

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE
HEART MOUNTAIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT
OCTOBER 10, 2017

The September regular meeting of the Heart Mountain Irrigation District's (HMID) Board of Commissioners was held at the Heart Mountain Irrigation District office located at 1206 Road 18, Powell, Wyoming on Tuesday, October 10th 2017. Commissioners present: President Brian Duyck, Vice President Pat Nelson, Brad Ferguson Scott Hecht and Travis Jackson. Staff attendances: District Manager Randy Watts and Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Weckler. The meeting was called to order at 8:57 a.m. by President Brian Duyck.

President Brian Duyck called for the reading of minutes from the Regular Meeting of Commissioners held on September 14, 2017. Commissioner Scott Hecht made a motion to approve the minutes. Commissioner Travis Jackson seconded the motion; motion passed.

President Brian Duyck called for the reading of minutes from the Special Meeting of Commissioners held on September 05, 2017. Vice President Pat Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Commissioner Brad Ferguson seconded the motion; motion passed.

President Brian Duyck called for the Treasurers report presented by Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Weckler. After the payment of the bills presented, the O&M checking account will have a balance of \$32,376.46. The New Equipment Money Market at Bank of Powell #...2439 has a balance of \$6,778.44; Money Market (MM) at Bank of Powell #...1233 has \$229,670.22; MM Bank of Powell #...2383 holds \$122,648.28. Bank of Powell Enlargement fund #...2382 holds \$301.82. The MM at Pinnacle Bank #...5232 stands at \$300,000.00. Pinnacle bank MM #...5231 has \$203,838.02. Commissioner Travis Jackson made a motion to accept the treasurer's. Commissioner Brad Ferguson seconded the motion; motion passed.

President Brian Duyck called for the review of unpaid bills. Secretary/Treasurer Tyler Weckler presented the unpaid bill detail identifying September-October commitments at \$20,647.30. After review, Vice President Pat Nelson made a motion to authorize payment of unpaid bills as presented. Commissioner Brad Ferguson seconded the motion; motion passed.

President Brian Duyck called on District Manager Randy Watts to provide his managers' report. Mr. Watts began by informing of the current newspaper ad which currently identifies the week of October 15th-21st as tentative water shut off dates. A general discussion on the final shut off date was discussed by the board. Commissioner Travis Jackson made a motion to shut the canal water off on the 18th of October, at midnight. Vice President Pat Nelson seconded the motion; motion passed.

District manager continued with a progression update on the ditchriders housing contract agreements. Ditchrider Tim Harvey and Rusty McKeen were present during the discussions. Tim and Rusty were asked to review the Ditchrider housing agreements and highlight verbiage that needs clarification or items that conflict with currently allowed living situations. Mr. McKeen noted language in the contract regarding property integrity and advised a roofing leak and other ongoing repairs he is working on in maintaining/repairing the home. Mr. McKeen asked the board of commissioners to look at the property and provide input or approval on repairs so far. Tim and Rusty also commented on pets with no objections of grandfathering in the new contract. Also discussed was septic maintenance and the board of commissioners noted this is traditionally the requirement of the tenant. District manager said he would write a project order and purchase some septic bacteria for the two ditchriders houses. Mr. Harvey noted there is only a leach field and no septic, on the property he resides on.

The district manager asked the board of commissioners about ground maintenance and snow removal. The board of commissioners agreed that the district manager can 'reasonably' assist employees during the winter season in

need of egress out of their driveways so they can make it to work. The board of commissioners asked Mr. Watts to follow up with Rusty and Tim about the contracts and potential edits for future reviews.

Mr. Watts continued his report and presented a possible change in the HMID Rules and Regulations. Some subdivisions have had lots sold without an HMID approved water distribution plan or survey plats showing division of water rights and the land classifications within. Current HMID regulations allow for engineering firms to identify the separation of water rights land classes with additional assistance/support to be provided by district staff. Some engineering firms working on current simple subdivisions have stalled or not follow through with the water right land class requirements prior to a home sale; transfer requests are then submitted to HMID without any documents describing the division of water rights and land classes.

