

## **CALL TO ORDER**

At 7:00 PM, Vice Chairman Bailey called the September 12, 2017, Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that all Directors except Chairman Foster were present. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller and General Manager, Chris Overland was also present. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

## **DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)**

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the board members and the audience for discussion on any agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

## **DISCUSSION OF NON-AGENDA ITEM(S)**

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the board members and the audience for discussion on any non-agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Bailey then called on the board members to approve the agenda. Director Teals made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion was then carried unanimously.

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

Vice Chairman Bailey called on the board members to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from 08/08/17, the Bills/Checks #16289-#16341 and Voucher #1000192 totaling \$113,956.39. Director Teals made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 08/08/17. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion was then carried unanimously. Director Perry then made a motion to approve the Bills/Checks #16289-#16341 and Voucher #1000192 totaling \$113,956.39. Director Teals seconded the motion. The motion was then carried unanimously.

## **PRESENTATIONS/SCHEDULED GUESTS**

J.R. Newhouse & Company – 2016 Financial Statement

Kelly Buche with J.R. Newhouse & Company gave a presentation on MLIRD's financials for the year 2016. At the end of the 2016 year, the cash reserves including all of the funds that are available to MLIRD at the County level was at \$1.619 million. MLIRD assessed property owners \$1.759 million for the year 2016 and collected \$1.755 million. Financial expenditures were then compared from the year 2015 to 2016. Director Teals mentioned that he believes MLIRD is doing really well with assets. Kelly Buche explained what the rest of the 2016 Financial Statement entailed and offered that in the future, the Financial Statements can be delivered to the Board of Directors ahead of time, so they have a chance to look over them before the Board Meeting. Director Teals asked if for in the future, he would like to see the previous year and the year to date side by side to compare the years in the Financial Statement. Vice Chairman Bailey asked instead of changing this year's 2016 Financial Statement, to just add an addendum to the Boards binders with a side by side comparison of 2015 and 2016's data. Kelly Buche said she would plan to print quarterly side by side comparisons of year to date and the prior year

for the Board Meetings. Director Dexter mentioned possibly even having the last five years data average so the Board of Directors can know what has happened in the last five years. Kelly Buche said she has all those numbers, and that if the Board would be happy with them coming directly out of the accounting program, she can do that at any time for any period. The Board of Directors and General Manager, Chris Overland thanked Kelly Buche for her presentation.

## **MLIRD STAFF REPORTS**

General Manager, Chris Overland reported the following:

- Lake elevation was 1046.70 as of September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- Dredging continues to move forward as the season begins to wrap up with about one month left. At the end of October, the focus will be turned to managing and relocating the spoils to Connelly Park and possibly the Port of Moses Lake.
- It was recently reported that the Rocky Coulee Wasteway flows should run into mid-October. However, heard today that was going to change at the end of this week due to irrigation demands down south. Currently, the Rocky Coulee Wasteway is flowing at 500 c.f.s.
- Aquatic treatments for the year 2017 have been completed. Approximately 349 acres were treated during phase one and an additional 74 acres treated during phase two.
- There is less than a month of harvester operations left for the season. Harvester operations wrap up at the end of September.
- Water quality on the lake from the water sampling looks great with exceptions of a few locations to keep an eye on.
- The year to date budget continues to be in good shape with the actual assessments at 96% of budgeted projections made last year. The actual spend against budget is 81%.
- Assessment Roll data available for August 2017 suggests that current MLIRD assessment value if this data were used, would be at \$1.922 million. This does not take into account the Grant County exempt parcels. This is just a preview of the 2018 Assessment Roll as it is not due to the Grant County office until January.
- Dale and Karen Wesselius who reside at 7448 NE Stonecrest Road Parcel Number 161682008 have submitted a 'Petition for addition of lands to the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District, pursuant to RCW 87.03.560 Et. Seq'. form to be considered for petitioning their land into the District. Director Teals made a motion to have General Manager, Chris Overland proceed with the steps involved in the annexation of Dale and Karen Wesselius's property into the District. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion was then carried unanimously.

## **WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS**

Director Teals said that the water quality at Parker Horn is incredible. He believes it is the absolute best condition he has ever seen it in at this time of year. Karen Crook, an audience member, added that the lake is really clear in their area as well. Director Perry said her husband kayaks about 6 miles every other night covering a lot of areas on the lake and he has been amazed at how clean the lake has been. She wonders if it has to do with a lot of the cloud coverage from the smoke that has been in the area.

Karen Crook asked General Manager, Chris Overland if MLIRD has dredged more this year compared to past years. General Manager, Chris Overland responded with, probably less than years past. MLIRD staff is getting into locations now where they have to be more careful not to damage equipment as they are finding more rock and debris.

