Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District Regular Board Meeting August 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

At 5:30 PM, President Bailey called the August 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Bailey, Vice President Teals, Director Dexter, and Director Perry were present. Director Ketterer was excused for his absence. Legal Counsel Brian Iller attended via-telephone. The record shows the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called for discussion on any agenda items, and Mr. & Mrs. Logan asked to added to the agenda.

DISCUSSION OF NON-AGENDA ITEM(S)

President Bailey called 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 with the amendment of excluding item 8b which will be added to the 2024 assessment request discussions at a later meeting. Director Perry made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Director Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President Bailey called on the board members to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from the 07/09/24 Regular Board Meeting and 07/24/2024 Special Board Meeting, the Bills/Checks (#19237-#19275), and Voucher #1000275, totaling \$146,664.28. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Bailey abstained from voting on anything related to Basin Property Management, Inc.

MLIRD STAFF REPORTS

- Lake elevation on August 13, 2024 was 1046.76.
- Neal Welbourne with Welbourne Geographic Services has received new data from the County and has updated MLIRD's records. He also has the irrigable acres in the District project 100% complete. On Neal Welbourne's monthly invoice, there is an ArcGIS annual renewal fee for approximately \$716 that Welbourne Geographic Services carries for MLIRD. Usually, the annual software expenses range from \$15,000 to \$20,000; however, with Mr. Welbourne's professional relationship with ArcGIS, MLIRD's annual fee is only approximately \$716.
- President Bailey stated MLIRD is currently negotiating the General Manager agreement with the top candidate. Once that is complete, he will call for a Special Board meeting for Board approval of the agreement.
- Resolution 2024-003 Final approval for the 18 land petitions from the July 9, 2024 Regular Board meeting are ready for the Board's approval. The advertisements were ran in the Columbia Basin Herald on July 26, August 2, and August 9.

- Interim Manager Beth Yonko stated she spoke on the phone with Mr. Glen Zuger regarding the water quality in the Wildgoose area and will update and take pictures if he sees anything alarming. President Bailey asked if Mr. Zuger had noticed any difference in the water quality in his area with the Columbia Basin Conservation District's \$3.1 million Phosphorus Mitigation project this year. Mr. Zuger stated the large chunks he was seeing have disappeared and the water is really dirty in his area. He stated he has to clean his irrigation pump filters twice a week where as the last few years he did not have to clean them.
- There are 22 new land petitions for the Board's consideration for this month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Bailey stated the MLIRD office received a 2024 assessment request from Mr. and Mrs. Logan regarding multiple parcels they own. President Bailey let Mr. and Mrs. Logan know the Board may not make a decision at tonights Board meeting. However, the Board has been assembling information with now theirs and a series of other parcels related to the 2024 assessments that will be discussed at a Special Board meeting in the near future. He noted that a majority of the parcels in question are under water. President Bailey mentioned that when the Board put together the assessment method, the underwater parcels were not considered he does not believe. President Bailey asked if Mr. and Mrs. Logan were only protesting the assessments on the parcels and not wishing to remove the parcels from the District. Mrs. Logan stated they were not at all wanting the parcels removed from the District, just asking that the assessments be reevaluated. President Bailey stated within the next 4-6 weeks, the Board will have a Special Board meeting to review and discuss all of the 2024 assessment requests received by the MLIRD office. Mrs. Logan mentioned that they are not disputing that they are not in the District as they cleary believe they are and stated they do not have a problem paying assessments. However, they feel some of the parcels were charged twice, they were charged for irrigation for parcels that are not irrigable and would just like additional clarity on how the Board came up with the points on all of their parcels. The MLIRD office will contact Mr. and Mrs. Logan when the Board will be having a special meeting to review the 2024 assessment requests.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2024-003 – Land Petitions from 07/09/2024 Regular Board Meeting

Vice President Teals made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-003. Director Perry seconded the motion. Vice President Teals stated he appreciated seeing the response from the communications sent out last month. The motion carried unanimously.

LAND PETITIONS

President Bailey stated there are 22 land petitions for the Board to review. The petitions included parcel numbers #120753000, #161741000, #111729201, #111885134, #091523008, #111729107, #111885164, #091523002, #111729210, #111885168, #111885170, #111756000, #110389000, #161682049, #111885169, #111885162, #16172000, #161718000, #091523006, #120754000, #311039000, and #111885189.

Director Dexter made a motion to accept and move forward with the 22 land petitons. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Perry stated he appreciates all of the property owners who have stepped up and joined the District after the latest letter was sent out. He stated he understands it was not particularly the most pleasant letter; however, it has resulted in quite a few property owners joining the District.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 PM.

Bill Bailey, President

Richard Teals, Vice President

Kris Dexter, Director

Chuck Perry, Director

Joe Ketterer, Director

By:

Secretary to the Board of Directors