

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:30 PM, President Bailey called the December 10, 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, Director Dexter, and Director Ketterer were present. General Manager Sam Castro was also in attendance. Legal Counsel Brian Iller attended via-telephone. The record shows the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The record indicates that this meeting was recorded.

**DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM(S)**

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

**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 Ketterer made a motion to approve the agenda. Vice President Teals 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 11/12/24 Regular Board Meeting and 11/12/2024 and 11/18/2024 Special Board Meetings, Bills/Checks (#19382 - #19427) and Rehabilitation Voucher #1000279 totaling \$173,537.05 and Irrigation Voucher #1000279 totaling \$19,428.25. Vice President Teals 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**

EutroPHIX – Ryan Van Goethem

General Manager Sam Castro introduced Ryan Van Goethem with EutroPHIX. General Manager Sam Castro coordinated a meeting with EutroPHIX, MLIRD’s consultants, Shannon Brattebo with TetraTech, Mr. Eugene Welch, Aquatechnex, and MLIRD Staff last week to discuss the options regarding the FY24 Newhouse grant for \$500,000 that was awarded to MLIRD. NRCS has informed MLIRD that the timing for the \$500,000 grant is about to expire and that the funds are earmarked for the continuation of the pilot project conducted by the Columbia Basin Conservation District. After the meeting, there was common ground found between EutroPHIX, Aquatechnex and MLIRD’s consultants. General Manager Sam Castro is asking for the Board’s determination on if they would like to proceed with the FY24 Newhouse grant under the scope of work that EutroPHIX is proposing.

Ryan Van Goethem with EutroPHIX gave a summary of the 2024 Phosphorus Mitigation project utilizing EutroSORB G to improve the water quality of Moses Lake, WA that was conducted this summer for the

Columbia Basin Conservation District. Phosphorus mitigation at Rocky Ford Creek reduced ortho-phosphorus by an average of 45%. The surface water total phosphorus was reduced by an average of 21% and the bottom water total phosphorus was reduced by an average of 42%. EutroPHIX believes that they can utilize the \$500,000 FY24 Newhouse grant funds by continuing work to improve the water quality of Moses Lake and optimize future options. This would include sediment analysis in the lake, flow monitoring of Rocky Ford Creek, extra lake monitoring, and continuing the EutroSORB G treatment at Rocky Ford Creek.

President Bailey stated that the Board of Directors have planned to continue with the treatment at Rocky Ford Creek. He believes the 2024 project did have some benefit to the lake and is hopeful that it shows MLIRD's ratepayers that MLIRD is diligently working with what is available.

Director Perry stated that the work that was completed this summer appears to have some promise of benefits to the lake and would hate to abandon the project and would like to see it continue and completely document what the impact of the treatment is after another year.

Director Dexter asked what MLIRD's consultants recommendations were for the project. General Manager Sam Castro stated some of their recommendations was to install a flow monitor upstream from Rocky Ford Creek, not treat the upper and middle part of Rocky Ford Creek, and perform an additional 8 sites of sediment core samples.

Director Perry made a motion to use the FY24 Newhouse grant funds to continue with the pilot project. Vice President Teals seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER MLIRD BOARD REPORT**

General Manager Sam Castro reported the following:

- There is a vacancy on the MLIRD Board. He has reached out to the Grant County Board of Commissioners and notified them of the vacancy. The Board of Commissioners have listed and advertised for the vacancy. The closure for applications was on Friday, December 6, 2024 at 5:00 PM and they had received one application from Sam Dart. The Board of Commissioners will meet again on Tuesday, December 17, 2024 to appoint him.
- The motorhomes/RV's/vehicles have vacated from the Moses Lake North Dam. MLIRD staff will continue to monitor the area.
- The Moses Lake elevation level on December 10, 2024 was 1021.22 feet.
- There has been continued conversations with Mr. and Mrs. Aird who are interested in utilizing Connelly Park for a Vintage Test and Tune.
- General Manager Sam Castro has also been asked to be a part of the 2025 WALPA planning committee. The WALPA planning committee is wanting the 2025 WALPA Conference to be held in Moses Lake, WA.
- General Manager Sam Castro and MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko attended the Grant County LEAD Summit in Moses Lake, WA.
- General Manager Sam Castro thanked President Bailey for his dedication to Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District and presented a plaque to him for his 10 years of service to MLIRD.
- General Manager Sam Castro also presented MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko with a certificate of appreciation for her exceptional contribution, forward thinking approach, outstanding performance as an individual member of the Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District. Her unwavering dedication, expertise, and enthusiasm has played a pivotal role in guiding MLIRD's success forward as the Interim General Manager.

- General Manager Sam Castro stated the downstream portion of the Moses Lake North Dam is being utilized as a boat ramp and needs to stop as it eroding the side of the Dam and Bridge. He would like to reach out to the adjacent property owner who has previously requested an easement and the Department of Fish and Wildlife and see if the man-made boat ramp could be relocated farther down stream to protect MLIRD's asset the Moses Lake North Dam. General Manager Sam Castro has intentions of posting signs that read "No Unauthorized Vehicles Beyond This Point." President Bailey stated he also believes a physical barrier should also be put in place. He just wanted to draw it to the Board of Director's attention so they were aware.
- Another area being worked on is Technical Services. MLIRD does not have a contract with Gene Baxter who helps MLIRD with technical services. General Manager Sam Castro is working on a Technical Services job description and is considering bringing him on as an on-call MLIRD employee.
- General Manager Sam Castro has received an email from Grant County and the 2024 assessment adjustments have been finalized.
- MLIRD is still in communications with Aspect Consulting regarding the flow study for Moses Lake that they are completing for MLIRD.
- The 2022-2023 WA State Audit Exit Conference is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 11:00 AM.

#### **WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS**

Vice President Teals stated he was contacted by an employee with the City of Moses Lake who said they would like to use lake water and pump it through the lower peninsula park and then to Sage Point Elementary. MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko stated she received a phone call from the City of Moses Lake's engineer who was asking if a parcel is in the MLIRD, and if the parcel can irrigate from the lake. She confirmed that the parcels he was referring to were in the District; therefore, have the right to irrigate from the lake.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:50 PM to discuss with legal counsel to receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (f) and to review the performance of a public employee as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (g). No action will be taken after Executive Session. The expected time was 5 minutes, and the Board was to return approximately at 6:55 PM.

The Board entered back into Regular Session at 6:55 PM.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

The 2025 MLIRD Budget was then discussed. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve the 2025 MLIRD Budget. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Resolution 2024-008 – Electronic Funds Transfer Control Procedures

General Manager Sam Castro stated this Resolution was brought to the District's attention by the WA State Auditor's Office as needing a resolution and policy that addresses electronic fund transfers. Vice President Teals made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-008 along with Exhibit A. Director Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

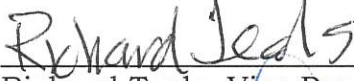
#### **WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS cont.**

Director Dexter also thanked President Bailey for being a faithful Director for many years and did a great job. President Bailey stated he has enjoyed his tenure on the MLIRD Board and thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to be the President for many years.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 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