

## **CALL TO ORDER**

At 5:30 PM, President Teals called the April 08, 2025 Regular Board Meeting of the Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District to order. The record shows that President Teals, Vice President Ketterer, Director Perry, Director Dexter, 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.

President Teals recognized and thanked Director Perry for not only his dedication to the District but also his wife, Mary Perry's dedication to the District. President Teals stated he believes Mary Perry was the only woman who has served as a member of the Board of MLIRD.

## **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 nothing was brought forward.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

President Teals called on the board members to approve the agenda. Vice President Ketterer made a motion to approve the agenda. Director Dexter 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 03/11/25 Regular Board Meeting, Bills/Checks (#19496 - #19523) and Rehabilitation Voucher #1000283 totaling \$95,458.03 and Irrigation Voucher #1000283 totaling \$10,677.69. Director Dexter made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Director Perry seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PRESENTATIONS/SCHEDULED GUESTS**

Neal Welbourne – Welbourne Geographic Services

Neal Welbourne stated he and MLIRD staff have been working closely with Grant County this year and reviewing the data that he receives from Grant County. He does not see any unforeseeable items for this year's assessment. He has met with MLIRD staff and extensively reviewed the six-year long term plan for the District. This will help in developing the funds needed for the long term plan throughout the MLIRD assessments for the next six years. Mr. Welbourne is still in the process of analyzing the data for the availability of adding more acreage to the District. Director Perry asked if the project regarding the amount of irrigated acreage within the District was finished. General Manager Sam Castro stated that MLIRD staff is still diligently working with Neal Welbourne and Grant County regarding the available irrigable acreage in the District. There have been discrepancies found within the Grant County data regarding the legal acreage of each parcel that prohibits MLIRD staff the ability to provide an answer as to how much irrigable acreage is currently in the District. MLIRD and Neal

Welbourne are collaborating with Grant County and once the information on the legal acreage has been corrected, then the Board can make a determination on whether or not to accept the currently tabled land petitions into the District.

General Manager Sam Castro also discussed the potential utilization of purchasing a drone. The drone would be beneficial in giving the District immediate data for parcels in the District, research on the lake without having to launch a boat, and many more.

## **GENERAL MANAGER MLIRD BOARD REPORT**

General Manager Sam Castro reported the following:

- MLIRD has been notified that the funds for the NRCS Grant that was submitted have been earmarked for MLIRD and are in the supervisor's approval queue. The House Committee on Appropriations has recently announced a \$1.7 trillion budget. A portion of those funds will be sent to Congressman Newhouse's office and he will be issuing a call for projects for congressional discretionary spending. MLIRD will submit a grant for FY26 for \$5 million. Director Perry asked if there were enough chemical being applied this year to make as good of a difference as it did last year. General Manager Sam Castro stated the number of totes that were applied last year is very similar to the application that will be applied this year.
- There will be a necessity to make an amendment to the approved 2025 budget. The resolution for the amendment has also been drafted and is ready when the time comes.
- A letter was drafted and sent to Reva Miller, an MLIRD ratepayer who asked for consideration on her 2025 assessment.
- The 2025 Lakeshore Cleanup was a great success. MLIRD is very appreciative of Lakeside Disposal who donated the time for a driver and a truck and was at the MLIRD office helping unload garbage from vehicles from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM and also to all of the community members who put in a lot of hard work to get garbage picked up off the shorelines of Moses Lake.
- The Moses Lake elevation as of April 8, 2025 was 1045.48 feet.
- The Moses Lake North Dam gates are historically closed on the first Monday in April every year which would have been April 7, 2025. MLIRD Staff asked the USBR Staff for a courtesy of an extra two days to get the Moses Lake North Dam gates closed due to meetings with MLIRD's consultant Neal Welbourne. The Bureau had no issues with delaying the closure of the Moses Lake North Dam gates. MLIRD staff will be at the Moses Lake North Dam tomorrow, Wednesday, April 9, getting the gates closed to bring the Moses Lake elevation up to spring and summer levels. MLIRD Staff will also be drafting a Standard Operating Procedure for the opening and closing of the Moses Lake North Dam gates.
- MLIRD has hired a Maintenance Lead Technician. The hiring committee consisted of MLIRD Staff and President Teals was an observer.
- Columbia River water has started flowing through Moses Lake and MLIRD Staff will have the Parker Horn Pump Station operating next week.
- Connelly Park will open tomorrow, April 9, 2025 at 6:00 AM and will be closed Monday's and Tuesday's for the month of April.
- MLIRD Staff Beth Yonko shared that MLIRD has received its first reimbursement check for the \$75,000 CERB Grant that MLIRD was awarded. The reimbursement only took approximately 7 days from when the invoices were submitted to the State.

- MLIRD has received a few phone calls regarding assessment corrections. Those corrections are being looked into and letters will be drafted outlining the corrections and then sent to the Grant County Treasurer's office if corrections are needed.
- The Washington State Lake Protection Association (WALPA) conference will be hosted in Moses Lake, WA this year on October 8, 2025 through October 10, 2025. General Manager Sam Castro is a committee member and is helping put together the conference.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into Executive Session at 6:25 PM to discuss with legal counsel the received and evaluated complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(f), to discuss with legal counsel the consideration of the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause the likelihood of increased price as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(b), and to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency matters relating to agency enforcement actions, or to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency 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). Legal Counsel also addressed discussing the legal risks of a proposed action or current practice as authorized by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(i)(iii). Possible action may be taken after Executive Session. The expected time was 15 minutes, and the Board was to return approximately at 6:40 PM.

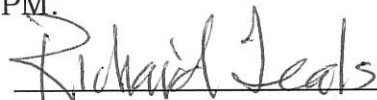
The Board entered back into Regular Session at 6:40 PM.

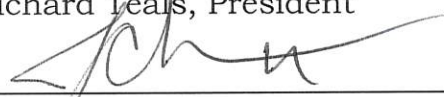
## WORKSHOP/DIRECTOR QUESTIONS and/or COMMENTS

President Teals stated he was in a meeting this week and spoke with Ronnie Sawyer with the Columbia Basin Conservation District who asked what MLIRD's plan was with the Phragmites in the lake this year. Mr. Sawyer stated he was going to discuss the problem with Phragmites at the next Moses Lake Watershed Council. President Teals stated he would like to see MLIRD work collaboratively with the Moses Lake Watershed Council to help solve the problem of the invasive aquatic weed known as Phragmites.

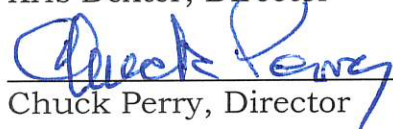
## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 PM.

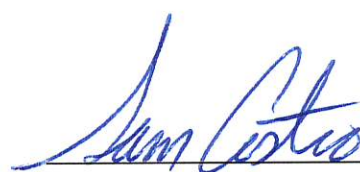
  
Richard Teals, President

  
Joe Ketterer, Vice President

Kris Dexter, Director

  
Chuck Perry, Director

Samuel Dart, Director

By:   
Secretary to the Board of Directors  
Sam Castro