

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 PM, Vice Chairman Bailey called the October 09, 2018 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that all Board of Directors were present except for Chairman Foster. Director Dexter attended via-telephone. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller and General Manager, Chris Overland was also present. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

Vice Chairman 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)

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the board members and the audience for discussion on any non-agenda items and Ty Swartout and Rose Wiseman asked to discuss the water quality.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the board members to approve the agenda. The agenda was amended to include the draft copy of the 2019 Assessment Roll. Director Teals made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Director Selmann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the Board of Directors to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from 09/11/18 Regular Board Meeting, the Bills/Checks (#16841-#16879) and Voucher #1000205 totaling \$70,728.87. Director Selmann made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Teals seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Bailey abstained from voting on any items related to Basin Property Management, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

MLIRD STAFF REPORTS

General Manager, Chris Overland reported the following:

- Lake elevation was at 1046.77 feet as of October 09, 2018.
- The Dam gates will open Monday, November 05, 2018.
- Harvesters have finished for the season and been removed.
- The Fountain will be removed from the lake this week.
- The Parker Horn Pump Station has been shut down for the season.
- Connelly Park will close on October 31, 2018.
- The SEPA and JARPA for the mechanical dredging project behind Walmart are completed and the site is posted for comments. After a 14 day period, it will be sent to the City of Moses Lake, Army Corps of Engineers and Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.
- Permitting for the Parker Horn Fountain side hydraulic dredging project is still ongoing. General Manager, Chris Overland would like to discuss this project more at length during the November Regular Board Meeting once there is more information on the 2019 Budget.

- Upcoming events include the Equalization Process, 2019 Budget Preparation, MLIRD Elections, approval of the 2019 Assessment Roll and Schedule of Rates.
- The water quality of Moses Lake was then discussed at length. Data provided shows that the incoming springs and creeks may pose considerable risk to Moses Lake water quality. General Manager, Chris Overland reported that the WA State Department of Ecology encourages the public to report algae blooms and offers sampling kits with instructions to sample your area. In early September, a Moses Lake citizen sent a sample to the Department of Ecology who then contacted the Grant County Health Department. The GCDOH posted warning signs of toxic algae in the area where the sample was taken. Tests conducted later that month by GCDOH led to additional signage at other locations on Moses Lake which showed high levels of toxic blue-green algae. The freshwater algae recreational level is set at 6 µg/L and anything above is considered potentially harmful. Looking back over time, it appears that a sample has not been submitted to DOE since 2011 and the blue-green alga has likely been present in the lake, just not tested for many years. Possible solutions include the W20 lateral, partnering with other agencies to reduce high nutrient inflows, take steps with USBR to increase Columbia River water flows through Parker Horn, Alum treatments/injection systems, and possibly test a sonic unit.
- Three positions will be open for MLIRD Directors this year. Notice of Election/Petition of Nomination forms will be available at the MLIRD Office, 932 E Wheeler Road, beginning 8:00 AM, October 19, 2018 and must be returned to the MLIRD Office no later than 5:00 PM, November 05, 2018.
- General Manager, Chris Overland received data on 10,936 parcels from the Grant County Treasurer on October 03, 2018 to use in the MLIRD assessment process. MLIRD will advertise on October 16, October 23 and October 30 for purposes of Equalization. A Special Meeting will be scheduled for November 13, 2018 at 6:45 PM for purposes of Equalization. Discussion then took place on the possible 2019 assessment rate. With the current data from the Grant County Treasurer, a \$1.00/per thousand of total assessed value would yield approximately \$2,042,048 and \$0.75/per thousand of total assessed value would yield approximately \$1,531,536. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller noted that for notice purposes, if MLIRD is considering increasing the rate, the higher rate should be used for the notice so ratepayers are given notice that a higher rate may be imposed. As the Board did last year, it can always be decided not to charge the full rate. Director Selmann made a motion for the purpose of the notification that MLIRD advertises the assessment rate for 2019 at \$1.00/per thousand of total assessed value. Director Teals seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Bailey called for the vote, and all Directors voted for the motion except for Director Dexter. The motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2018-003 – Election Policies & Procedures

Legal Counsel, Brian Iller stated that this resolution is an update and clarification of the elections policy. Director Teals made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-003. Director Selmann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Rose Wiseman, a non-ratepayer who lives on the north end of Moses Lake spoke on how horrible she thinks the water quality is in her area. She would like to know what can be done. Vice Chairman Bailey stated part of MLIRD's mission is relative to recreation and being able to use the lake for the public good as well as for irrigation. Vice Chairman Bailey also stated that MLIRD does know there is a problem and is looking at being able to come up with a solution whether quickly or long term.

Ty Swartout, a non-ratepayer who also lives on the north end of Moses Lake stated that he is truly scared of the lake conditions. Director Selmann mentioned MLIRD is concerned as well which is one of the reasons why MLIRD is trying to pursue the dilution water as much as possible. Vice Chairman Bailey added that one thing Mr. Swartout could do is join the District to contribute in the efforts of a cleaner lake. Mr. Swartout believes problems like the farm animals wading in the north end of the lake, fertilizer and septic systems draining into the lake, dead carp, and fish hatcheries are causing issues for the lake. Vice Chairman Bailey let him know that everyone is concerned and the current MLIRD Board has been very progressive in looking at ideas MLIRD could do and pulling back in areas that expenditures aren't as important relative to the quality of the lake.

Clay Crook said that the major problem with the lake is something that cannot be fixed. The problem is that the lake is very shallow and in a hot country. He also mentioned that he and his wife Karen have been coming to the MLIRD Board meetings since the 1980's and trusts the judgment of the current Board and Management. He stated this Board and Management has done so much for the lake and particularly when General Manager, Chris Overland came on Board.

Norm Estoos mentioned if he remembers correctly when they took a sample above the Fish Hatchery and below the Fish Hatchery and there was not much of a difference. General Manager, Chris Overland stated that he had observed that also. Mr. Estoos mentioned that MLIRD might check with Sprague Lake as it is similar to Moses Lake. Vice Chairman Bailey said that it might be interesting to see the comparison of the two. General Manager, Chris Overland said he would see what he could find out about Sprague Lake.

Vice Chairman Bailey thanked the audience for coming and let everyone know that the MLIRD Board is concerned about the lake and will continue to look at options. The current MLIRD Board has tried a number of ideas in the last several years that have not been done in Moses Lake before; however, most have been short term. Director Teals mentioned that one thing that has changed is the amounts of weeds in the lake and it has a lot to do with the herbicide treatment that MLIRD has been working on. MLIRD has a major operation in order to eliminate the weeds and has been successful. Director Teals appreciates the work General Manager, Chris Overland has been doing.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Jeffrey B. Foster, Chairman

Bill Bailey, Vice Chairman

Kris Dexter, Director

Richard Teals, Director

Kaj Selmann, Director

By: _____
Secretary to the Board of Directors