



## **SWALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES**

### **October 2018**

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The Board of Directors of the Swalley Irrigation District met on October 17, 2018 at the District office for the purpose of conducting its monthly business.

#### **Call to Order**

President McCarrel called the meeting to order at 9:15 am. Those in attendance were directors Steve McCarrel, Kelly Patrick, Dennis Gant, and general manager Jer Camarata. Guest Todd Peplin was also present.

#### **Prior Minutes**

Minutes from the September 19, 2018 board meeting were reviewed and on motion made and seconded, unanimously approved.

#### **Business from the Floor**

Todd Peplin of the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District introduced himself to the Board and gave an overview of the sorts of projects that he is trying to assist local landowners with. Mr. Peplin is primarily working to identify and find solutions to private ditch infrastructure problems. Todd and Swalley have recently submitted a feasibility study grant application to the Oregon Water Resource Department (OWRD) aimed at helping patrons on the privately owned Tower Lateral to study possible modernization options. Owners of the private Winston Ranch Lateral have also recently expressed interest in piping their ditch, and so the District has introduced Todd to those patrons to help analyze their options, costs, and next steps.

#### **Financial/Hydro Report**

The Board reviewed the accounts payable list, financial reports, and hydro report as prepared. Brief discussion ensued regarding a short hydro shut down last week. On motion made and seconded, the accounts payable list was unanimously approved.

#### **Old Business**

The Board reviewed and discussed the District's Water Transfer Policy that is up for renewal in December of this year. After discussion, the Board asked to keep the topic on the table for continued discussion at the upcoming November and December board meetings. No decisions were made.

#### **New Business**

Camarata announced that the District had received one nomination petition for Director Position No. 3 as of the October 9, 2018 deadline. Camarata declared the petition complete with valid signatures and announced that there would therefore be no contested election for Director Position No. 3 this year. Incumbent Kelly Patrick was named the

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sole nominee and issued a Certificate of Election to serve a three (3) year term -- January 2019 through December 2021.

#### **Manager's Report**

1) On October 10<sup>th</sup>, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) held a public meeting to gather comments on the District's final draft Watershed Plan-EA. The Board asked to be provided with copies of all written comments received on the Watershed Plan-EA. Camarata will provide such documentation to the Board shortly after the public comment period closes on October 24<sup>th</sup>. Discussion ensued regarding the Watershed Plan-EA process being approximately 3-6 months behind schedule and how the Rogers Lateral Piping Project could therefore not be constructed this fall/winter due to the federal decision and federal dollars not being available in time to support construction activities. The District will now plan to potentially commence construction of the Rogers Lateral Piping Project next fall/winter (2019). The District will be conducting heavy-duty scrubbing and grubbing maintenance activities along the Rogers Lateral this winter to support a better operating canal during next irrigation season and to also support a smoother future pipeline construction process. Maintenance is expected to be substantial and lengthy, therefore notices will be provided to landowners living along the canal. The District has also secured a Land Use Compatibility Statement (LUCS) from Deschutes County for the Rogers Lateral Piping Project.

2) The District obtained Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC) board approval to jointly pursue grant funding opportunities for piping the Elder Lateral. The District and the DRC will be applying to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) this October for a grant that, if successfully awarded, would be used as potential PL-566 match dollars for the Elder Lateral Piping Project.

3) The District has hired a new Ditchrider/Field Technician to replace Clay Adams, whose last day with the District was October 12, 2018. The new employee's name is Breck Flanagan-Caldwell.

4) Camarata continues to work on the first draft 2019 annual budget and expects to present the first draft to the Board in November of this year.

5) In coordination with the Bend-LaPine School District, piping construction of ~1,400 of the Riley Sub-Lateral is on schedule to commence as planned this winter. Irrigation deliveries on the Riley Sub-Lateral will cease on or around October 22<sup>nd</sup> and no stock runs will be available on the sub-lateral this winter. Patrons have been notified.

6) The District has reengaged Barnett and Company CPAs to conduct the 2018 annual audit. The audit is expected to commence this coming January.

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7) The District is investigating health insurance options and potential costs.

**Legal Report**

None.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, President McCarrel adjourned the meeting at 11:38am.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ President McCarrel

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary Camarata

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