

Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District  
Regular Board Meeting  
November 12, 2024

### **CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:30 PM, President Bailey called the November 12, 2024 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Bailey, Vice President Teals, Director Perry, and Director Ketterer were present. Legal Counsel Brian Iller and General Manager Sam Castro were also in attendance. Director Dexter attended via-telephone. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded.

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

President Bailey called for discussion on any agenda items, and Lloyd Petersen asked to be added to the agenda.

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

President Bailey called for discussion on any non-agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Bailey called on the board members to approve the agenda. Director Perry made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Ketterer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

President Bailey called on the board members to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from the 10/08/24 Regular Board Meeting and 10/07/2024 and 10/08/2024 Special Board Meetings, Bills/Checks (#19348 - #19381) and Rehabilitation Voucher #1000278 totaling \$123,362.27 and Irrigation Voucher #1000278 totaling \$13,390.05. Director Ketterer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. President Bailey abstained from voting on anything related to Basin Property Management, Inc.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

United States Bureau of Reclamation – Marc Maynard, Clyde Laye, Todd Knittel

Marc Maynard, the Ephrata Field Office Manager, gave a brief update on the coordination efforts between the USBR and MLIRD with the spring and fall operations of Moses Lake regarding the lake elevation, the appreciation of the Columbia River water through Moses Lake, and the Potholes Supplemental Feed Route.

Columbia Basin Conservation District – Ron Sawyer

Ron Sawyer gave a presentation on the grants and projects that the Columbia Basin Conservation District has done recently and grants and projects that they plan to do in the future. One of the grants that CBCD is completing is an Algae Control grant that the Department of Ecology has asked CBCD to do in conjunction with the Lake Management Plan. Geosyntec is the contractor that will complete the study and write the report for the CBCD. Mr. Sawyer stated this project was envisioned as a cooperative project between CBCD and MLIRD. Mr. Sawyer stated he has let Geosyntec know that MLIRD has resources such as water quality testing

data and reports that they are intended to use instead of recreating that data themselves.

## **MLIRD STAFF REPORTS**

- General Manager, Sam Castro and MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko attended the CBDL annual meeting and were approached by Senator Patty Murray's staff Raquel Crowley in regards to coordinating a meeting with MLIRD to discuss delegation coordination. This meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, 2024 and will determine if there is a notice of funding opportunities or if there is any other way they could assist MLIRD politically.
- The WA State Audit Entrance Conference is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024. This will be a Special Board Meeting to allow for all Board Members to be in attendance.
- An MLIRD workshop will be scheduled towards the beginning of 2025 to ensure that all 5 Director positions are filled and can be involved.
- Director Ketterer made a motion to have General Manager Sam Castro contact the Grant County Commissioners and ask them to appoint someone for Director Position #4. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- General Manager Sam Castro and MLIRD Staff met with Grant County Treasurer Darryl Pheasant to discuss the 2024 assessment adjustments. Mr. Pheasant made a commitment to the District that he would forward the assessment adjustments prior to December 20, 2024 so that it would fall in compliance with Resolution 2024-005.
- General Manager Sam Castro stated there are quite a few pieces of MLIRD's equipment that require a review to determine if it is in need to be declared as surplus. He has started a list that he will provide to the Board at the December Regular meeting for discussion. Some of this equipment includes a vehicle that has been to a mechanic shop several times and has now been red-tagged.
- MLIRD Staff and General Manager Sam Castro have been reviewing MLIRD's inventory list and small and attractive asset list.
- General Manager Sam Castro has been working with the City of Moses Lake on an interlocal agreement regarding the Moses Lake Fountain. That interlocal agreement has been signed and the City of Moses Lake will pick up the fountain within the next few weeks.
- The Moses Lake North Dam gates were opened on November 4, 2024.
- Lake elevation on November 12, 2024 was 1043.17.
- The MLIRD office has received correspondence from a group that wants to hold a Vintage Test & Tune of Race Boats at Connelly Park. There will be more information on this as details become available. Vice President Teals stated he felt it was the general consensus of the Board that it would be a great idea.
- General Manager Sam Castro attended the 2024 Oregon Lakes Association and Washington State Lake Protection Association conference in Portland, OR and he shared that all the agencies in attendance echoed the same thing that they are all dealing with toxic algae blooms and the lack of funding. He stated he would be looking into funding through MTCA (Model Toxics Control Act) to see if cyanotoxins could be added to the hazardous substance list.
- General Manager Sam Castro and MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko attended the Columbia Basin Development League 60<sup>th</sup> annual conference on October 29, 2024.
- General Manager Sam Castro and MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko will also be attending the Grant County LEAD Summit Workshop on November 14, 2024.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Lloyd Petersen stated the Moses Lake North Dam parking lot has become an attractive place for homeless people to squat and use as a dumping ground. Vice President Teals stated this topic is one of the action items on the agenda for tonight's discussion.

Mr. Petersen also stated the Parker Horn Pump Station was developed in the 1980s and the purpose was to pump water from Parker Horn over to Pelican Horn. He believes the Parker Horn Pump Station pumps more Phosphorus to the other side of the lake, stirs up the basin, and causes more algae blooms in that area. He believes the Parker Horn Pump Station is not effective anymore.

Vice President Teals stated the purpose of the Parker Horn Pump Station is to move fresh Columbia River water and dilute the water on the Pelican Horn side of the lake and believes it is working still. President Bailey stated that there are a number of things that come into the lake through various sources in the Pelican Horn area.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

President Bailey made a motion to declare Director Position #3 filled by Kris Dexter and Director Position #5 filled by Joe Ketterer as both positions ran unopposed. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The proposed 2025 Budget was then discussed. General Manager Sam Castro stated he and the MLIRD Staff utilized the previous years budgets as a guideline for the proposed 2025 Budget. The Board decided they would look over the proposed 2025 Budget and discuss it at the December Regular Board meeting.

General Manager Sam Castro discussed the Teamsters Labor Agreement. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve the Teamsters Labor Agreement as presented. Director Ketterer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Perry made a motion to authorize General Manager Sam Castro and President Bailey to sign the Audit Engagement Letter for a total cost of approximately \$12,000. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### Resolution 2024-006 - Approving Petitions for Addition of Lands into MLIRD

Vice President Teals made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-006. Director Ketterer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### Resolution 2024-007 - Prohibiting Camping & Overnight Parking on MLIRD Property


General Manager Sam Castro stated the MLIRD office has heard from the Board of Directors and the Moses Lake community regarding the great concern of the overnight camping at the Moses Lake North Dam. Director Ketterer made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-007. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

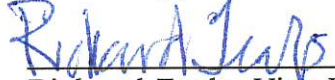
Lloyd Petersen stated he believes that restoration of the gravel parking area was included in the Moses Lake North Dam project and it was never completed. He would like to see a restoration project done to try and deter

people from using it as a camping spot. President Bailey stated the District would further review the matter.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.

  
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Bill Bailey, President

  
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Richard Teals, Vice President

  
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Kris Dexter, Director

  
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Chuck Perry, Director

  
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Joe Ketterer, Director

By:   
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Secretary to the Board of Directors  
Sam Castro