

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 PM, President Bailey called the April 13, 2021 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Bailey, Vice President Teals, and General Manager Chris Overland were present. Director Dexter, Director Selmann, Director Foster, and Legal Counsel Brian Iller attended via telephone.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called on the board members and anyone attending via telephone for discussion on any agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

DISCUSSION OF NON-AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called on the board members and anyone attending via telephone for discussion on any non-agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Bailey called on the board members to approve the agenda. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President Bailey called on the Board of Directors to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from 03/09/2021 Regular Meeting, the Bills/Checks (#17947-#17978), and Voucher #1000235 totaling \$59,928.74. Director Foster made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Bailey abstained from voting on anything related to Basin Property Management, Inc.

MLIRD STAFF REPORTS

General Manager Chris Overland reported the following:

- Connelly Park opens tomorrow, April 14, 2021.
- There have been approximately 5,000 yards of dredge spoils moved since March 9, 2021.
- Lakeshore Cleanup was on March 20, 2021 and it was estimated that 1 ton of garbage was removed from the Moses Lake shorelines.
- Lake elevation was at 1044.9 as of April 13, 2021 at the Hallmark gauge and is approximately a foot lower in elevation than this time last year. Reasons were discussed.
- Rocky Coulee Wasteway flows have been around 600 CFS this time the past two years. However, the Crab Creek flows have decreased substantially in the last five years. April of 2017, Crab Creek was flowing at 202 CFS. April of 2018, Crab Creek was flowing at 45.4 CFS. April of 2019, Crab Creek was flowing at 46.4 CFS. April of 2020, Crab Creek was flowing at 17.9 CFS. April of 2021, Crab Creek was flowing at 10.9 CFS. General Manager Chris Overland has been in contact with the USBR with concerns regarding the flows and will report what information he receives back to the Board.

- One budgeted water quality project being worked on is Mass Balance Work. Before committing to Alum, application estimates should be verified with a mass balance model and digitized bathymetry. This should allow for accurate application in more affordable phases. Continuing the present monitoring will also help determine how long a treatment will last. Brian Huser's analysis of 200 lakes worldwide indicates a properly dosed treatment should last about ten years.
- One un-budgeted water quality project being considered is the use of more lake water for irrigation within the community. This would conserve potable water and increase opportunities for more dilution water. A meeting was held on April 9, 2021 with General Manager Chris Overland, President Bailey, Vice President Teals, and the Moses Lake City Manager Allison Williams. Vice President Teals stated the meeting went well and that the City of Moses Lake is interested in working with MLIRD. President Bailey said Ms. Williams feels that since MLIRD is in charge of irrigation, MLIRD should finance the feasibility study. Director Foster felt that MLIRD has the 50,000 acre-feet water right, and the City of Moses Lake is the supplier of water to the community. He stated MLIRD does not provide any infrastructure. The City of Moses Lake is who has to save potable water, not MLIRD. President Bailey felt MLIRD should do the feasibility study for all of Moses Lake to show the court system MLIRD is making an effort with irrigation lake water. More discussion on what a feasibility study would entail then took place. Director Selmann asked that MLIRD has a study session before making any decisions on whether MLIRD should go through with financing the feasibility study. President Bailey stated Ms. Williams was taking the information back to the City Council and would allocate employees to help, just not financially. After MLIRD hears back from Ms. Williams, a study session on the feasibility study will take place.
- Another un-budgeted project being looked into is raising the winter lake elevation. In the most recent years, the winter lake elevation has approximately been about 1041.0 feet. Before the new Moses Lake, North Dam was put in; the winter lake elevation was approximately 1042.95 feet. General Manager Chris Overland stated motivating factors for this project could include aesthetics, erosion, stranded fish, and water quality benefits. Obstacles might include the DOE and the ability to move water in an emergency. A discussion then took place. Director Foster strongly opposed spending money re-evaluating the Moses Lake North Dam after MLIRD had this done while the new dam was being engineered in 2013.
- MLIRD has been evaluating surplus equipment for possible auction through JJ Kane. This is the same auction company that Grant County PUD uses. Director Foster made a motion to authorize General Manager Chris Overland to draft a resolution stating the equipment is no longer needed for use by MLIRD; therefore, they would like to sell said equipment at auction in the fall of 2021. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- MLIRD staff Beth Yonko gave an update on where MLIRD was in regards to a letter received from the National Museum of the United States Air Force. Beth Yonko contacted Melissa Shaw, the Community Static Display Loan Program Administrator, with logistic questions. Ms. Shaw replied, stating she was sorry for the confusion and that the letter sent to MLIRD was just confirming if MLIRD was still interested in being on the waiting list for one of the aircraft. Beth Yonko emailed back, stating MLIRD is still interested in this project and would like to continue to stay on the waiting list.


WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

Director Foster gave an update on the Moses Lake Watershed Council. He stated there was a Technical Committee meeting being held on April 28, 2021 to discuss the Hydroflow project. He also stated the infrastructure request package had been submitted to Senator Patty Murray.

Director Foster asked if letters were mailed to Title and Escrow companies with language as to why and who to call when they need information on unpaid MLIRD assessments. General Manager Chris Overland stated MLIRD staff has the verbiage Legal Counsel Brian Iller supplied for when MLIRD receives phone calls regarding this, but letters were not mailed out with verbiage Legal Counsel Brian Iller provided. Director Foster would like to see letters mailed out regarding this matter to Title and Escrow companies in Grant County and surrounding areas to be proactive.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.



Bill Bailey, President




Richard Teals, Vice President



Kris Dexter, Director

Kaj Selmann, Director

Jeff Foster, Director

By: 

Secretary to the Board of Directors