

# WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Special Board Meeting December 12, 2018

A Special Meeting of the Westland Irrigation District Board of Directors was held Wednesday December 12, 2018 at the New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston Oregon.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

At 1:00 p.m., the board convened in executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2) (h), which allows the board to meet in executive session to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Board members present were Chairman Bob Levy, Jack Bellinger, Justin Terry, and Phil Sharkey. Westland staff present: General Manager Mike Wick; Office Manager Tami Sherer.

At 1:45 p.m., the board completed the executive session.

### PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING:

Chairman Levy called the meeting to order at 1:46 pm.

Board members present were Chairman Bob Levy, Jack Bellinger, Jordan Bennett, Justin Terry, and Phil Sharkey. Westland staff present: General Manager Mike Wick; Office Manager Tami Sherer.

Patrons in attendance were, David Prior, Hoss Hodges, Maurice Ziemer, Art Prior, Lon Wadekamper, and Vern Frederickson.

Manager Wick presented the proposed budget for 2019. One of the changes proposed is the elimination of the \$4.10 per acre special assessment the board approved in 2013 following canal breaks in 2012, and of the \$7.50 per acre special assessment the board approved for 2018 for litigation expenses. A new seven-year, \$5.00 per acre special assessment is proposed to rebuild reserves used for litigation expenses incurred since the time litigation began.

Director Bellinger asked if the \$20,000 in the Water Delivery Improvements budget line item could be used for the A/B control gate project since it was not selected for funding under the Reclamation WaterSMART grant program. Manager Wick said that he prefers to use that money to install telemetry at the Cano and F-1 pump stations to improve safety and control efficiency at those two pump stations. Manager Wick plans to get a different design for the A/B control gate project to see if that project cost could be reduced and resubmit a grant proposal under the WaterSMART program.

Director Bellinger made a motion to approve the 2019 Budget as proposed minus the payroll section. Director Sharkey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The board deferred the 2019 Payroll decision until next meeting. If the board members have any questions they can contact Manager Wick.

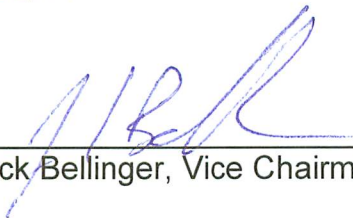
Chairman Levy opened the floor for public comment.

Patron Wadekamper asked about the current status of the ELH et al vs. Westland litigation. Chairman Levy answered that discussions with the District's legal counsel are continuing to resolve the litigation following favorable rulings by the Judge in the case.

Patron Wadekamper then asked about the status of the meeting with the Farmers Conservation Alliance and Energy Trust of Oregon held last month in Hood River. Manager Wick summarized the meeting and added he expects to be in contact with them for follow-up early in January.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.



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Jack Bellinger, Vice Chairman



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Tamara Sherer, Office Manager