**Hermiston Irrigation District**

**Board of Directors**

#### September 5, 2024

**Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Director Findley called the September Regular Board Meeting of the Hermiston Irrigation District Board of Directors to order at 4:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Business Manager Nash recorded all in attendance. Present at the meeting were Directors Bryan Allstott, Jeremy Bolen, Ian Findley, and Bryon Zumwalt; District Manager Annette Kirkpatrick; Field Manager Wyatt Cleaver; Business Manager Sonia Nash; Water Rights Specialist/CSR Karra Van Fossen; and Employee Donald Mote. Director Steve Wallace was not in attendance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**NEW AGENDA ITEMS TO CONSIDER:** None

**GUESTS:** Employee Donald Mote- Return from leave of absence.

District Manager Kirkpatrick requested to Chairman Findley that we move Old Business to the bottom as executive session would take longer. Chairman Findley approved.

**MINUTES:** The Board reviewed the August 15, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Director Allstott moved to approve the minutes as presented. Director Zumwalt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS & VOUCHERS:** The Board reviewed and approved the August 2024 Profit & Loss Report and Check Voucher Report. The Board reviewed and approved the accounts payable receipts and Bank Statements. Business Manager Nash gave a report of the District’s financial standing.

Business Manager Nash advised the Board that collection calls would be made later in the month, and that there remains approximately $40,401.83 in outstanding account receivables, with $7,830.77 of that remaining from previous years.

Business Manager Nash advised the Board that she had placed fourteen first round liens on September 2, 2024.

**FIELD MANAGER’S REPORT:** Field Manager Cleaver reported to the Board that the Field Crew members have been conducting regular maintenance, treating for algae & pond weed, behind on mowing but were able to repair the mower, responding to patron phone calls and/or issues, piezometers, meter reading, and minor repairs throughout the District.

Field Manager Cleaver reported to the Board that there are areas of high groundwater levels throughout Hermiston. We had an overtopping issue on the O-Line again sometime around September 1, 2024 that caused water to pool up near the Wanaket lands, Fewel’s field and Harvey Franklin’s house. HID crews inspected the area, turned down the O-Line and are working on dipping the canal. We will work on this section of canal in the off season to build up the bank to try to avoid these issues next season. Vector Control is servicing the area.

Field Manager Cleaver reported to the Board that the field crew did in-water Feed Dam maintenance work on August 20 & 21st. Boards were replaced with marine plywood and one tree was removed from the dam.

**HID WATER DUTY AND EXCHANGE:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that HID did not have updated numbers from OWRD. As of September 3, 2024 she estimated that there is 6,100 af of water in Cold Springs Reservoir and 6,000 af left in exchange credits that can be pumped from the Columbia. HID used approximately 8,500 af in August. Current estimated shut-off date is October 9, 2024.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ELECTIONS- DIVISION 2, 3 & 5:** Business Manager Nash reported that the term of office of the Directors for Divisions 2, 3 and 5 are due to expire December 31, 2024. Nominating petitions are to be turned in at the District office with no less than ten qualified signatures by 4:00 p.m. on October 8, 2024.

District Manager Kirkpatrick requested to follow the Agenda and go into Executive Session. Director Bolen moved to go into Executive Session. Director Allstott seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Director Findley moved the meeting into Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(a) To consider employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent at 4:10 p.m.

Chairman Findley resumed the Board meeting at 4:26 p.m.

**PERSONNEL**

**RETURN TO WORK:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that Donald Mote was given an Extended Leave of Absence from the Board until September 5, 2024. HID received full release from Donald Mote’s physician to return to work. Donald Mote did not have anything further to bring to the Board.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**STATELINE TRUCK DRIVING SCHOOL:** District Manager Kirkpatrick has previously discussed the option of sending an employee to truck driving school for a CDL. $7,000 was budgeted in 2024 for Training & Education. Field Manager Cleaver is currently the only CDL driver on staff. Donald Mote is our second CDL driver. District Manager Kirkpatrick would like to discuss the option of sending Deigo Gonzalez to Stateline Truck Driving School to get a CDL. Diego has been with HID since 2018. He is willing to take the course and use the license for his duties at HID. The all-inclusive cost of the truck driving school is $4,708. It is scheduled to run Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. He would be scheduled to take the class from November 25, 2024 through December 20, 2024. HID would also pay his salary for those four weeks. It was the consensus of the Board to table it until the October Board Meeting in order to research more options.

**NON-ACTION ITEMS**

**COPY MACHINE PURCHASE:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that HID would be purchasing a new copy machine that was included in the 2024 Budget. We agreed not to spend any funds, unless needed, until we received the reimbursement from FEMA. Since we have received those funds, we would like to move forward in purchasing a used copier for $4,208.00.

Director Bolen asked if there was anything budgeted for a new vehicle. District Manager Kirkpatrick reported that Field Manager Cleaver would be receiving bids and potentially would bring to the Board in October.

**FEMA-MAXWELL PUMP STATION AND PIPELINE PROJECT:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that on August 19, 2024 HID received a reimbursement check from OEM/FEMA for $2,156,381. IRZ began submitting as-builts to BOR. This project is 99% complete.

**BANNER BANK LINE OF CREDIT:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that the Banner Bank Line of Credit was paid in full and closed on August 22, 2024. The closing balance was $1,950,000. The balance of $200,000 from OEM/FEMA was put into HID’s savings account.

**WATERSHED PLAN-EA NRCS/FCA WORK:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that FCA continues to meet with interested parties, work on cultural resources, and working on the alignment of the B, O, M and ME-Lines.

**CTUIR FEDERAL TRIBAL WATER RIGHT SETTLEMENT:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that HID received a call from Tribal Negotiator Joe Ely on August 15, 2024. He was checking in to see if anything had changed for HID and to let us know that they are still working through negotiations with Westland and West Extension ID. HID has requested and is still waiting for the full Draft Settlement Language. Once the full settlement language is received, then we will proceed with negotiations.

**THEATER LN LAND SALE:** District Manager Kirkpatrick reported to the Board that there has been no movement on this matter. The sale is scheduled to close on October 26, 2024.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:** District Manager Kirkpatrick went through the calendar of events with the Board as listed on the agenda.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, Director Zumwalt moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:46 p.m. Director Bolen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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Ian Findley Sonia Nash

Director Recording Secretary