

LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

September 15, 2020

Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Visitors

This meeting is being held via video conference due to the Governor's Order regarding the Covid-19 pandemic protocol. Public had access via the agenda notice which had the call-in procedures detailed on it.

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

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

Directors Absent:

Others present: Hagman (GM), Bennett (SA), Romero (Staff Engineer); Joe Mastro (Auditor); Berglund (Special Counsel)

Approval of the Agenda

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

Motion: To approve the agenda for September 15, 2020 Lindmore Irrigation District Board meeting as provided – 1st DePaoli and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Public Comment

None provided

Minutes

The minutes were presented for the August 11, 2020 Regular Board meeting and the August 14, 2020 Special Board meeting. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 11, 2020 Regular Board meeting and the August 14, 2020 Special Board meeting – 1st Milanesio and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

FY2019 Audit

The FY2019 Audited Financial Statements were presented by Auditor, Joe Mastro, CPA. After review and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To accept the FY2019 Audited Financial Statements – 1st DePaoli and 2nd Reynolds – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present.

Prior/New Action Items

A. Report on Prior Board actions/discussions

Operation and Maintenance Report: Hagman reported on staff operations and maintenance efforts. He also reported that staff needs to be certified in order to enter some of these longer confined spaces. In

particular, the inside the pipe repair work. President Arnold suggested Hagman develop a budget and plan for getting this done.

Water Supply Report: Final USBR CVP Friant Division allocation has been set at 65% Class 1. There are no recommended changes to the landowner prorate. In the month of August, FWA reported deliveries of 6,208 AF to the District and LID's meters calculated 6,400 AF plus "in transit" and "mitigation" for a total of 6,632 AF and operational variances being the difference.

District Improvement Projects: Hagman and Romero updated the Board on the status of the Districts authorized improvement projects. Romero and Monreal are suggesting an environmental report when purchasing ground for banking. This will help us avoid any non-compliant property issues. This is about \$2,000 and is a reasonable expense to protect the District. There was discussion on Junction Box JB repairs this winter while the FKC is in down for maintenance and after discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve a maximum of \$150,000 three JBs rehabilitation – 1st Reynolds and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Recharge Basin Development: Romero reported the progress on a potential recharge site. Hagman was given some basic tenets for what the Board would like to see in a deal with a land purchase or lease. Such land will be bought or leased for the purpose of recharge space.

Personnel Policies and Employment Agreement: Hagman reported that Berglund is working with IBEW and is near completion.

Job Descriptions: Hagman provided the Board with a job description for Operations and Maintenance Technician. After considerable discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To approve the presented job description for the Operations and Maintenance Technician with the addition of one more bullet point for "Other duties as assigned" – 1st DePaoli and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Recharge Basin Renaming: Hagman noted that due to Covid-19 protocols, the dedication event has been postponed for a long time and it was decided that Hagman would contact the family to see about having a very small dedication soon.

Status of Assessment Collection transfer to County: Bennett reported that Lindmore Staff has completed all its tasks to get the assessment on the County tax rolls.

Staffing and Office Space: Romero reported on the work at the old shop. Lindmore has an inspection of the newly installed anchors on September 16th. If the inspection passes, then contact SCE to connect electricity.

Vehicle Purchase: Still no action on purchasing the small SUV for the District Vehicle Pool.

Election of Board Members: Bennett reported that she spoke with the County and all the Lindmore ID board members were unopposed. The County Board of Supervisors' will appoint each board member in lieu of an election and we will be receiving a packet from the County with instructions how to proceed.

B. New Action Items

Biennial Notice on Conflict of Interest Code: Bennett reported that Counsel has provided a draft of the updated COI and notices of the intention to amend the COI have been posted. No action required until the October board meeting.

Draft Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Budget (Board to review draft budget and direct staff and set a Budget Hearing date – staff recommending October 13, 2020): Hagman reviewed the draft FY2021 budget and the major variances from the FY2020 budget. He noted that the Board needs to set a hearing date to review the budget before the public, take comments and consider adoption. He also explained that an adopted FY2021 budget will be the basis of the FY2021 Assessment that the Board will also consider adopting at a future Board of Equalization hearing. After the review and discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set a FY2021 Budget Hearing date for October 13, 2020 – 1st DePaoli and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Set Board of Equalization date (Board to consider staff recommendation to hold BOE on October 13, 2020): Hagman reported that the District assessment needs to be approved in October before the County of Tulare sends out the assessments. He recommended the Board set a Board of Equalization date. After discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set the Board of Equalization date for October 13, 2020 – 1st Reynolds and 2nd Brownfield – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Set Hearing date for Unpaid Stand-by, Assessments, and Water bills (Board to consider Staff recommendation to set a hearing of unpaid bills placing them in lien against associated property, Staff recommendation is October 13, 2020): Hagman reported to the Board that there is a substantial decrease in the amount of unpaid assessments. By the Hearing date, there may only be a couple unpaid assessments. Hagman noted that the Board should set a hearing date to take objections from landowners for the assessment. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

Motion: To set a Hearing Date for filing of liens for October 13, 2020 – 1st Brownfield and 2nd DePaoli – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Miscellaneous Administrative Items: None were provided.

CLOSED SESSION MOVED TO THIS POINT IN THE AGENDA

Closed Session (taken before Financial Issues to accommodate the needs of Counsel):

- 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
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2)] - Number of Potential Cases: Two.

President Arnold called the Board to closed session at 3:00 pm and the Board came out of closed session at 4:16 pm. After coming out of closed session, the Board announced there was no reportable action.

C. Finance Issues

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 (#14314 – 14371) August 12, 2020 to September 15, 2020 in the amount of \$293,705.36 and payroll for August 2020 in the amount of \$95,744.10 for a total disbursement of \$389,449.46. 1st Reynolds and 2nd DePaoli - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present

Bennett presented the financial statements and reports and answered questions.

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

FWA Issues – Director Brownfield and Hagman reported on FWA issues.

Friant Power Authority (FPA) – President Arnold and GM Hagman noted there was no Friant Power Authority meeting in August.

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

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: The Board decided to have a Special Board meeting on September 23, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. to discuss projects that may affect the upcoming FY 2021 budget.

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 (Reynolds/DePaoli) carried by unanimous vote of those present. Meeting was adjourned at 4:38 pm.

Michael D. Hagman
District Secretary