

WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Monthly Board Meeting September 18, 2018

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Westland Irrigation District Board of Directors was held Tuesday September 18, 2018 at the New Hope Community Church, 1350 S. Highway 395, Hermiston Oregon.

Board members present were Chairman Bob Levy, Jack Bellinger, and Phil Sharkey. Westland staff present: General Manager Mike Wick; Mechanic Steven Cleveland. Patrons in attendance were, David Prior, Hoss Hodges, Maurice Ziemer, Art Prior, Dixie Echeverria, Dona Lewis, Patty Horn, Kevan Horn, Salem Salem, Ray Vogt, and Vern Frederickson.

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

MINUTES: The minutes for the July 17, 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: Director Bellinger moved and it was seconded by Director Sharkey to approve the July & August 2018 financial reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Crew Activities: Manager Wick gave the field report.
- Canal Operations & McKay Reservoir: The Umatilla River flows have started to slowly rise along with the cooler weather and a few rain showers in the foothills. Current live flow is approximately 42 cfs.

Demand in the Westland system is approximately 135 cfs. Remaining stored water in McKay is projected to end September 21st; postcards were mailed to all patrons advising of the last day of stored water. Available live flow will continue to be diverted into the canal after McKay goes off.

Office Manager Sherer has been working hard contacting patrons about staying within their stored water allotment plus coordinating with those patrons seeking additional water from other willing patrons.

McKay fish water releases are currently at 90 cfs and will ramp up to 125 cfs beginning October 1.

- Newsletter: A fall newsletter was mailed to patrons and posted on the website.
- CTUIR Settlement: A meeting with the tribal negotiation team and representatives of the Allen, Pioneer, Courtney, and Dillon water users is scheduled for next week; Manager Wick and Director Bellinger to attend.

- Elections: Manager Wick reported that notice of the board of director openings was published in the East Oregonian newspaper and posted to the website. Balloting for directors of divisions 1 & 5 will be by electors district-wide, while ballots for director of division 3 will be by those electors from division 3 only as per ORS 545.188.
- Fish Passage Ops: The August Fish Passage Operations report was included in the board packet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Policies & By Laws:

- a. District Complaint Procedure – The board considered the draft dated 8-8-2018. Director Sharkey moved, and Director Bellinger seconded, to approve the draft as final and ready for board signature. The motion carried unanimously.
- b. By-Laws Amendment – With accepted revisions from the July board meeting incorporated and signature blocks added, the amended By-Laws were presented for board signature.
- c. Litigation – Manager Wick reported on the District prevailing August 30 when Judge Baxter ruled in Umatilla County Circuit Court against the Plaintiffs in ELH et al vs. Westland. Plaintiffs may appeal after the Court issues a Final Judgment in the case. The District's share of total litigation expenses is now approximately \$608,000.
- d. Election – Wick reported petitions for director openings are due October 9, with the election date being November 13.

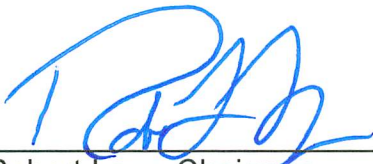
NEW BUSINESS:

1. Dillon Pipeline Ownership & Maintenance Agreement
Wick reported a final draft of the agreement will be presented at the October board meeting.
2. Water Management & Conservation Plan
Wick reported a work proposal from J-U-B Engineers in Kennewick, WA to update and complete the District's WMCP was received. Work proposals from other vendors are being requested, with more discussion at the next board meeting.
3. October Meeting Date
The board approved by consensus holding the October monthly board meeting on October 9 at the Stafford Hansell Government Center starting at 9 a.m. Staff from the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farmers Conservation Alliance will attend to discuss grant funding opportunities.

Chairman Levy opened the floor for public comment.

Maurice Ziemer asked if something could be done to remove some of the canal cleaning silt piles near Colonel Jordan Road in an effort to improve visibility at one of the curves on the road. District personnel will work to help improve the situation.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.



Robert Levy, Chairman



Mike Wick, Secretary