



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2019

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, December 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, Don Hull. Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 11:55 a.m.

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

The minutes of the October 16, 2019 board meeting were presented and discussed. (There was NO November board meeting). It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the minutes as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

The O&M bills for the months of November and December 2019 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the November bills in the amount of \$462,360.85 and it was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Pete Siragusa to approve the December bills and \$219,169.33. The motion passed with all in favor.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) A/R Report – To date, the district has received \$381,316.23 in payments towards the 2020 irrigation season representing 36% of collections vs 31% last year. EOM balance as of December 12th was \$1,081,608.55.

b) Hydro Production – November's production was projected at 2,200,000 kWh. Actual production was 1,821,062 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for November was projected at \$172,810.00. Actual revenue was \$149,964.28. The District's trending percentage of actual to projected kWh for the year currently sits at 75.90% considering November's river flows were below normal and we had several unanticipated shutdowns, thus putting hydro revenue around \$250-\$300K short for the year.

c) Manager's Report –

Irrigation/Hydro Status Report: The reservoir is essentially empty, except for the 1 cfs coming in from the Stanley Smith pipe. Plant 3 is flowing 17cfs and Plant 2 is flowing 90 cfs. North Greenpoint is at half its normal flow.

Les, Rick and Sal will meet on Friday with Bob and Charlie Benton to discuss the replacement of the Puccinelli line.



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Headgates - The taper wall of the Davenport screen gave us some issues that caused a shutdown, the wall became slightly bowed. Currently we are using C-clamps to hold it tightly in place. A permanent fix will be done during our next shutdown. The second shutdown was due to a deluge of leaves.

Projects – The Reservoir Expansion: The timber sale advertisement will take place in February. The Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) permit require maps to complete their process. The Army Corps of Engineers 404 certification is waiting for concurrence from SHIPO’s state archaeologist. It is hoped that we will have our 404 Certificate by the end of December.

Scada/Telemetry – The base for the Texas Tower has been poured and the radio antennae should be installed and running by January. This will eliminate the Gorge.Net T-1 line, (\$260.00 per month). Electrical conduit has been run from the Pac power pole to the meter at the kiosk at the headgate to underground the power. The existing pole is in rough shape and needed to be replaced. Conduit will be less maintenance long term and safer.

Other – Hydro Outlook: Several irrigation districts and agencies are looking to move away from the Renewable Energy Coalition, saving our district an average of \$10,000 annually. It is hoped that OWRC will hire lobbyist to work on our and others behalf in the Oregon Legislature.

One potential option for District power in the future is to be able to use the power locally through a Joint Powers Authority structure. This would allow agreements between government entities to net meter to multiple locations under multiple ownerships. Les and other officials met Tuesday to discuss this option among others. Energy Trust may be willing to provide feasibility funding to look at islanding and black start capabilities for FID and to route the power to critical infrastructure. More discussion expected at the January Board meeting.

Sharing Resources – Zach has been working with Middle Fork Irrigation District to learn their hydro-electric facility operations. Sharing resources throughout the irrigation districts could lead to further expansion such as Scada/Telemetry, management, finance, equipment etc. more details will be provided at the February board meeting.

Debt Reduction Strategies – Les will provide multiple scenarios for debt reduction, either by less hydro revenue, raising irrigation fees, A/P cost reductions, etc. The board asked that he provide a scenario with NO power sales contract.

Megan has taken on the task of migrating our G/drive (server) to the G Suite (Cloud server). This eliminates the need for Radcomp IT service, a savings of \$1322.50 per month. We’ve moved our desk top QuickBooks to Quickbooks online, then in January when the radio communications are up and running we will eliminate the need for ACS Scada monitoring, a savings of \$380.00 per month.

Les was informed by FCA’s Director, Julie O’Shea that the district will receive its royalty check for the Derby Screen, Reno, NV in the amount of \$120,000.00 by February, 2020.

DEQ 303d – (Section 303(d) requires identifying waters that do not meet water quality standards and where a Total Maximum Daily Load pollutant load limit needs to be developed). Megan and Les provided a lengthy report on the inaccuracies and concerns with DEQ’s 2018-2020 integrated report, (see attached). Megan is working on a joint response letter with MFID, EFID and FID.



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LEGAL: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OTHER BUSINESS: Les would like to attend the Farm Alliance Convention, February 19th – 21st. This conflicts with the February 19th board meeting. The board unanimously decided to move the February board meeting to Tuesday, February 18th.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Signed: _____ Bill Munk, Secretary

Attest: _____ Erick von Lubken, Chairman