

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 PM, President Bailey called the September 08, 2020 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Bailey, Director Dexter, and Director Foster were present. General Manager Chris Overland was also present. Vice President Teals, Director Selmann, and Legal Counsel Brian Iller attended via-telephone. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called on the board members and the audience 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 the audience for discussion on any non-agenda items, and Jeremy Nolan asked to speak on behalf of being granted an easement on one of MLIRD's parcels.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

President Bailey called on the board members to approve the agenda. Director Foster 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 08/11/2020 Regular Meeting and 08/14/2020 Special Meeting, the Bills/Checks (#17706-#17745), and Voucher #1000228, totaling in \$59,959.12. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the 08/11/2020 Regular Meeting and 08/14/2020 Special Meeting. Director Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Director Dexter made a motion to approve the Bills/Checks (#17706-#17745), and Voucher #1000228 totaling in \$59,959.12. Director Foster seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Bailey abstained from voting on anything related to Basin Property Management, Inc.

PRESENTATIONS

HydroFLOW West, Inc. – Rhonda DeVito & Rudy Nicacio

HydroFLOW West, Inc. created a case study proposal to possibly reduce algae in Moses Lake in a localized area at Connelly Park. They have been successful in clearing algae and other bio-foul from ponds up to 75 acres using water conditioning devices in agriculture, aquaculture, mining, and other industrial applications. Rhonda DeVito stated there has never been a trial conducted by any HydroFLOW firm around the globe on a body of water the size of Moses Lake nor uncontained versus a large pond. Rudy Nicacio, who is also with HydroFLOW West, Inc., stated they have conducted approximately 15-20 studies and had the same results with removing algae and other bio-foul from ponds. The largest pond they have done was in Kettle River on a mine with a 72-acre pond. They achieved all of their goals with that pond and were able to clean all of the algae out. Rudy Nicacio stated since HydroFLOW has not conducted any studies on

any pond larger than 72 acres, he is questioning if the signal on their device is going to be taken up by a large amount of water or if it will be localized and able to clean out a small area of algae in the lake. They plan to put in a pump and a recirculating pipe at Connelly Park. The pipe will suction water out of one area of the lake and will enter back in approximately 300 yards away. The electrical current will be leaving both sides of the pipe, and the idea is to get a general larger area of algae-static effect.

Rhonda DeVito stated one of the reasons why the agriculture aspect of their technology is so important is because phosphorus is the main cause of algae. She believes having a reduction in the chemicals that go into the farm processing; whether it is on the growing or processing side, there will be a huge reduction in chemical usage when using HydroFLOW's technology. She stated there was a study done by a local farmer around Moses Lake a few years ago who produced corn and had four different types of irrigation systems. Their technology makes the irrigation water wetter, which causes it to absorb through the roots of the plants better. She stated this caused the corn to grow 18"-22" taller, had a 6% better crop yield, the farmer was able to reduce the chemicals used on his crop, his pumps ran better, and the pipes were clean. This also caused the crop to be saturated, which allowed the farmer to turn off his irrigation 3 weeks earlier to allow time for the crop to dry out. She stated collectively if farmers were able to take three weeks of irrigation out of the water usage around Moses Lake and multiply that by each farm and lessen the chemicals used by each farm, she thinks that would be the key to reducing the phosphorus, getting healthier crop products, and bringing farmers on board to try HydroFLOW's technology. Rudy Nicacio mentioned this study was done on the same pivot line where half of the line had the HydroFLOW technology and the other half did not. He also stated HydroFLOW was vetted by the Washington State Department of Agriculture; they received certification to do organic food processing and irrigation and have maintained it for five years now. Rhonda DeVito stated HydroFLOW is the only one with this certification, which allows them to go out and address farmers and anyone else in the agricultural districts and let them know their technology is a viable product.

