



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, April 15, 2020, conducting its regular monthly business via teleconferencing. 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 Project Manager, Megan Saunders and Attorney, Don Hull.

Chairman Erick von Lubken called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

### **MONTHLY BUSINESS:**

The minutes of the February 18, 2020 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 months of March and April 2020 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Pete Siragusa to approve the bills in the amount of \$393,564.73 for March and \$74,605.24 for April. The motion passed with all in favor.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

A water rights application was submitted by Covenant Christian School (see attached). It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Tim Annala 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 \$906,869.49 to date representing 84% of total 2020 assessments charged vs 83% last year. Balance including reserves as of April 9th was \$1,329,599.05.

**b) Hydro Production** – March's production was projected at 2.9 million kWh. Actual production was 2,705,188 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for March was projected at \$238,612.00. Actual revenue was \$225,989.02. April's hydro production could be lower than anticipated due to stream/river flows as well as early irrigation demand.



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Audit – The 2017 and 2018 audits are complete and ready to be submitted to the State. Board members should review the audits and contact Les if they have questions or concerns. Ken is ready to start on the 2019 audit.

**c) Manager's Report** – Les reported that both the upper and lower reservoirs are full and the lower reservoir started spilling today. Snotel at North Greenpoint SWE is at 82%. The Hood River is flowing ~600-700cfs, which is about half of the mean. Irrigation lines are being charged upon demand as it's been exceptionally warm this spring and everyone is planting a garden (due to the stay at home order). Soil is dry and streamflows are low and have been all winter/early spring. This could be a rough irrigation season if precipitation doesn't increase.

System Maintenance – PRV's are all re-assembled and valves are being repaired and replaced as needed.

Reservoir Project – Megan reported that permits are in place, however Megan and Les had a call from DOGAMI this morning denying our "Exclusion Permit" for the rock pits. Hood River County Forestry has noticed the rock pits through ODF and is confident that is all we need and that DOGAMI doesn't have jurisdiction on this. We will work through this denial as is necessary. Crestline Construction is planning to work at the reservoir beginning on Monday, starting stripping of the borrow areas as well as preparatory work for the rock pits. The Gorge Commission placed a cease and desist order on the Lyle Rock Pit where the fine filter material is coming from, so Crestline is looking for other sand purveyors while working with the pit operator to see if we can finish hauling what was contracted for.

The borrow area permit boundaries have been marked, geolocated, and flagged. The sensitive areas within the construction and borrow area footprint where equipment should not operate have been fenced off with orange fencing.

Timber Sale – JW logging will start next week falling trees on the east side of the reservoir under a professional services contract. The trees will be cut, bucked to the most valuable length, and decked to be sold later through a public bid process.

Funding – Les is working with both funding sources DEQ and OWRD to determine which project components to bill to which funder. Some unanticipated aspects of the reservoir project that were not included in the original bid are being prepared as discreet projects as there may be stimulus funds available for wetland, fish screens and telemetry, as these are all shovel ready projects.

Telemetry/Scada – The headgate/screen telemetry/SCADA has moved over to the new SCADA platform, eliminating the GorgeNet T1 line, all other sites have migrated also eliminating support from ACS. The addition of 2 new sites for the upper and lower reservoir and Gate Creek will be installed this year.



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The Benton Road Line (formerly Puccinelli Line) is fully installed and charged. Eric Carlson of Terra Surveying will survey the line so we can provide an easement to Charles Benton and Bob Benton accordingly. The existing PRV from the old line will be moved further down the new line to both protect the pipeline from pressure spikes and to manage flows to users at the bottom of the system.

Airport Line – Tappani Construction has relocated the Airport Line, it has been pressure tested and any crossings have been sleeved with steel. Thanks to Rick for doing a great job of managing the project.

Timber Clearing - Weyerhaeuser will be logging the area above our North Greenpoint Pipeline (NGP) from Deadpoint Rd., downstream to the Deadpoint Diversion. This section of pipeline is fused HDPE that was installed in the fall of 2016. The Weyerhaeuser engineer met with Les and the logging contractor on site to walk the project. Weyerhaeuser Geotech engineers decided the area below the pipeline is too unstable to be logged but the area above will be logged. Weyerhaeuser concern was about protecting our pipeline while they fall the trees above the pipeline. The only real risk is impact from falling trees and a limb driving into the ground and puncturing the pipeline. Les was uncertain of the amount of cover down the whole length and so Doug Adams will pothole our pipeline prior to any timber falling. Weyerhaeuser may need to add some more cover in some places.

**LEGAL:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Megan informed the board that the LIHI recertification is out for public comment, she will also be working on updating the Water Management Conservation Plan which is due by July.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

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

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