Mr. Watts mentioned the possible solution as removing water right land classifications, as it would be one less layer the engineering firms would have to analyze and complete within their plats. Also it would provide the district's current staff the ability to conduct water right transfers internally, making the transfer of water rights mainstream with other irrigation districts. Commissioner Scott Hecht asked to have this strategy thoroughly reviewed with the attorney and the Bureau of Reclamation; a follow up with the results and specific write up of the intended rules and regulation change, for review, edits and potential approvals.

The district manager moved forward with the e-mail notification of a software agreement for the Rubicon systems. This is a \$5,800 per year software maintenance and update package. Declining this service is an option, the system will remain operational and if the services are needed they can be re-instated at a cost of \$12,000. The board of commissioners asked about current operational capacity; Mr. Watts estimated at 95%. The alarm system on one of the conveyers is non-operational. The unique issue found with the Rubicon and telemetry system is primarily due to the topography and weather. Rubicon systems used in flatter elevations with more temperate weather conditions have better successes and hardware longevity. Vice President Pat Nelson asked the manager to follow up with Rubicon and see how much time is left for a response/decision.

The district manager continued by noting that all petition reimbursements have been completed and checks cashed by the recipient. The final transfer of funds from the bank of Powell 5th and Final Enlargement account to the First Bank of Wyoming in the amount of \$3,100.00 will be completed this week. This will close the enlargement account.

Commissioner Scott Hecht made a motion to go into executive session to discuss employee issues. Vice President Pat Nelson seconded the motion; motion passed.

Vice President Pat Nelson made a motion to come out of executive session. Commissioner Travis Jackson seconded the motion; motion passed. No actions were taken during this executive.

President Brian Duyck asked the district manager to continue with his managers' report. Mr. Watts noted the Rattlesnake Liner application to WWDC has been submitted. Vice President Pat Nelson had sent pictures of the resent liner breach to the WWDC commission to support the need of the liner grant. Mr. Watts and the board discussed the application, loan with 4% and payoff in 40 years. Mr. Watts expressed his opposition to having this project contracted out, vs his preference of having the work performed as procurement or in house. WWDC recommendation hearings are scheduled for Nov. 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Mr. Watts will be attending these hearing in Casper, WY.

Mr. Watts continued with a reminder of Mr. Ringler lack of property access when the districts gate is locked for the winter season. Carlie Ronca with the Bureau of Reclamation (BoR) will be providing an update on this matter.

The district manager updated the board with his progress on the River Syphon Gland. The Bureau of Reclamation has authorized the construction of a concrete pad under the Glands, so HMID can perform yearly maintenance in a safe environment.

Mr. Watts let the board know his abatement list from BoR representative Carlie Ronca, has been completed.

Mr. Watts continued with an update on Ed Higbie's subdivision and his proposal for to form a utility using this subdivision as a steppingstone. Mr. Watts drew a diagram outlining a water delivery and wastewater design that would work within this utility business model. The board discussed creating separate entity to manage the subdivisions and the requirement of the developer to have irrigation infrastructure in place during building, as in the case of gas, electric, sewer etc. After discussions, it was agreed that the district manager will bring this up with Carlie Ronca and the board will discuss options with the district attorney.

Randy Watts continued by noting the dump truck #3 had a burned up ECM and had died on the side of the road with a full load of gravel. It was pulled to the district yard and a new ECM will cost \$2,760.00. Commissioner Travis Jackson made a motion to allow Randy to purchase a new ECM for truck # 3. Commissioner Scott Hecht seconded the motion; motion passed.

Randy asked the board for permission to purchased inventory of pipe fittings in sized of 21” 24” and 27”. He said the stock is not always readily available in the instance of a break or needed repair. The board of commissioners agreed to order one of each in the districts inventory.

Mr. Watts presented a bid from Inter Mountain Electric for \$11,400 to replace the fuel tracking system. Mr. Watts mentioned this was the best quote he has seen thus farm with Vice President Pat Nelson asking Randy to check on the type of warranty it would come with.

Randy concluded his managers’ report by noting his travels to Wyoming Water Development meetings to represent the districts need for funding to replace the Rattlesnake Liner.

Hearing no further business to come before the Board, President Brian Duyck adjourned the October 10th, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Heart Mountain Irrigation District’s Board of Commissioners at 12:35 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Brian Duyck, Board President

ATTEST:

Tyler Weckler, Secretary/Treasurer