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BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Farmers Irrigation District met on Wednesday, March 17, 2021, at the district office and via zoom under COVID guidelines for the purpose of conducting its regular monthly business. Those in attendance were directors Erick von Lubken, Tim Annala, Don Chandler, Pete Siragusa and 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 February 2021 board meeting were presented and discussed. 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 month of March 2021 were presented and discussed. It was moved by Pete Siragusa and seconded by Bill Munk to approve the bills in the amount of \$258,923.26. 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 \$913,272.65 representing 75% of total 2021 assessments charged versus 71% last year. The EOM balance, including reserves as of March 11, 2021 was \$1,578,837.00 (see attached).

b) Hydro Production – February's production was projected at 2.7 million kWh. Actual production was 2,603,437 kWh (see attached). Hydro revenue for February was projected at \$222,156.00. Actual revenue was \$218,568.27. Actual trending kWh for the year is at 24.93%. March hydro looks good.

c) Manager's Report – Les reported that the upper reservoir was closed on March 8th, it is currently half full and filling at 10-acre feet per day.

Lines have been charged the last few weeks for spray water, and the crew are reassembling and repairing PRV's and valves as necessary.

Easement Maintenance: Doug's work on cleaning up easements and right-of-ways is never-ending, the access road to the headgates was long overdue. Doug has repaired much of the drainage damage done by one of the homeowners on the road down to the fish screen and has cleaned up the access road down to the headgate.

Spray Program: Jeff took and passed Oregon's Pesticide Laws and Safety Exam; he was one more exam to take. We will be undertaking a more regular spray application protocol around the power houses and the switchyard to deal with blackberries.

Projects Update: Megan reported that permitting is on-going for the reservoir and fish screen replacements, ACOE and DSL permit extensions have been requested due to the timeline of the reservoir project and wetland areas which includes the necessary replacement of Gate and Cabin Creek fish screens.

Reservoir Expansion Budget: Les provided to the board a spreadsheet and budget narrative for the remaining work related to the reservoir expansion. Current funding through DEQ has been exhausted and a cost breakdown spreadsheet was also provided (see attached). Les explained the reason for cost over runs, (mainly borrow materials, permitting and fish screen replacements). Les read out the remaining work left to be completed which includes but not limited to finishing the dam, spillway outlet, boat ramp, wetlands, campgrounds, SCADA, final surveys, and fish screen replacement. The district will use its own employees on the pre-mentioned projects wherever possible. Much discussion ensued which led into the discussion of proposed Resolution 05-21, a Resolution authorizing and approving a State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement to finance Reservoir Expansion Phase 2 in the amount of \$2,770,000.00. It was moved by Don Chandler and seconded by Tim Annala to adopt Resolution 05-21 as presented. The motion passed with all in favor.

LEGAL: Attorney Don Hull was asked by Les Perkins to confirm FID's position regarding Hood River County right-of-ways. As FID comes under ORS 545 jurisdiction, FID is a municipality and NOT a utility.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

OTHER BUSINESS: - Two letters were presented to the board, one letter to DEQ's Water Quality Division regarding comments on draft methodology for Oregon's 2022 Integrated Report. The proposed methodology still wraps all data analysis into a single conclusion for the entire watershed assessment unit (which should not be the case) (see attached). The second letter to Oregon Division of State Lands regarding comments on proposed updates to Essential Salmonid Habitat (ESH) maps (see attached). FID is requesting a second review of ESH habitat for the north and south forks of Green Point Creek. MFID is requesting a second review of Clear Branch into the Clear Branch Dam spillway pools. Both letters were submitted as collaborative comments from Farmers Irrigation District, East Fork Irrigation District and Middle Fork Irrigation District.

COVID 19 Policy – The board was presented with an updated COVID 19 Policy with guidelines from Oregon OSHA and the Oregon Health Associated. It was moved by Bill Munk and seconded by Tim

Annala to adopt the updated COVID 19 Policy as presented. The motion had 3 votes for Aye, and 2 votes for Nay.

Les discussed ongoing support provided by FID for energy related legislation. HB3221 – is a bill being run by OWRC and supported by irrigation districts with hydro. HB 3221 would provide a direct market for small scale renewables to communities.

HB3180 – is a bill being run by Jake Stephens with NewSun Energy. HB 3180 would increase the Renewable Portfolio Standard to 100% renewables and have it happen on a shorter timeline. There is a 50% built in Oregon provision as well as a carve out for small scale renewables. This bill uses a market based approach rather than the regulatory approach that a competing bill is looking to use (HB 2021).

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Signed: _____ Erick von Lubken, Chairman

Attest: _____ Bill Munk, Secretary