

LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

July 10, 2018

Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Visitors

President Arnold called the meeting to order @ 2:00 p.m.

Directors Present: Adam, Arnold, Brownfield, DePaoli, Milanesio

Directors Absent:

Others present: Hagman (GM), Bennett (Senior Analyst), public members

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda for the meeting was presented and the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the agenda for July 10, 2018 as provided

1st DePaoli and 2nd Brownfield - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Public Comment

Members of the Board, Staff and the Public were invited to comment; no comment was provided.

Minutes

The minutes were presented for the June 12, 2018 Regular Board meeting and the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the June 12, 2018 Regular Board meeting as presented

1st Brownfield and 2nd Milanesio - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Prior/New Action Items

A. Report on Prior Board actions/discussions

Operation and Maintenance Report: GM Hagman reported on staff operations and maintenance efforts.

Water Supply Report: GM Hagman reported on the USBR actions since the prior meeting of the Board. It was explained that the USBR will be meeting the Friday after today's meeting (7/13/2018) to consider its water allocation options. By most measurements, he doesn't expect any change in the USBR's contract allocation. As such, GM Hagman stated he was comfortable recommending to the Board to set the

final grower allocation at 1.00 acre foot per acre. There is some concern for this allocation because he noted that this is the exact amount of contract supply remaining. To offset that, GM Hagman expects about 500 AF to be put back into the District Pool and typically there are people who don't use their water. He also explained that the District expects to pick up some water in San Luis Reservoir from recovered SJRRP releases. This will be an asset we can negotiate with for future supply in SLR, we might be able to convert it into Millerton supply, or we can get dollars for it.

Motion: Set the grower allocation to 1.00 Acre Foot per acre of land that pays assessment.

1st Brownfield and 2nd Adam - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

District Improvement Projects: GM Hagman presented the status of the currently approved engineering activities in the District (Groundwater Recharge, City of Lindsay Exchanges and JB Rehabilitation projects).

Micro Basin Installment Effort: GM Hagman reported that both test wells had been installed and their production was very underwhelming. GM Hagman has visited with Tim Nicely (GSI – Hydrologist). Nicely said he would expect a recharge rate of 40-500 gallons per minute (GPM). Current measurements on the recharge wells indicates we are recharging about 10 GPM per site. GM Hagman reminded the Board that they authorized \$15,000 for this effort and that he expected these two wells to cost about \$7,000 total (because the driller drilled the wells and only charged materials cost). Hagman explained that he will likely use the balance of the dollars to hire Nicely to do some technical work to help the District better understand the construction parameters and provide recommendations for improving recharge capacity.

B. New Action Items

Grant purpose review: GM Hagman reported that the staff will be submitting a grant on the “93.2E Pumping Plant Modernization” project at the end of this month (July 31). The pumping plant was built in 1951 based on design criteria of that day. The District has done a very good job of maintaining the plant over the years. However, there are substantial risk exposure issues at the plant that need to be addressed. Hagman states we are not in compliance with OSHA entrance standards and face substantial exposure to injury due to the motor control box design and connection types. Most of the work done at the site is done by outside providers, so they have the risk on them, but obviously since they are recommending the changes, we likely would face some risk as well. In addition, the plant has antiquated motor control systems. Substantial changes in SCE's pricing has exposed us to large “demand” charges. This occurs because the pump that needs to come on is hard started (pump immediately starts at full power). This draws huge amounts of amperage and with that amperage demand, SCE charges demand charges. Substantial savings are likely to occur by modernizing motor controls to soft starts and to operate two of the pumps with variable flow devices. GM Hagman noted that he believes District and a part of this project would be a great candidate for the “WaterSMART Grant: Small Project”. If awarded, this grant would offset the project costs by \$75,000. The total project's current estimated costs (provided by our electrical engineering consultant) is \$360,000 for total modernization of the plant. There are two parts to the project: “Boxes Upgrade” and “MCC Modernization”. About \$160,000 of

the total project costs are associated with the “Boxes Upgrade”. This effort will address the OSHA exposure issues by installing new boxes, correct high voltage connections, and all the required signage and gear for high voltage exposure. This project is labor intensive and requires the complete removal of the plant shed and all of the boxes. The “MCC Modernization” project will install motor control and SCADA (remote operation control) program at a total cost of about \$195,000. The “MCC Modernization” aligns very well with the objective of the Water SMART grant. Therefore, staff will submit a grant proposal to the USBR for this part of the total project. If awarded, the total cost of the “MCC Modernization” will cost the District \$125,000.

It was explained that one of the challenges of this project is the technical level of expertise required in the labor and the risk exposure of the work. Much of the work is beyond current staff capabilities so the project labor must be outsourced. As such, the project’s estimated cost includes external labor paid at the prevailing wage rate required by law. GM Hagman is working with the consultants to see if they would be willing to be employed by the District as opposed to consultants. If they accept, GM Hagman would hire them as “Temporary Employees” at rates acceptable to them and at rate for less than the estimated project rate. This would save quite a bit of costs (possibly as much as \$50,000). We will also expect to see lower power bills due to the soft start and VFD install. This will reduce the “hard start” amperage costs. We expect operation to save us costs and have a payback in about six years. GM Hagman noted that the projects make the most sense to do together. He noted that we are not obligated to do this project if we are awarded the grant. He asked if they Board had any problems with applying for the grant. None were expressed.

Miscellaneous administrative items: GM Hagman noted no accidents and no loss time injuries/illnesses at the District this past month.

- C. Review accounts payable listing and request by staff that the Board ratify the payments made to pay the bills:

Motion: To ratify the payments made to pay the bills as follows:

A/P Checks (numbers 12033 – 13073) for June 13 to July 10, 2018 in the amount of \$700,075.91, and payroll for June 2018 in the amount of \$74,243.54 for a total disbursement of \$774,739.45.

1st Adam and 2nd DePaoli - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

D. Financial Reports

Senior Analyst Bennett presented the financial statements and reports and asked the Board if there were any questions on the financial documents provided. She answered the questions that were asked.

Reports and Discussion on meetings attend or other water related business reports:

Administrative Report: GM Hagman noted he had nothing to report.

FWA Issues –Director Brownfield and GM Hagman reported open session items of the FWA.

Friant Power Authority (FPA) – President Arnold and GM Hagman reported on FPA activities.

East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA) – Director Milanesio and GM Hagman reported on EKGSA activities.

Report on Other Meetings/Issues: GM Hagman reported on meetings related to the District, water issues, and or the Friant/CVP.

Meetings Attended/to Attend: GM Hagman reminded the Board of the meetings they have between today and the next Board meeting. Director Adam asked for a volunteer to take on his meetings for the next little while, Vice-President DePaoli agreed to take care of it until further notice.

Closed Session:

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] City of Fresno, et al. v. United States of America, Court of Federal Claims, Case No. 16-1276L

The Board went into closed session to review legal counsel's memorandum at 3:20 PM and came out at 3:25 PM. President Arnold noted that there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

Correspondence Report:

None

Other Items to be Discussed per 54954.2 (Items not appearing on the Agenda)

No other items were discussed.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Arnold asked for a motion to adjourn: Motion to adjourn (Brownfield/Adam) carried by unanimous vote of those present. Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Michael D. Hagman
District Secretary