

MEDFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

November 8th, 2023 @ 1:30 pm

Present: Dennis O'Donoghue, Matt Borman, Dave Urton, Jack Friend-Manager/Secretary

Absent: Sean Naumes, Henry Vaninetti

Call meeting to order: Director O'Donoghue called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Minutes: Director O'Donoghue asks if there are any comments or corrections to the minutes. Director Urton stated he was not present at the last meeting to approve the minutes; approval was delayed until the next meeting

Financials: Friend: A few things are going on, Tammi pulled out the reimbursable items to show a true profit and loss based on normal everyday income and expenses. Our software dues and subscriptions are higher than budget due to the full year of our website fees (regularly \$200 per month, now \$249 per month) and increase in our QuickBooks subscription (\$1392.00 to \$1464.00). The email system through our website is working very well and we should continue to keep this feature and it will be incorporated into the budget for next year.

Director Borman: Do you feel that the 2024 budget is coming along and consistent with the figures here?

Flanakin: The legal will be increased due to the adjudication and the other large item will be the interest on our investment pool account is at a huge increase however our assessment requests have dropped by half.

Director Borman: Have you looked at the number of employees, looking back at the last season, that we have and has it been beneficial for the number that we have had? You have had the payroll for a larger than normal crew due to some leaving and the crossover of training the new employees.

Friend: In the future, we will have to factor in a foreman's wage because we currently have a part-time foreman so we do not have to pay benefits to but will with the new foreman.

Director O'Donoghue: Tammi, is it possible to print out a prior month's profit and loss sheet to see where the changes are?

Flanakin: Yes, I can do that.

Director O'Donoghue: I appreciate that. Do we have a motion to approve the financial reports? Director Urton motions to approve the October 11th, 2023, financials, Director Borman seconds the motion, and the motion carries.

Delinquent Accounts: Flanakin: Short a sweet. A few people are paying due to the liens for this year. We did have the Jennings account pay in full when sent a foreclosure letter for going into the 4+ year. It was paid the day after the last board meeting. The rest of the 4+ accounts are making their payments.

Director O'Donoghue: It looks so much better than last year at this time. Nice job.

Administration: Friend: If you go to the third page of the admin report, you'll see the FCA document titled Joint System Canal Phase One Funding Scenarios. There is no decision that needs to be made at this time, however, you can take this home to familiarize it. With the EPA funding that we've been working through for the last two years, we have Dowl selected as our engineer and they have given the fee schedule for the pre-engineering then it goes back to the EPA for the environmental review, then the construction engineering for construction. To keep moving forward, it is a 7m project, EPA is giving us 5m, and we have the CWSRF design loan that we have as a stopgap because of the principle forgiveness. To pay Dowl to do the preliminary engineering, when we move to request the funding, an invoice from Dowl to EPA for funding will pay what we requested. The other 20% is going to come from another source. We do not currently have any funding to pay for that. We needed to see what that number was. We received the fee schedule from Dowl and added it to the document. We will need to have a joint board meeting sooner than later to discuss whether we would like to keep it moving. The quickest way would be the CWSRF loan, which has 50% principal forgiveness. Rogue River has asked for a 1/3 – 2/3 split. The other 2 options are to wait for the OWRD funding for an irrigation modernization project. The application process began last week and closed on January 17th, 2024. We wouldn't receive funding until summertime. We wouldn't be able to pay the engineer until that time if we were granted the funds. If we weren't awarded the funds, we would be looking at an OWEB grant. The construction would be delayed by a year. Engineering will be delayed until this time next year. If we were granted the OWRD funding, they wouldn't pay for work that has already been completed, DEQ doesn't have that stipulation, and we do

not have another source that would allow us to pay back the DEQ loan after the work was completed. If the board would like to review the documents, we can get an email out to schedule a joint meeting with RRVID.

Director O'Donoghue: Do you think we should meet with our board first to get a decision and then have a joint meeting with RRVID? Let's set up a Zoom meeting to discuss our decision on moving forward with or without RRVID.

Friend: I can set up a special board meeting via Zoom for a few days from now.

Director Borman: If I am understanding you correctly, part of this is a decision between the remaining parts of the funding for this first part would potentially be up for out-of-pocket for MID which would affect the budget and our contingency funds.

Friend: Yes, that is correct.

O'Donoghue: Do you have any idea how much savings we would have in O&M over the years by completing this project?

Friend: Everything above Bradshaw Drop is billed to RRVID for one-third every year.

Director O'Donoghue: I'm sure that the patrons would like to see the return on investment for this and any other project that benefits the district.

Friend: We really owe it to the patrons to try all avenues to help save as much water as possible, especially with the issues with Fourmile Lake. Fish Lake is at 47% full, which is 100-acre feet from normal. Fourmile Lake is still below the staff gate. It will not read until Spring. For the Watershed project, we are in the middle of cultural resources work, we are having a kickoff meeting with them next week. They are subcontracting with Parametrics to help write that draft. We have photos of our first shotcrete job of the season. 550 feet was an area that was causing property damage. This was a smaller section of the canal that we were able to get rocked in. It was tricky to get the concrete trucks in to allow us to pump the material. We are currently working on South Stage Road and Kings Hwy. This one is significantly longer and has to bring in extra fill dirt to reshape the ditch trying to increase the velocity so as not to waste material. This canal is above the old Naumes property that was sold to a developer that doesn't want the wetlands and he is helping with the funds to correct this issue. He is contributing approximately 10K toward the project and providing the fill dirt that we need. I have had a meeting with Pacific Power regarding the Solar Project that is going in on our ponds and that is moving forward as well. We submitted the CWSRF documents this week and that is for the principal forgiveness and tax credit is going to begin this year if we can get the project started before the end of the year.

Old Business: Director Borman still had some questions and changes to the Rules and Regulations Policy. The resolution was delayed until the next meeting. The next policy to be sent out is the MID Water Management & Delivery Policy which will be sent to patrons for their reference of responsibilities of MID & the patrons.

Adjourn Regular Session: Meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm

Executive Session ORS 192.660(2)(f)(h)(i)(n)

Call meeting to order: 1:59 pm

Administration Issues

Adjourn: 2:30 pm

Call Budget meeting to order: Director O'Donoghue called the budget meeting to order at 2:30 pm.

Budget Discussion

Adjourn Budget Meeting: Meeting adjourned: 3.15 pm.

Dennis O'Donoghue- Director

Jack Friend – District Manager/Secretary