Rhonda DeVito stated to run a HydroFLOW unit it costs around \$10 of electricity a year. She stated when there is scale in irrigation pipes, the engines are working harder and using more energy and will run equipment into the ground faster. Most of the return on investment when using HydroFLOW technology is usually under two years. She mentioned the Alan Brothers, who have been in business 40+ years, took him two months to get his return on investment, and he said it was the best crop of apples he had ever had when using the HydroFLOW technology. Rudy Nicacio stated when the HydroFLOW technology is used on flume tanks with fruit; it can reduce the chemical intake by 70%-80% and make it run much cleaner.

Rudy Nicacio stated they could test the HydroFLOW technology with a dose of Alum as well to see if that has a greater effect on removing the algae in the isolated area at Connelly Park. He has told both Rhonda DeVito and General Manager Chris Overland that this is a larger area, and they do not know how it is going to turn out. He stated the HydroFLOW representatives are all positive and think their technology can do a lot; however, the bottom line is they just do not have data on this type of study. He also said he knows there is water flow through Moses Lake and that the water circulates back up to the top and they do not have answers to how their technology will relate to these situations, which is why they are willing to do a trial first and step up and do that with MLIRD.

Rhonda DeVito mentioned the City of Wapato had a 350,000 gallon pool open four months a year. When the HydroFLOW technology was added to

the pool, they were able to save \$35,000 in chemicals and had 10% fewer expenses on their water bill because they didn't have to replace the water as much.

General Manager Chris Overland asked if HydroFLOW technology had been used on any lake in Washington State. Rhonda DeVito stated their technology had not been used on any lake in Washington State. President Bailey asked if HydroFLOW had given a presentation to the Moses Lake Watershed Council. Rhonda DeVito stated both herself and Rudy Nicacio have spoken with the Moses Lake Watershed Council. She stated Harold Crose, Chairman of the Moses Lake Watershed Council, directed them to MLIRD. Rhonda DeVito also expressed that Harold Crose had an idea of using a boom and bring the water to another area where it could be treated and then use a pipe to transport the water back to the lake. Representatives of HydroFLOW believe at this point in just using the technology and pipe alone will be a better method for now.

President Bailey stated the Board would review the proposal and information given to them and go over it with the Moses Lake Watershed Council to see what they have to say about it, and in the event they would like to proceed with the case study proposal, MLIRD and the Moses Lake Watershed Council will get in touch with them. Rhonda DeVito stated the approximate cost would be \$12,000 to rent all the HydroFLOW parts and other supplies needed. She also mentioned Harold Crose, the Chairman of the Moses Lake Watershed Council, was getting anxious because it is getting towards the end of the season, and the water is starting to cool off.

General Manager Chris Overland stated a project like this should be presented to the Department of Ecology and the Department of Fish and Wildlife for permit requirements such as an HPA since the technology has not yet been used within a lake in Washington State. Rhonda DeVito mentioned she is bowing to people in the know as to what the best pathway for getting this test accomplished for MLIRD. HydroFLOW is ready to initiate a contract and get the case study started for this season. Director Foster asked Rhonda DeVito and Rudy Nicacio to get the Board, names and contact information of farmers that have had ponds and used their technology to get rid of the algae. Director Dexter asked what the largest pond that HydroFLOW has treated. Rhonda DeVito stated the largest pond was almost 75 acres. President Bailey stated they would be waiting to hear back from them with the information of the farmer's contacts, and MLIRD would meet with the committees and the Moses Lake Watershed Council. He thanked Rhonda DeVito for coming and presenting to the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jeremy Nolan is asking for a road and utility easement from MLIRD's parcel number 170077000, leading to his parcel number 17086600. The Board asked Mr. Nolan to write up a summary of his request and email it to General Manager Chris Overland, who would get the request to Legal Counsel Brian Iller for review to be able to discuss at the next Regular Board Meeting.

