

# WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## Monthly Board Meeting

May 9, 2018

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Westland Irrigation District Board of Directors was held Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at the Westland Road Fire Station, 78760 Westland Road, Hermiston Oregon.

Board members present were Chairman Bob Levy, Phil Sharkey and Jack Bellinger. Others present were General Manager Mike Wick. Patrons in attendance were, David Prior, Hoss Hodges, Dillon Hodges, Rob Cox, Ray Vogt, Dean Cherry, Maurice Ziemer, Donna Lewis, Michelle Mesecher, Art Prior, and Bill Quick. Visitor Duane Carroll with CLWID and Vern Frederickson.

Chairman Levy called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

**MINUTES:** The minutes for the March 20, 2018 regular meeting were presented for review with Director Bellinger making a motion to approve the minutes. Director Sharkey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**FINANCIALS:** On a motion by Director Bellinger and seconded by Director Sharkey, the March 2018 and April 2018 financial reports were approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Wick gave the crew report for Bobby Bailey. The crew has continued to fix leaks and flow meters. Bobby is working with Swaggart Construction on grading and packing canal roads. Normal startup of operations, keeping ahead of thunderstorms and weed control.

River Operations & Water Outlook: The Umatilla River has declined to about 600 cfs, with demand in the Westland canal at approximately 220 cfs; McKay Reservoir is full, with Reclamation continuing to release stored water to stay ahead of inflows to the reservoir. Cooler temperatures and some additional mountain snow have improved the water outlook for this summer.

County Line Recharge: Water continues to be diverted for County Line recharge with approximately 8,500 acre-feet delivered to date.

CTUIR Settlement: A meeting with Joe Ely of the CTUIR Tribal Negotiations Team was held April 3. The TNT is continuing to meet with the small ditch companies to see if a water right trade can be made; the TNT is confident a trade of water rights with Hermiston and Stanfield Irrigation Districts will be executed. In the board packets is a letter from Board of Trustees Chairman Gary Burke describing the importance of the role of Westland in the current tribal settlement discussions.

Litigation: The total legal cost the District has incurred from July 2016 through February 2018 is now over \$457,000.

Temporary Transfer Pilot Program: We submitted a temporary transfer under the OWRD temporary transfer pilot project and save the patron involved more than \$1,200 in fees normally paid to Water Resources.

Annual Meeting: A Westland water user annual meeting was held the evening of April 3, with 24 patrons and guests attending. Nate James of NRCS and Joe Ely of the Tribal Negotiations Team gave presentations.

McKay Water via NOWA: Information received from JR Cook—

- He is attempting to secure a 3-year contract modification which would mean that the bid award winner will be granted a 3 year use of the storage space.
- Bids will only be offered to landowners utilizing primary or supplemental basalt groundwater rights within state established CGA's.
- Prospective bidders must commit to working with NOWA to establish a basalt bank testing program in the CGA Sub-Area where water is used.
- Should a basalt bank testing program be authorized and approved by the State, the landowners winning bids shall commit no less than 25% of the McKay water they are awarded to replace the equivalent amount of groundwater pumping.

Low-Head Hydro: Representatives of Percheron Power, LLC made a site visit to the A-Line canal drop by Highway 207 for evaluation as a possible site for installing a low-head hydropower system.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Priority Plan 2018-2019 (05-02-2018 draft). Chairman Levy described the planning process background and prior meetings with George Dunkel of SDAO leading to the current draft of goals identified as priorities.
2. Policies:
  - a. By-Laws: Chairman Levy presented his draft edits to the District's By-Laws for the purpose (1) of updating language to more closely align with present operating conditions; (2) clarifying intent of language in present By-Laws; (3) moving language from section on Manager's duties & responsibilities to a separate job description document, and revising language for that section of By-Laws.
  - b. General Manager Job Description: Chairman Levy presented his draft District General Manager job description and its purpose relative to the By-Laws.
  - c. District Complaint Procedure: Chairman Levy presented his draft of a District Complaint Procedure and its purpose for providing patrons with a written process to follow
3. County Line Recharge: Westland Water Delivery Agreement. The Board reviewed the draft water delivery agreement with County Line Water Improvement District. The draft has been delivered to the board of County Line for their review; Duane Carroll of the County Line board asked if a written letter could also be sent confirming the notice from the Westland board to terminate future water deliveries to County Line had been rescinded -- the board directed that a letter be sent confirming that the termination notice was cancelled. The Westland subcommittee of Director Bellinger and Manager Wick will continue

working with County Line to reach a final draft for the parties to execute.

Chairman Levy then appointed Directors Sharkey and Terry as subcommittee members to coordinate with the District Manager and legal counsel on edits and revisions that may need to be made to the four documents discussed in order to bring them to final form and ready for formal board action.

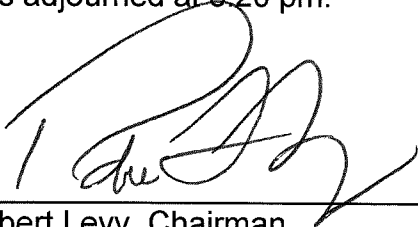
**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Collection Procedures - delinquent accounts. The Board discussed the draft Past Due Account/Collection Procedures proposal. Director Bellinger moved to adopt the proposal, with Director Sharkey seconding; during discussion it was recommended by Director Bellinger to include a provision for copying the board when an account becomes 75 calendar days past due and the patron is notified that a lien will be filed if the account is still delinquent at 105 calendar days past due. The board agreed with adding the provision. The motion, with the included provision, was then put to a vote and passed unanimously.
2. Bank Signatories. Resolution #2018-E, Resolution Approving Signatories To Designated Bank Account was read and on a motion to approve by Director Sharkey and second by Director Bellinger, passed unanimously.
3. Meeting Locations. A list of potential locations to hold board meetings after the month of June was then presented. After discussion, the board requested additional locations be explored and reported at the June board meeting

Chairman Levy opened the floor for public comment.

Dixie Echeverria asked if patron involvement was going to be included in the revisions to District Bylaws. Director Sharkey said it would be considered.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.



Robert Levy, Chairman



Mike Wick, District Manager