**MEDFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 14th, 2022 @ 1:30 pm**

Present: Dennis O’Donoghue; Dave Urton; Henry Vaninetti; Angelo Grestoni-Via Zoom; Jack Friend-Manager/Secretary

Absent: Sean Naumes

**Call meeting to order:** Chairman O’Donoghue called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the regular Board meeting on August 10th were reviewed. Chairman O’Donoghue asks if there are any comments or corrections to the minutes. Motion: Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented for August 10th, 2022. Director Vaninetti Motions to approve the August 10th, 2022, Minutes, Director Urton seconds the motion, motion carries.

**Financials:** Manager Friend presents the August 10th, 2022, financial reports. Business as usual, no out-of-the-ordinary expenses on the check register. The Drought relief grant we received last year hasn’t been exhausted yet. With all of the leaks we had this year, we are targeting them now to be repaired and use the funds we received for that purpose. No news on this year’s drought relief funds. Fuel is a little higher than before but still on target with the budget. The joint system project consulting cost thru FCA is up to 14K which was unbudgeted. Dennis: Do we have a list of the concrete jobs we will target? Jack: Yes. We are already working on a couple of them that we can get to without building a road when it gets wet. The list is pretty extensive. Prioritized by extensive damage which to start first. Dave: Are you held off by fire restriction? Jack: Not on the ones that we are starting with.

Motion: Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Financials for August 2022. Director Urton Motions to approve the August 2022 Financials, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, motion carries. We are going to have to check with the concrete company to see how far out they are and prioritize from there. Dave: Any time constraints on the money to use for those projects? Jack: No. Motion: Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Financials for August 2022. Director Urton Motions to approve the financials for August 2022 Financials, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, motion carries.

**Legal:** Michael Schultz gave his presentation to the board and answered any questions they had.

**Delinquent Accounts:** Summary Sheets for August 2022, not much movement from last month. We put in a copy of the way Talent Irrigation District handles their delinquent accounts, they lien accounts over $50 in November and after 3 consecutive liens they hand that account over to the attorney for the foreclosure process. They do not have any delinquent accounts. The mortgage holder will usually pay it off because it is a small amount and more reasonable. Once we have counsel, we can move forward with these. Angelo: Do you know if they have ever foreclosed on anyone before? Jack: Yes, they have a couple and had an orchard and sold it.

**Transfers:** None

**Election:** We have a resolution for a vote by walk-in that needs to be approved and signed. This gives the patrons up thru the day of the election to register to vote. Motion: Director Urton Motions to approve the resolution for the vote by walk-in, Director Vaninetti seconds the motion, motion carries.

**Administrative:** The crews have just finished winterizing the system, removing the check boards, and getting ready for the season storms, the work lists are being compiled currently. Concreting of canals has started based on the priority of damages. Both excavators are serviced, one is going to be moving to the lower end of the system, cleaning every inch of the canal as soon as possible that way it doesn’t fall on the back burner. The other is prepping for Phoenix for the shotcrete jobs. Most areas are not ready for shotcrete yet because of being over-excavated in the past for moss and need to bring in fill to bring up the canal and reform. Earlier this month we met with FCA about our watershed plan and signed the service agreement. Also included the agreement on the water solutions summit. Session 3 is on Wednesday, October 12th, from 6-8 pm, via zoom, the topic is, Quality, Quantity, and Equity of the Agriculture of water.

Budget meetings will be in October and will need it finalized by the November meeting. Propose a preliminary meeting for the last week in September. Dennis: Go with October. The last thing to note is that I will be at the OWRC meeting. If you were interested in going, please let me know ASAP and I can set that up for you. Dave: I was looking at the FCA project and the Wise project 20 years ago. We need to do something for the water at the lower end and back to the pressure pipe and zone and would be easier to get to the lower end and regulate better. More pumping but saving overall in horsepower and cost. Detailed discussion on how to accomplish this. Motion to file a resolution to use a system improvement plan to pressurize the lower-end system.

**New Business: None**

**Old Business:** New hire rate of pay discussion. We are needing to hire 3 people by the beginning of the year. We have been looking at neighboring districts and their rates. The OWRC management survey that was completed shows those figures all over the state to get a better idea of the wages and how they have changed. We also have an option to go thru a temp service. We have done this before, and it worked fairly well. Dave: Can we use any herbicides or pesticides when the ditches are dry? We would have to research to answer that question.

**RBWUC, Inc:** Bill is $804.16 for August 2022. Motion: Chairman O’Donoghue called for a motion to approve the Financials for August 2022. Director Urton Motions to approve the RBWUC Bill for August 2022 Financials, Director seconds the motion, motion carries.

**Public Comment:** Debby Bettencourt spoke on the lack of water and for help to remedy the situation.

**Adjourn:** Chairman O’Donoghue adjourned the Regular Board meeting at 3:15 p.m.

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Henry Vaninetti – Chairman Jack Friend – District Manager/Secretary