

CALL TO ORDER

At 5:30 PM, President Teals called the January 14, 2025 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Teals, Director Perry, Director Dexter, Director Ketterer, Director Dart, and General Manager Sam Castro were present. 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 Teals called for discussion on any agenda items, and nothing was brought forward.

DISCUSSION OF NON-AGENDA ITEM(S)

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

President Teals called on the board members to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda consisted of the meeting minutes from the 12/10/24 Regular Board Meeting and 12/12/24 Special Board Meetings, Bills/Checks (#19425 - #19448) and Rehabilitation Voucher #1000280 totaling \$97,058.94 and Irrigation Voucher #1000280 totaling \$11,011.18. Director Ketterer made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Dexter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL MANAGER MLIRD BOARD REPORT

General Manager Sam Castro reported the following:

- The Moses Lake elevation level on January 14, 2025 was 1042.28 feet.
- General Manager Sam Castro had a phone call with Grant County Treasurer Darryl Pheasant and let him know that MLIRD has submitted the 2025 Irrigation and Rehabilitation assessment roll and will meet with him on January 15, 2025 to go over any questions he may have regarding the assessment roll.
- General Manager Sam Castro also presented MLIRD Staff Taylor Drew with a certificate of appreciation for her exceptional contribution, forward thinking approach, and outstanding performance as an invaluable 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.

WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

Director Perry congratulated the District on a successful clean 2022-2023 audit. General Manager Sam Castro also mentioned that the State Auditor's

office is also allowing MLIRD to forgo a two-year audit and switch to a three-year audit which saves the District a significant amount of money.

President Teals stated the District has been without a General Manager for a number of years and would like to schedule a Board workshop to discuss short-term and long-term plans for the District. Discussion took place on ideas regarding the Board workshop. MLIRD staff will put together a few dates for February and reach out to the Directors on which date works best with everyone's schedule.

ACTION ITEMS

President Teals stated the motion for nominations for Vice President of the MLIRD Board for 2025 was tabled at the last Special Board meeting. Director Ketterer made a motion to take the action item off the table for nominations for Vice President of the MLIRD Board for 2025. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Perry made a motion to nominate Joe Ketterer for Vice President of the MLIRD Board for 2025. Director Dart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place regarding a sole-source contract resolution with EutroPHIX. Director Ketterer made a motion to authorize a resolution for a sole-source contract with EutroPHIX. Director Dexter seconded the motion.

Further discussion took place regarding the legality of a sole-source contract. Director Dexter made a motion to table the motion to authorize a resolution for a sole-source contract with EutroPHIX. Director Dart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Director Dart asked President Teals that under Section 8 of the MLIRD Bylaws, public comment time be restricted to 3 minutes.

Lloyd Petersen stated that the totes of chemical that are being stored at MLIRD for the Columbia Basin Conservation District were for a bid that was based on a certain square foot amount and wants to know what the square footage is and what percentage of the project those totes represent. He also stated he filled out a public records request for the MLIRD activities in the field and he believes he received an insufficient response. He specifically asked for the daily journals of the Lead Field and Maintenance Technician and only got half of what he requested and believes from the half that he received, the rest were illegible. Lloyd Petersen proposed that a better method for documenting daily journal entries of what happens daily with MLIRD because people are curious about what MLIRD does. Lloyd Petersen also stated that the Parker Horn Pump Station was built in the 1980s. He believes that the pump station stirs up the water on the Pelican Horn side and creates more phosphorus and blue-green algae on that side of the lake. He asked that it be looked into in-depth and looks forward to hearing back any information found.

Director Dexter believes it would be a good idea to look into the water testing and make sure that the pump station is working properly and delivering cleaner water to the Pelican Horn side and not making it worse as Mr. Petersen is suggesting that it is doing.

President Teals stated there are not very many boats that go into that area of Pelican Horn; however, the Clean Lakes project was to move Columbia River water through the lake and is the reason the Parker Horn Pump Station was put there. Since the pump station's inception in the 1980s, it has provided that function and has done a good job. President Teals stated

he is not sure where MLIRD currently has test sites. However, if the Board would like to test those two areas to see if the pump station is continuing to do the job it was created to do then he would agree.

Director Ketterer thanked Mr. Petersen and mentioned that regarding the day to day operations, whether it be improving the tools or methods used to track daily operations or CC'ing or blind copying Board Members on operational suggestions with the employees of the MLIRD, he does not see that communication on daily operations is not a function of the Board Members. Director Ketterer stated he appreciates what Mr. Petersen has done and continues to do; however, believes the Board has full faith in the ability of the employees of the District to take care of the daily operations, and the Board Members help to guide the vision of MLIRD.

Director Perry also agreed that it would be helpful and appropriate to have water testing done at both the Parker Horn Pump Station and the Pelican Horn outlet.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:31 PM to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i). Possible action may be taken after Executive Session. The expected time was 5 minutes, and the Board was to return approximately at 6:37 PM.

Executive Session was extended another 5 minutes and the Board was to return approximately at 6:42 PM.

The Board entered back into Regular Session at 6:37 PM.

ACTION ITEMS

Director Dexter made a motion to take the motion to authorize a resolution for a sole-source contract with EutroPHIX off the table. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Director Dart stated regarding the motion, he would be in favor if it was for the approval of General Manager Sam Castro to draft a resolution to be presented to Legal Counsel Brian Iller for review prior to a vote from the Board.

The motion was re-read and stated "Director Ketterer made a motion to authorize a resolution for a sole-source contract with EutroPHIX. Director Dexter seconded the motion." The motion carried unanimously.

Director Dexter made a motion to authorize General Manager Sam Castro to execute a sole-source contract with EutroPHIX. Director Perry seconded the motion.

General Manager Sam Castro stated he first has to submit the documentation to NRCS in order for MLIRD to be eligible for the grant. To continue pursuing the grant, General Manager Sam Castro must have authorization from the Board to work towards a resolution for a sole-source contract. The contract will most likely be the last thing that will occur. General Manager Sam Castro stated he would not entertain a contract without written approval of the grant funding. NRCS needs all of the information and in order for the award to go through, it requires approval from the Board allowing General Manager Sam Castro to move forward with a sole-source contract.

President Teals called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS cont.

President Teals, Director Perry, and General Manager Sam Castro will meet with the Department of Fish and Wildlife at 10:00 AM tomorrow at the Moses Lake North Dam in regards to a boat access to the lower Potholes Reservoir.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session at 7:10 PM to discuss with legal counsel to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b). Possible action may be taken after Executive Session. The expected time was 10 minutes, and the Board was to return approximately at 7:20 PM.

Executive Session was extended another 5 minutes and the Board was to return approximately at 7:25 PM.

The Board entered back into Regular Session at 7:25 PM.

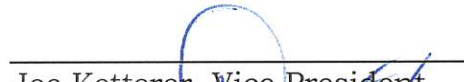
ACTION ITEMS

Director Dexter made a motion to authorize General Manager Sam Castro to negotiate the purchase of 932/934 E Wheeler Road, Moses Lake, WA. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 PM.



Richard Teals, President


Joe Ketterer, Vice President


Kris Dexter, Director


Chuck Perry, Director


Sam Dart, Director

By: 
Secretary to the Board of Directors
Sam Castro