



**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2020**

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, July 15, 2020, on the lawn 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; 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 12:00 p.m.

**MONTHLY BUSINESS:**

The minutes of the May 20, 2020 board meeting were presented. There was no June board meeting. It was moved by Tim Annala 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 June and July 2020 were presented. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Tim Annala to approve the bills in the amount of \$251,123.92 for June and \$309,593.22 for July. The motion passed with all in favor.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR:** None

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:**

**a) A/R Report** – Les reported that the district has received \$1,051,195.73 to date representing 98% of total 2020 assessments charged versus 96% last year. EOM balance for June, including reserves, as of July 9th was \$1,330,580.57.

**b) Hydro Production** – June’s production was projected at 1.1 million kWh. Actual production for both May and June are unknown at this time as the PacifiCorp meter at Plant 2 had faulty readings due to an arc flash. The meter has since been repaired and we provided PacifiCorp with our kWh production numbers. We are simply waiting on PacifiCorp to compare our numbers with their numbers and provide us an updated statement. May’s revenue was lower than anticipated, but we made up for it in June due to rainfall and cooler temperatures. Hydro Projections for the summer months are anticipated to be lower than normal due to lower river and stream flows.



• 1985 Country Club Road, Hood River, OR 97031 Phone (541)-387-5261 Fax (541)-386-9103 www.fidhr.org •

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**c) Manager's Report** – Les reported that irrigation is going well. The upper reservoir was closed on July 6<sup>th</sup> to dewater and work on the outflow pipe. We are currently pulling ~5cfs of water from the lower reservoir.

Waylon Bowers from OS engineering was brought in to work on the SCADA under-volt settings as they were tripping and causing outages. Waylon is also going to provide options for reprogramming and hardware updates so Plant 2 can go directly to water by-pass mode when tripped under most circumstances. This will also allow Plant 2 to be moved directly to water by-pass mode after an MIV closure. This will allow us to keep the tailrace watered under most circumstances and will eliminate most spilling down Indian Creek.

The Penstock repair has been completed, some minor irrigation work at adjacent properties will be done this week and the fencing will be repaired/replaced. ~ Penstock repair cost \$10K.

The Pump Station filter system has had motors replaced and filters repaired. We have a much better understanding of how the Amiad filters work and what routine maintenance needs to be performed.

Reservoir Expansion Project – Les informed the board that the reservoir project is behind schedule due to weather (wet June) in and around the borrow pit areas. The materials need to be dry enough to meet compaction requirements and moisture content requirements. Crestline is installing a siphon pipe over the upper dam to provide water while the outlet pipe is closed. The siphon won't meet all of the water needs but it will extend the time we can operate without the outlet pipe flowing water. Crestline was able to do road and campground work during the wet weather days. Crestline may have to work longer days and possibly 7 days a week to meet deadlines. Change orders for the spillway, rock production, additional road building (campground area and road to lower reservoir), and farming/screening of borrow material are forthcoming which will affect our original budget. Our budget was \$2.2 million (total grant was \$3million for both pipe and reservoir) from OWRD and \$2,069 million from DEQ, after drawing down we are around a balance of \$2,274,486.00.

Timber Sale: - It is hoped that we will get between \$175K - \$225K for our timber. The logger will be done logging and skidding in early August and we will advertise the sale at that time. Prices have been good and look to remain high in the near term.

Screen replacements for Gate and Cabin Creeks are at 30% of design, permitting with ODFW and USFS are underway. Cabin Creek will be the easier of the two projects. Gate Creek will entail the installation of rock weirs in the stream channel and the use of log rafts to minimize impacts on the wetland for any machinery in that location.

SCADA/Telemetry: Sites for the reservoir will entail multiple satellite sites reporting to a single master communication site at the reservoirs for depth, inflow, and outflow and then remote sites reporting



streamflow and diverted flow. We are currently working on updating the contract for our repeater to bounce a signal off the Middle Mountain cell tower.

Megan reported that she has submitted the Water Conservation Management Plan to OWRD. We have also received confirmation of our Low Impact Hydro Institute (LIHI) certification has been approved for the next ten years. Kudos to Megan.

Policies/Procedures: Much discussion ensued regarding water right applications for minimum acreage, small residential parcels, parcels within and outside of the UGB, system development charges, enforcing water wastage etc. It was moved by Erick von Lubken and seconded by Tim Annala that the District will no longer accept water right applications below 0.25 water right acres. The motion passed with all in favor. All agreed that further discussion will be needed once the irrigation season is over. Les and Megan will bring more developed policy options to the Board in the future now that they have more clear direction. At 1:05 p.m. Chairman von Lubken departed from the meeting. It was suggested that information regarding beneficial use of water be sent with the annual billing.

Les mentioned to the board that if stimulus funds become available, we would like to pipe the open stretch of Farmers Canal between McCurdys and Mellows and also install a diversion gate at Ditch Creek to divert water to the outside pipe for irrigation purposes during low flows.

RECs: Recs are currently being sold on the market for \$2 a rec. Our REC's are sold through 2021.

**LEGAL:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Munk, Secretary

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