Creek Screens – Both screens need to be replaced, funds will be listed in the 2020 budget. Les is working with our engineer Niklas and FCA's Dan Kleinsmith on the screen plans.



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Permitting for the screens will begin immediately. The District is unable to use the new reservoir water right until the new screens have been installed.

SCADA/Telemetry – Sierra Controls technicians were here the last week of August to install touch screens at the Headgates and Fish Screen and migrate to ClearScada. The remaining sites will migrate before years end. The kiosk panel at the cabin will move from overhead to underground conduit wiring due to a rotting power pole. We will also install a 50' Texas Tower allowing signals from Farmers Canal to relay via radio. This will allow the District to move away from ACS and GorgeNet telemetry transmitting costs, saving ~ \$640.00 per month.

Upgrading the server at P3. The new server allows FID to own and maintain their own SCADA/telemetry system. The radio path survey is complete, the radio communication sites look good.

Zach attended the North West Hydroelectric Association's small hydro and technical workshop August 21-22 in Bend, where he gave a presentation on the attributes of small hydro projects. His presentation was very well accepted. Kudos to Zach.

Rick spoke with the Board regarding easements and partitions from Jon Gerde (667 Rocky Road). Mr. Gerde currently has a 4.7 acre parcel (2.2 water rights). The property was shown on the big screen through our GIS program. Mr. Gerde is wishing to split his parcel into 3 lots. This brought up the question of properties being served irrigation water within the city limits. Much discussion ensued as the district has as of 2016, 101 lots, 70 accounts with ~102.5 acres. Erick asked the question of how much is a CFS worth? And how much would it cost the District if it was to annex these properties into the city limits. As we have seen over the years, many agriculture acres removed and turned into subdivisions. Les will bring the Board information on the value of the accounts in the City annually, the value of that water if it was run through Plant 2, the legal ability to remove water rights at annexation or subdivision, the value of the associated water in-stream either permanently or temporary, our current subdivision standards and any suggested changes, and what is possible through subdistrict formation.

Les informed the board that he is forming a Capital Improvement Master Plan. There are a few high dollar and low dollar projects that need to be addressed. Also Les is working on cleaning up/amending some of the District's policies and plans. All of these will be brought to the Board as they are developed.

#### **LEGAL:**

Dye/Leonard – An easement/tap issue arose between Dykie Dye and Dennis Leonard (1291 Tucker Road and the parcel to the east). Mr. Dye brought it to the District's attention that Mr. Leonard was using irrigation water from his tap Mr. Leonard's property. Mr. Leonard provided an easement dated 1955 allowing him to use multiple taps for his property. District policy allows one tap per parcel and Mr. Leonard's parcel is already served by its own tap. In addition, another adjacent parcel is using an



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additional tap off of Mr. Dye's line. Les explained to Mr. Leonard that he is only allowed to use his water right and that the additional taps would have to be capped. Our policy supersedes Mr. Leonard's, so he will be restricted to one tap with the appropriate sized regulator.

Elections: Resolution 05-19 (Mail-in-Vote) attached. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Pete Siragusa to adopt Resolution 05-19. The motion passed with all in favor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Erick von Lubken, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Munk, Secretary