

Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District
Special Board Meeting
November 14, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

At 6:45 PM, President Bailey called the November 14, 2023 Special Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows President Bailey, Vice President Teals, Director Dexter, Director Perry, Director Ketterer, and Legal Counsel Brian Iller were present. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called for discussion on any agenda items, and Peter Staudenraus asked to discuss agenda items.

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 as written. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION

The purpose of the November 14, 2023 Special Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District was for the Board of Directors to conduct an Equalization Hearing to equalize the 2024 Assessment Roll and Schedule of Rates.

President Bailey stated the MLIRD ratepayers have the opportunity to testify and make comments regarding the 2024 Assessment Roll and Schedule of Rates. He explained that this special meeting is the normal process that happens every year to equalize the current assessment roll for the upcoming year to file with Grant County. At the last Regular Board meeting, on October 10, 2023 there was a motion made by Director Dexter that was tabled that will need to be addressed in tonight's Regular Board meeting prior to any decisions that will affect the Equalization Hearing. For the first part of the Special Board meeting, the Board of Directors will listen to public testimony and then the Special Board meeting will be continued after the Regular Board meeting has been adjourned.

PUBLIC COMMENT

President Bailey opened the Equalization Hearing up for public comment.

Fran Grant, 4604 W Lakeshore Drive, stated she has lived on the waterfront of Moses Lake since 1976. She said she attended the Regular Board meeting when Director Dexter first suggested the waterfront residential points be lowered from the current 5 points to the 3 points. She feels the three points would be a more fair place to start. She believes once a number for the points has been established, that most likely it will never go down.

Peter Staudenraus, 2600 W Marina Drive lives in a condo association and is concerned about the \$200 Irrigation assessment per parcel. He is afraid that each condo owner will be charged the \$200 Irrigation assessment each. President Bailey stated that concern was changed, and the Irrigation assessment will be divided between the condo owners. He is also concerned about the unimproved vacant property and asked if those parcels would receive 2 points. President Bailey stated that was incorrect. He clarified that all parcels in the District receive one point, all parcels an acre or under will receive one additional point, all waterfront parcels will receive currently the

additional five points or whichever is approved with the current tabled motion that will be discussed in the Regular Board meeting, and all waterfront undeveloped parcels receive no Irrigation assessment. Mr. Staudenraus stated he agreed with Mrs. Grant that the waterfront parcels, whether they are residential or vacant should be charged the three points and not the currently approved five points. He mentioned there is 21% of waterfront parcels that are not in the District that the other waterfront parcels that are in the District have to support. He believes more people need to be brought into the District. President Bailey stated the Board agrees. He believes that all the large developers that are coming in, before they are given a building permit, should have to request to be annexed into the District. There are lower income homes in the District that are having to pay MLIRD assessments and then \$700,000 home sitting on the waterfront that are not having to pay any assessments to MLIRD. He stated he paid approximately \$760 in city taxes last year and that goes towards police, fire, parks, recreation and much more and will have to pay MLIRD \$460 in assessments. Mr. Staudenraus asked what MLIRD's cap on the assessments for each year was. President Bailey stated the cap for the Rehabilitation assessments is no more than \$1.00 per thousand of the total assessed value of the aggregate of the parcels in the District. President Bailey believes for the year 2024, the District will be at approximately 40% of that aggregate value. The cap was included when the RCW was changed and protects the ratepayers, and the Board is in agreement with that.

At 7:04 PM, Director Ketterer made a motion to continue the Equalization Hearing after the November 14, 2023 Regular Board meeting. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

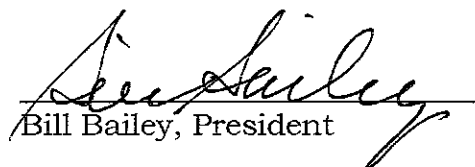
ACTION ITEMS

President Bailey continued the Equalization Hearing at 8:36 PM.

Vice President Teals made a motion to accept and equalize the 2024 Irrigation and Rehabilitation Assessment Roll and Schedule of Rates in accordance with the motion made and approved in the November 14, 2023 Regular Board meeting. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried four to one with Director Dexter in opposition.

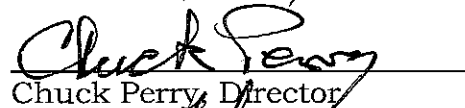
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.


Bill Bailey, President

Richard Teals, Vice President


Kris Dexter, Director


Chuck Perry, Director


Joe Ketterer, Director

By: 
Secretary to the Board of Directors