



SWALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES May 2017

The Board of Directors of the Swalley Irrigation District met on May 17, 2017 at the District office for the purpose of conducting its monthly business.

Call to Order

President McCarrel called the meeting to order at 9:06am. Those in attendance were directors Steve McCarrel, Kelly Patrick, and manager Jer Camarata. Swalley patron, Connie Marshall was also in attendance. Margi Hoffmann, Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) entered the meeting at 10:00am

Minutes of the April 19, 2017 board meeting were reviewed and on motion made and seconded, unanimously approved.

Financial

The board reviewed the accounts payable list and financial reports as prepared. On motion made and seconded, the accounts payable list was unanimously approved.

Business from the Floor/Public Comment

Connie Marshall introduced herself to the board and expressed interest in the current board position vacancy. Mrs. Marshall observed the entire meeting.

Mrs. Hoffmann gave an overview of the PL-566 funding program and status. Much discussion ensued. Mrs. Hoffmann advised the board that a Public Watershed Plan Scoping Meeting would need to be conducted in the coming weeks to gather comments from the public and to keep the District in a strong position to compete for piping funds this year. The District will also need to complete its Watershed Plan this summer. The importance of patron outreach and notification was discussed at length. As soon as a Public Watershed Plan Scoping Meeting date is set, Camarata will work with staff to get the word out to patrons and other basin stakeholders. The board was provided with a copy of the Watershed Plan Preliminary Investigative Report (PIR) as well as a draft copy of the recently completed Modernization Strategy (edits pending).

Old Business

The Eagle Crest stacked water right issue was reviewed and discussed. The issue has been turned over to the District's attorney for initial review and comments. Camarata is to report back to the Board in June.

Correspondence to the Board

None

New Business

None

Manager's Report

1) Camarata has been evaluating private infrastructure as time allows. Five private conveyances have been surveyed since Resolution Number 16-06 was executed.

2) A formal interpretation letter concerning the District's current Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been

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received. In short, the letter finds that all canal segments and laterals branching off of the Main Swalley Canal, except the final 4.5 miles of the Main Swalley Canal, are currently Section 106 compliant and may be piped. The letter further states that SHPO understands that the District wishes to pipe the remaining 4.5 miles of Main Swalley Canal, but will need to execute a new MOA with SHPO to mitigate for the loss of that historical resource. The District should re-engage SHPO approximately two years prior to expecting to move forward with piping the remaining 4.5 miles of Main Swalley Canal.

3) Senate Bill 865 (plat signing authority for Irrigation Districts in Oregon) was passed out of its legislative committee last Wednesday and is now on its way to the House Floor. Oregon Water Resource Congress (OWRC) is confident that the bill will be signed into law this year.

4) The District went "live" with a new pay-by-credit-card option last Friday and has received its first ever credit card payment.

5) The Rogers and Rogers-Sub Lateral Easement Survey Project is complete and came in approximately \$4,400 under budget. Camarata said that he plans to roll the unused funds into the Riley and Riley-Sub Lateral Easement Survey Project and essentially keep working north until all District easements have been completely re-mapped, as budget allows.

6) The District's application to the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program for \$16,000,000 has been formally accepted and posted to the 2017 DEQ Intended Use Plan (IUP) pending list. The IUP pending list is currently published on DEQ's website and in the middle of a public comment period.

7) 0.14 acres of nursery rights were sold to two existing Swalley patrons.

8) The Department of Energy Section 242 program has been appropriated \$6.6m in available funds for 2016-based hydro production. As soon as the application period is announced on the Federal Register, Camarata will apply.

9) Energy Trust of Oregon is currently reviewing a draft report that audits the Ponderosa Plant's efficiency and operations. It is expected that a copy of the report will be provided to the District within the next few weeks.

Legal Report

None

Other Business

None

Adjournment

There being no further business, President McCarrel adjourned the meeting at 11:30am.

Attest: _____ President McCarrel

Attest: _____ Secretary Camarata

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