

# ***WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2018***

**P.O. Box 944  
Hermiston, OR 97838**

**Phone (541) 667-2030  
Fax (541) 667-2031**

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Dear Westland patrons,

Fall weather so far has been mild and on the dry side. The October 18 *Winter Outlook* press release from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts a mild winter over much of the United States, with warmer-than-normal temperatures coupled with average precipitation over the Pacific Northwest. Snowfall accumulations can, and likely will, occur but how much may form over the winter is unpredictable at this point. The NOAA press release is available at this url: <https://bit.ly/2yOHDp0>

On to District news...

## **LITIGATION – ELH LLC et al vs. WESTLAND IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

The following is an update from the August newsletter.

**Summary Judgment:** On August 30, Judge Gregory Baxter heard oral arguments on cross motions for Summary Judgment from both the District's and Plaintiffs' counsels in Umatilla County Circuit Court. After hearing a full day of legal arguments from each respective counsel, Judge Baxter ruled to grant the District's motion in full and to fully deny the motion made by Plaintiffs. In addition, Judge Baxter instructed the District to file its application to recover attorney fees and costs.

While this is a significant Court ruling in favor of the District and confirms the District has been operating in compliance with Oregon water law, it does not mean the case is necessarily over. Plaintiffs can choose to appeal the ruling to the Oregon Court of Appeals after a final order on the motions for Summary Judgment has been formally entered into the record by the Court.

If you have questions or concerns about this litigation, please contact the District office at 541-667-2030 or [info@westlandirrigation.com](mailto:info@westlandirrigation.com).

## **ELECTIONS**

Openings for board of director positions of divisions 1, 3, and 5 were publically noticed and advertised in accordance with Oregon statutes. At the end of the filing period for nominating petitions to be received, one candidate from each of the three divisions had submitted a completed petition with the necessary signatures. As a result, the following patrons will take the oath of office and begin their terms as directors at the annual organizational meeting in January:

Division 1.....Patty Horn  
Division 3.....Andy Johnston  
Division 5.....Hoss Hodges

Congratulation to the three directors-elect and thank you for your willingness to serve on the board.

## **DITCH RIDER JOB OPENING**

The District has an opening for the position of Ditch Rider. Job details and employment applications are available through the District office.

## **DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION**

Office (physical address): 77096 Highway 207, Echo, OR 97826

Office (mailing address): P.O. Box 944, Hermiston, OR 97838

Telephone: 541-667-2030; Fax: 541-667-2031

Office Hours: 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday

## **PERSONNEL**

District Manager, Mike Wick	541-571-1200
Office Manager, Tami Sherer	541-667-2030
Field Supervisor, Bobby Bailey	541-571-1202
Maintenance, Steven Cleveland	541-571-1203
Ditch Rider telephone number	541-571-1201

## **DIRECTORS**

Bob Levy, Chair	Division 1
Jack Bellinger, Vice Chair	Division 4
Jordan Bennett	Division 2
Phil Sharkey	Division 3
Justin Terry	Division 5