**MEDFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**July 12th, 2023 @ 1:30 pm**

Present: Sean Naumes, Dennis O’Donoghue, Henry Vaninetti, Matt Borman, Jack Friend-Manager/Secretary

Absent: Dave Urton

**Call meeting to order:** Chairman Naumes called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm.

**Minutes:** Chairman Naumes asks if there are any comments or corrections to the minutes. Chairman Naumes called for a motion to approve the regular board meeting minutes. Director Vaninetti motions to approve the June 14th, 2023, minutes, Director Borman seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

**Financials:** Director Borman: Do these percentages look appropriate for this time of year?

Manager Friend: We received more interest in our LGIP account than anticipated and that will give a little buffer if needed. Our legal fees will be increasing, but hopefully will be balanced out. Our insurance budget figure for this year is higher than we would need due to a zero increase for this year. That will also be a help if needed.

Director Borman: So how is the payroll portion coming? Are we going to balance out by the end of the year?

Manager Friend: We had one of our team retire, but we anticipated that expense. We will forecast this month’s payroll to see where we will be. We will be able to address that at the next board meeting. We did have a substantial payout with sick and vacation upon his departure.

Director Vaninetti: Are we going to be budgeting more for RBWUC?

Manager Friend: We just agreed to the contract with Shropshire’s office and once it gets closer to budget time, we will be able to address that which is October. We will bring in Steve Shropshire’s bill and discuss that line item.

Chairman Naumes called for a motion to approve the June 14th, 2023, financials. Director O’Donoghue motions to approve the June 14th, 2023, financials, Matt Borman seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

**Delinquent Accounts:** Flanakin: It’s been pretty quiet so far. There were about 6-8K. Payments are trickling in. We sent out statements for the current year’s delinquent patrons. Foreclosures are moving along. King’s is still being discussed through emails. I will update that one next board meeting.

Chairman Naumes: Have we started to work on the ones removing the water rights?

Manager Friend: We reached out to counsel, and it might have been dropped due to the many other issues that must be addressed. We will want to ensure that we are backed by our legal counsel when it comes time to remove water rights from delinquent patrons. There are 2 new patrons that have moved to the 4+ year list. We may want to send a letter like last year to begin the process. Being that these two are smaller amounts, it is very likely that they will just pay it.

**Administration:** Friend: We started releasing stored water from Fish Lake on June 25th. We have slowly increased that release to 40 cfs. Fourmile is still releasing 50 cfs at this time so Fish is holding pretty well at 63% which is 91% of the average for this time of year. The stay on the Fourmile call is still in place at this time. We made our first order from Emigrant on June 28th and have increased that to 15 cfs. Our current southern supply is 3,728 A/F. That is 46% of our maximum of 8,000 A/F but only down 10% from our 2023 allotment of 4,112. Crews were able to get ahead of demossing on the West side and we have just begun to demoss the east side. Jacob, Jose, and I attended on-site Dam tender training with Reclamation in June. The Annual site inspection for Fish Lake was performed at the same time. The historical whirlpools/sinkholes were not present this year. The lake has not been that high since our last repair, so it was good to see that the repair worked. As part of the Watershed Planning process, we have a kickoff meeting with NRCS to go over the Joint System Canal Project. That will be followed up with a Tour next week to demonstrate the need for the project. We are also ramping up to hold public scoping meetings very soon. Those details will be mailed out to all stakeholders. Mike from Rubicon will be in our District on August 14th to perform a scoping study on our lower end. I believe there is a lot of potential for automation in that area so the study should help identify if Rubicon can be a solution to delivery issues. We should have a presentation with their findings for the September meeting. Tekmanagement reached out to let us know our server is 6 years old and out of warranty. They see an increased risk of failure at this point. They provided a quote that I have attached. We have not budgeted for this so it may be something to consider putting in next year’s budget if we decide to hold off. Julie O’Shea, The Executive Director of the Farmers Conservation Alliance, is attending the meeting today to answer any questions regarding the work we are doing with FCA. I met with Joe Reber from FCA to review the Portal, get training, and provide feedback. We discussed creating a Board Member login for you all to have access. That will be something I will send to the Board in the coming weeks. It helps keep all of our projects organized and everyone on the same page. TID is stating that September 15th for shut down.

**FCA Update:** Manager Friend: FCA has been working on our engineering RFP to be ready for bid. This process takes a couple of months to give a 30-day response, review, and acceptance. The goal is to begin this fall. We will begin to have scoping meetings, which involve the public for their input for the project.

Julie O’Shea’s Presentation: Refer to the recording.

**Old Business:**  By-Laws discussion. Make a couple more changes and send out a revised copy for a vote at the next board meeting.

**Adjourn Regular Session:** Meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm

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Sean Naumes – Chairman Jack Friend – District Manager/Secretary