

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 PM, Chairman Foster called the November 13, 2018 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that all Board of Directors were present with Director Dexter attending via-telephone. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller, and General Manager, Chris Overland was also present. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded.

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)

Chairman Foster 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)

Chairman Foster called on the board members, and the audience for discussion on any non-agenda items and Vice Chairman Bailey asked to discuss the picnic shelter at Connelly Park donated by the Moses Lake Rotary Club.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Foster called on the board members to approve the agenda. Vice Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Director Selmann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Foster called on the Board of Directors to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from 10/09/18 Regular Board Meeting and 10/16/18 Special Board Meeting, the Bills/Checks (#16880-#16921) and Voucher #1000206 totaling \$85,067.87. Vice Chairman Bailey made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Teals seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Bailey abstained from voting on any items related to Basin Property Management, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.

MLIRD STAFF REPORTS

General Manager, Chris Overland reported the following:

- Lake elevation was at 1042.99 feet as of November 13, 2018.
- There will not be a 2018 MLIRD Election in December. With no challengers, Director Bailey, Director Dexter, and Director Selmann who completed petitions are declared MLIRD Directors with Certificates on file.
- All of the dredging permits that MLIRD has filed for are five-year permits. General Manager, Chris Overland spoke with Ryan Walker – Grette Associates and Mr. Walker anticipates the US Army Corp to delay on the Trestle Causeway and behind Walmart permits. Both are mechanical dredging projects with the ideal window to dredge about mid-December as that is when the lake level is at its lowest point.
- With the 2018 algae issues, MLIRD used caution and consulted with subject matter experts before calling the herbicide applicators for fear of making matters worse. Chad Jackson with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife was unaware of any sickened

animals as a result of the condition of the north end of Moses Lake. Joan Hardy with the Department of Health indicated her advice is to not use herbicides when there is a toxic bloom for fear of lysing the toxins into the water and making matters worse. General Manager, Chris Overland mentioned that limnologist, Gene Welch added the reason there may not be any sick animals might be because MLIRD did not treat the toxic blooms with herbicide. The blue-green toxicity has resulted in WSDOE attempting to coordinate a conference call to discuss the issue. Chairman Foster suggested that Pat McGuire include a Grant County Commissioner, a State Representative, City of Moses Lake, DNR and possibly the USBR for this conference call. General Manager, Chris Overland said he would see if he could get the list broadened. Vice Chairman Bailey said he was fine with also attending the conference call on behalf of MLIRD. Director Selmann also said he could be available if need be.

- MLIRD Staff would like to move forward with a \$50,000 Department of Ecology Freshwater Algae Program grant that is available and due Thursday, November 15, 2018. This might allow MLIRD to get DOE to lead the charge to conduct a current study to assess the current status of the nutrient loading in the lake and help establish viable solutions for the challenges facing Moses Lake. General Manager, Chris Overland said if approved by the Board, he could submit the application tomorrow. Director Teals made a motion for General Manager, Chris Overland to apply for the \$50,000 DOE Freshwater Algae Program grant. Vice Chairman Bailey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Director Teals said that he really appreciates how General Manager, Chris Overland and staff are on top of this and proactive on the issue because it is an issue that is very important to the Moses Lake community and MLIRD. Chairman Foster then asked if the Board felt the need to produce something in response to the questions MLIRD has received such as, posting information on the website. General Manager, Chris Overland has been approached by news media for answers on the toxic algae in the lake. Vice Chairman Bailey said there is an old study and MLIRD is talking about a new one as of right now. Chairman Foster appreciated the work General Manager, Chris Overland did in researching the matter. Director Teals said MLIRD are stewards of the lake and are always working hard and diligently to make the lake better. Chairman Foster wants to be able to give MLIRD Staff the support for them to say MLIRD is doing the best they can with what MLIRD has and it is not something that is going to be fixed overnight. Director Teals noted that the “Moses Lake Proposed Phosphorus Criterion and Preliminary Load Allocations Based on Historical Review” is really comprehensive and gives a good historical background of the situation in Moses Lake since the very beginning. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller said he thinks General Manager, Chris Overland’s goal in drafting the responses was to have something not committal, that basically says MLIRD is aware of the problem, understands the problem, and is working on the problem. Instead of having a response to anyone that calls or emails, MLIRD could say there is a statement on the website that answers these questions which he thinks was the goal. Director Selmann added that MLIRD has been working on the issue; it is something that requires a lot of stakeholders. Chairman Foster said his primary reason for bringing this up was to ask if MLIRD needs a statement, a press release, or something posted on the website. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller stated that he did not read anything problematic in the response General Manager, Chris Overland drafted, but that each Board Member should read through it and see if each agrees. General Manager, Chris Overland stated he had not planned to respond to any of the questions in a reply-to-all manner. He considered drafting a Q and A and possibly adding it to the MLIRD website. Legal Counsel, Brian Iller agreed and said he

thought that was what that document was for. MLIRD has had these questions; these are the answers and put it on the website for MLIRD Staff and Board Members to direct anyone that asks them a question to check out the website. Chairman Foster asked General Manager, Chris Overland if he was comfortable with not doing anything with that or not going to hit reply-to-all and send the answers to everybody. General Manager, Chris Overland responded that it was not his intent to respond with 'reply-to-all.' Chairman Foster stated that was his concern.

- 2019 Proposed Budget was then discussed. If MLIRD chooses to use \$1.00 per thousand the estimated income for 2019 will be approximately \$2,042,048. Proposed projects include removing the 'island' on the Fountain side of the Fill for approximately \$1.5 million and a possible special project for aquatic treatments at \$300,000. Vice Chairman Bailey said if \$1.5 million is what it is going to take to get going on dredging the Fountain side of the Fill then he believes MLIRD should start advertising the project for bid and get it done. More discussion will take place at the December Regular Board Meeting.
- Financials are at 84% of the budget, mainly due to assessments. Total expenses are at 56% due to timing.

WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

Vice Chairman Bailey said approximately a year ago the Moses Lake Rotary Club was willing to donate all funds and build a picnic shelter at Connelly Park. The drawing and engineering are finished, and Vice Chairman Bailey has the application for the building permit. The Moses Lake Rotary Club has suggested MLIRD apply for the building permit as the owners of the property. Vice Chairman Bailey and General Manager, Chris Overland will complete the application on Thursday, November 15 and get it turned into the Grant County Building and Planning Department. The picnic shelter will be similar to the one at Cascade Park.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Jeffrey B. Foster, Chairman

Bill Bailey, Vice Chairman

Kris Dexter, Director

Richard Teals, Director

Kaj Selmann, Director

By: _____
Secretary to the Board of Directors

