

# LINDMORE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

September 10, 2019

### Roll Call and Acknowledgement of Visitors

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

Directors Present: Arnold, DePaoli, Milanesio, Reynolds

Directors Absent: Brownfield

Others present: Hagman (GM), Bennett (Senior Analyst), Mauritson (Counsel), Steve Milanesio (Landowner)

### Approval of the Agenda

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

**Motion: To approve the agenda for September 10, 2019 as provided – 1<sup>st</sup> DePaoli and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reynolds – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present**

### Public Comment

No Public comment provided.

### Minutes

The minutes were presented for the August 13, 2019 Regular Board meeting. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

**Motion: To approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 Regular Board meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Milanesio and 2<sup>nd</sup> DePaoli – 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.

*Water Supply Report:* Hagman provided the monthly report. Hagman noted a substantial variance from Friant's delivery report and the District's billing. Hagman noted this is likely due to staff not collecting the running meters. It will likely catch up in the next few months.

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

*Status of WaterSMART grant:* Hagman reported nothing new on the grant since last month.

*Recharge Policy:* Regarding the development of a District Policy on this subject, Counsel Mauritson is reworking the policy and recommending Lindmore ID use the current one and adopt the new, revised policy before next water season.

*Water Recharge 2019:* Hagman reported that there were 13 growers who signed agreements on the water and only four used the program in August. Hagman noted that he doesn't have the total for the program yet because there is an error on the Sun Pacific (largest program) readings. Sun Pacific and Staff had not been netting their activities. Therefore, the amount of program water is highly overstated.

*Mini Recharge Basin:* Hagman and District Engineer Monreal are working with the County and Regional Water Quality Control Board on what is needed for these projects to be implemented. In addition, Counsel Mauritson is developing a legal brief on what may be required per CEQA or NEPA.

*Personnel Policies and Procedures:* Counsel Mauritson continues to work with Special Counsel Berglund.

*Job Descriptions:* Hagman noted that he does not have job descriptions developed yet and noted it would likely be in the late Fall. This is due to the workload and the employee that was designated to complete the job descriptions has taken another position out of state.

*Recharge Reservoir Name:* Hagman noted he will have this activity in place by the end of March 2020.

*EKGSA Agreement:* EKGSA Board of Directors approved the agreement for Lindmore ID to share employee resources. EKGSA expects approximately 2.0 FTE's as a condition of the agreement along with some annual meetings and an understanding of what LID will be providing.

## **B. New Action Items**

*Draft Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Budget (Board to review draft budget and direct staff and set a Budget Hearing date – Staff recommending October 8, 2019):* Hagman provided his initial FY2020 Budget in "Draft". He explained the additional staffing and some of the variances between current/historical budgets and the FY2020 draft budget. He explained that the Board needs to set a hearing date to review the budget before the public, take comments and consider adoption. Additionally, Hagman explained that an adopted FY2020 budget will be the basis of the FY2020 Assessment that the Board will also consider adopting at a future Board of Equalization hearing. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

**Motion: To set a FY2020 Budget Hearing Date for October 8, 2019 – 1<sup>st</sup> Reynolds and 2<sup>nd</sup> DePaoli – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present**

*Set Board of Equalization date (Board to consider staff recommendation to hold BOE on October 8, 2019):* Hagman reported that the District assessment is typically approved in October and mailed out in November giving landowners time to meet the December 20 assessment payment deadline. As such he is recommending the Board set a Board of Equalization date. After some discussion, the following action was taken:

**Motion: To set the Board of Equalization Date for October 8, 2019 – 1<sup>st</sup> DePaoli and 2<sup>nd</sup> Milanesio – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present**

*Set Hearing date for directing staff to file liens on FY2019 Unpaid Assessments, and FY2018 Water bills (Board to consider Staff recommendation to set a hearing of unpaid bills placing them in lien against associated property, Staff recommendation if October 8, 2019):* Hagman informed the Board that there is a substantial increase in the amount of unpaid assessments. The dollar amount is higher than in previous years because the rate is much higher. However, this year the number of acres not being paid is nearly twice as high as in previous years. 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 8, 2019 – 1<sup>st</sup> DePaoli and 2<sup>nd</sup> Reynolds – Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present**

*Review Past Due Grower Account:* Hagman reported that staff made a recording error on a lien which resulted in a \$4,000 loss of revenue to the District. The Board asked Hagman how this error will be avoided in the future. Hagman noted that all releases from liens will be approved by him prior to it occurring.

*Miscellaneous Administrative Items:* None were provided.

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 (#13692 – 13721) August 14, 2019 to September 10, 2019 in the amount of \$310,051.34, and payroll for August 2019 in the amount of \$79,908.94 for a total disbursement of \$389,960.28. - 1<sup>st</sup> DePaoli and 2<sup>nd</sup> Milanesio - Motion passed by unanimous vote of those present**

#### **D. Financial Reports**

Bennett presented the financial statements and reports and answered questions.

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

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

*FWA Issues* –GM Hagman reported open session items of the FWA.

*Friant Power Authority (FPA)* – President Arnold/GM Hagman reported

*East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA)* – Director Milanesio/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:* Meetings were covered.

#### **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
- **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – POTENTIAL LITIGATION**  
Government Code Section 54956.9 (d) (2)] - Number of Potential Cases: One
- **CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR**  
Michael Hagman – International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL-CIO) [Government Code Section 54957.6]

President Arnold called the Board to closed session at 3:35 pm and out at 4:20 pm. The Board announced that General Manager Hagman will be relieved of the responsibility of Labor Negotiator and that Rachele Berglund will be appointed the District's Labor Negotiator. In addition, the Board appointed Hagman as an advisor to Berglund.

**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 (DePaoli/Milanesio) carried by unanimous vote of those present. Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.

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Michael D. Hagman  
District Secretary