Logo, company name

Description automatically generated**MEDFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**June 7th, 2022 @ 1:30 pm**

Present: Dennis O’Donoghue Chairman

Sean Naumes Vice-Chairman

Dave Urton Director

Henry Vaninetti Director

Angelo Grestoni Director -Via Zoom

Jack Friend Manager/Secretary

1. **Call meeting to order:**

Chairman O’Donoghue called the meeting to order at 11:33 pm.

1. **Minutes:**

The minutes of the regular Board meeting on May 11th were reviewed. Chairman O’Donoghue asks if there are any comments or corrections to the minutes, there were none.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented for May 2022. Director Urton Motions to approve the May 2022 Minutes, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, motion carries.

1. **Financials:**

Manager Friend presents the May 2022 financial reports.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Financials for May 2022. Director Vaninetti Motions to approve the May 2022 Financials, Director Urton seconds the motion, motion carries.

**IV.** **Delinquent Accounts:**

Manager Friend reports little movement on delinquent accounts last month. Last year, liens were put on hold. Vaninetti spoke about not doing the liens this year, status quo. Urton and Naumes inquired about the lien process. Cannot pick and chose, will set a precedence. Shilo Schalk present to address the board about her delinquent account. Unfortunately, we cannot pick and choose, must keep consistent. Discussion about the current versus the extremely old accounts. Compromise to send a letter for extension of liens to November after the irrigation season.

Discussion with Shilo Schalk about her 14-year delinquent bill. Would like the fees removed so she can financially afford to pay. She would like to use the water now. Board listened to her plea and decided to leave all fees and keep the bill as is. The board cannot set a precedent for one and not others.

The foreclosure process is discussed and try to refine and check with counsel. Table for another meeting.

**V. Transfers: None**

**VI*.* Administrative:**

Naumes to update on the TID meeting. Many patrons at the meeting discussed the start date of the water. Waiting and meeting weekly to discuss the start.

Manager Friend reports Fish lake is currently storing 3,675 A/F. That is 47% of the full pool. Fourmile gained 2,000 A/F since last month and is storing 6,390 A/F or 41% of the full pool. The late snow we had up there has made a difference. We have dug our way into the Cascade canal and are bringing water from Fourmile down to Fish Lake. We are still seeing some streamflow out of Little Butte but it has been tapering off quickly.

Our southern supply has improved and our allotment is now 912 A/F. That still is only 11% of our max allotment. I believe it will be crucial to run that supply at the same time as TID so that we can be as efficient as possible.

The manager recommends not to pull from the Emigrant Lake at this time but to open up when TID starts their water. Wait until Monday to review the status of the water.

The tour FCA put together was a success and we have received positive feedback from the attendees. I believe it helps provide a good idea of the scope of the overall system improvement plan.

We were approved for a $1,000 rebate through the Jackson soil and water conservation district. It was a community education fund request to help support the cost of building the water supply web app. The total cost was $2,500 so MID covered $1,500.

We have started using the Engage feature on our website, Patrons can sign up for email notifications. When we post an update we can push the update in a newsletter form right to their email. It has analytics that will help us refine the list and so far we have over 350 emails. I think it is a great communications feature and has cut down on the phone call inquiries that we would normally expect this time of year.

We have had some interest in our open position but the general feedback is the wage is discouraging people from applying. TID has had to bump up its base wage just to get applicants. Our base wage for a ditch rider without a CDL is $19.80. We typically will offer $1.00 more for a CDL. We will start looking at different methods to advertise the position and potentially hire someone without a CDL just to get a rider on for the season. The other option is to hire a seasonal employee if it comes to that.

We are going to do employee reviews this month and I would like to propose a merit increase for Jacob Young. He is our ride 3 ditch rider and he has been cross-trained on ride 1 and as a dam tender. He has stepped up after our Dam tender left earlier this year and has been my go-to person for running the diversions in Little Butte and performing the USBR monthly dam inspections and Fish and Fourmile lake. He is currently making $19.80 and I would like to bring him up for taking on more responsibilities, being a team player, and being reliable.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve merit raise for Jacob Young for $2.00 per hour. Director Grestoni Motions to approve the merit raise, Director Naumes seconds the motion, motion carries.

I have included some items in new and old business to discuss including our FCA work-order amendment, elections, and a resolution to proceed with the Floating Community Solar Project.

I have also included a bid for a new mower for discussion and review behind my admin report. $168,000.00.

HSA health insurance was added as an optional plan. Discussing the benefits.

**VII. New Business:**

Resolution for revised Oregon Statutes for Voter Registration. Lengthy discussion regarding voting procedures and updating bylaws to be in compliance with ORS 545.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue calls for a motion to approve the Resolution for revised Oregon Statutes for Voter Registration. Director Urton motions to approve the Resolution for revised Oregon Statutes for Voter Registration, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

Resolution for Floating Community Solar Project and discussion about the process of the system for the MID pond.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue calls for a motion to approve the Resolution for the Floating Community Solar Project. Director Urton motions to approve the Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

**VIII. RBWUC, Inc:**

Bill is $613.33 for May 2022.

**Motion:**

Chairman O’Donoghue calls for a motion to approve payment of $613.33 for the May 2022 RBWUC Billing. Director Urton motions to approve the payment of $613.33 for the May 2022 RBWUC Billing, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

**IX. FYI:**

FCA monthly district update letter and OWRC thank you letter for continuing our membership.

Direct Deposit for the Board of Director’s fees.

**X. Public Comment:**

Chairman O’Donoghue motions we need new board member chairs, please!!!

**XI.** **Adjourn:**

Chairman O’Donoghue adjourned the Regular Board meeting at 1:47 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dennis O’Donoghue – Chairman Jack Friend – DistrictManager/Secretary