MLIRD STAFF REPORTS

General Manager Chris Overland reported the following:

- Lake elevation was at 1046.69 as of September 08, 2020.
- Rocky Coulee Wasteway August flows for 2020 were near 20,000 AF. The approximate Rocky Coulee Wasteway month to date flows for September are near 5,800 AF. The approximate Rocky Coulee Wasteway 2020 YTD flows are about 179,000 AF. These flows are very helpful to Moses Lake water quality.

- With the year 2/3 over, assessment income is at 98% of budget, and expenses are at 63% of the budget.
- Upcoming MLIRD business includes the 2021 Assessment Roll, 2020 Election, and the 2021 Budget.

WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

President Bailey asked if HydroFLOW's proposal had been discussed with the Moses Lake Watershed Council. Director Selmann stated he had discussed the general idea of the proposal and that it is not something that will be a whole lake fix; however, has the potential to be something that could work in a localized region such as the swim area at Connelly Park. Director Selmann believes it is a good project to explore. However, believes HydroFLOW has as much to gain from the exploration as MLIRD, and the Moses Lake Watershed Council does and has a problem with being charged a third of the price of the pump to test out their theory. Director Selmann feels MLIRD previously discussed using Connelly Park as HydroFLOW's location and helping them get their pump ready and testing to see how it worked. MLIRD and the Moses Lake Watershed Council could then make a decision on whether to move forward with the technology. HydroFLOW would then have data to build on and sell it to other lakefront owners knowing how their pump actually operates in a large body of water. President Bailey asked if anyone knew any lakefront owners in the Laguna area. Director Selmann stated he believes Rhonda DeVito is looking for someone that can also help with the testing. Director Foster stated he recently spoke with Harold Crose, Chairman of the Moses Lake Watershed Council, who both feel MLIRD and MLWC could provide the location and help with electricity, and a few material items; however, Director Foster does not propose that neither MLIRD nor the Moses Lake Watershed Council should rent HydroFLOW's technology for any amount of time. Harold Crose had also previously asked Director Foster if HydroFLOW was going to be monitoring, testing, and keeping the data or relying on MLIRD to give them all the data. Director Selmann stated he would suggest HydroFLOW do their own monitoring; however, MLIRD is already doing monitoring in that area so data could be compared.

General Manager Chris Overland mentioned determining what permitting needs to take place before the project can even happen is very important. Legal Counsel Brian Iller agreed and stated the technology sounded too good to be true and that MLIRD would want to check with all known authorities before doing anything. Director Foster mentioned he would rather HydroFLOW West, Inc. be the one contacting any agencies needed regarding the permits required. General Manager Chris Overland stated Gene Welch had previously stated at a Moses Lake Watershed Council that he believes there is a small chance the HydroFLOW technology will be productive. Director Foster does not believe MLIRD should take on the financial, permitting, or safety risks; however, would be willing to be participants. Director Selmann believes that because it is emerging technology, the relative risks are pretty small because they are only looking at a small area at Connelly Park and not the whole lake. President Bailey stated he thinks MLIRD should do some research on the permits and risks the project may carry, such as speaking with Grette Associates about what it might take and let the proposal make its way through the bureaucracy. He would like MLIRD to do some due diligence, and if the Board comes back next month and decides to go through with it, then MLIRD can proceed.

Connelly Park algae toxin sampling results were then looked at. General Manager Chris Overland stated they are all posted on the MLIRD website. He also mentioned the extreme numbers need to be viewed with some discretion because there could have been some sampling errors. Grant County Health District recommends the public avoid contact with microcystin that exceeds 8 µg/L.

Director Dexter mentioned it would be nice if a letter were sent to the USBR stating how appreciative MLIRD is of the extra Columbia River water through Moses Lake and how cooperative they have been for the year 2020. President Bailey stated it may be very helpful if a bunch of land owners sent a letter to the USBR stating how appreciative they are of the extra flows.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Bill Bailey, President

Richard Teals, Vice President

Kris Dexter, Director

Kaj Selmann, Director

Jeff Foster, Director

By: _____
Secretary to the Board of Directors