Vice Chairman Bailey asked if more spoils are being moved out. General Manager, Chris Overland said the hauling of the dredge spoils has slowed down as people aren't coming as frequently which is one reason why MLIRD is going to proceed with moving some of the spoils out to Connelly Park. Director Dexter asked if it would be more cost-effective if MLIRD started paying people to take the spoils as opposed to having to haul it all the way out to Connelly Park and if MLIRD had a use for it out at the Park. General Manager, Chris Overland said that it's a thought to take into consideration because spoils would only be moved to Connelly Park for relocation purposes. Vice Chairman Bailey asked about the Port of Moses Lake. General Manager, Chris Overland said the Port of Moses Lake has said that MLIRD could haul dredge spoils to their location and dump it and the Port of Moses Lake will handle it once it is there. Director Teals added, the Port of Moses Lake has funds and equipment, why don't they haul the spoils themselves.

Director Dexter said he was at Montlake Park today with his grandchildren and they walked out on the dock and thought that it still looked green. He was curious if MLIRD was able to know if the Alum treatment did anything. General Manager, Chris Overland had said he thought it looked fairly good and smelled different from past years after they had administered the Alum treatment but admitted that was a little subjective. General Manager, Chris Overland said it is hard to tell for certain right now, because of one of the upper springs that flow into Pelican Horn that is delivering high nutrients to the lake. General Manager, Chris Overland stated that he does not think MLIRD currently has the data to support that the Alum treatment has helped. He also mentioned that he believes the springs and streams at either end of Pelican Horn are hurting the lake. Director Dexter asked if there was anything MLIRD could do about the springs that are bringing higher nitrogen and phosphorus levels into Moses Lake? General Manager, Chris Overland said that he would like to think there is a way to address the issue and added that the first step is to identify the problem. General Manager, Chris Overland said he sent the Board of Directors a link of the most recent data of phosphorus and nitrogen from August that MLIRD has been testing. There is also a link for that data on the MLIRD website. Director Perry asked if there is more water draining into Moses Lake from new underground springs? General Manager, Chris Overland explained that it was an interesting winter with all the runoff, so it is hard to gauge what is normal from past years and experience because this past winter was so unusual. He added that possibly one of the next steps to do is acquire equipment to measure the flows. Director Perry said she has several neighbors who are complaining about big dips in their lawn that were not there before that they suspect is from underground streams flowing through.

Clay Crook, an audience member, asked if it would help if more property owners irrigated out of the lake? He mentioned that his lawn is growing extremely fast from all the nutrients from irrigating from the lake. He believes that if more people irrigated from the lake, their lawns would act as a filter.

Director Teals asked how the process is coming for dredging on the West side of the Alder Street Fill for 2018. General Manager, Chris Overland said that getting the go-ahead from the Board of Directors to proceed would be sufficient. Vice Chairman Bailey asked where MLIRD is at with the permitting process. General Manager, Chris Overland explained that the permitting process for the other side is going to be considerable as compared to the side MLIRD has been dredging on because there will be more entities involved. Director Teals made a motion to instruct General Manager, Chris Overland to move ahead with the permitting process and planning of dredging the West side of the Alder Street Fill. Director Perry seconded the motion. Karen Crook, an audience member, asked what

MLIRD is going to do about the boaters in that area. General Manager, Chris Overland said conceivably access to parts of the lake in that area could be restricted for some time while dredging is underway. Vice Chairman Bailey said he assumes it will be dredged in sections. He said there is a lot of unknown and just need to develop a plan to do it. Director Teals said that he imagines when MLIRD has a proposal, there will be a public hearing held to explain to the public how the project will be managed. Director Perry would like to see MLIRD start on step one of the process. The motion was then carried unanimously.

Director Dexter mentioned he had used Roundup for a few years on Phragmites. He found that Roundup only burns and then the Phragmites will pop up again next year or in the fall. He mentioned back in a meeting with Lakeland where they suggested using Imazapyr for Phragmites as a more effective control than Glyphosate. Director Dexter then went and purchased Polaris and used it and found that it worked way better than Roundup.

Clay Crook said that he has been coming to MLIRD Board Meetings for years and he wanted to compliment General Manager, Chris Overland because this is by far much better, more informative, and he has a feeling everyone knows what they are doing. He said it is just really amazing to see the difference between the meetings now and what they were when he first started coming to them years ago with all the arguments, the fighting and the lack of cooperation. He said it is just awesome and he thinks he can see that in the lake. General Manager, Chris Overland thanked Clay and Karen Crook.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

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Jeffrey B. Foster, Chairman

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Bill Bailey, Vice Chairman

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Mary Perry, Director

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Kris Dexter, Director

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Richard Teals, Director

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary to the Board of Directors