

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
EAST COLUMBIA BASIN IRRIGATION DISTRICT

March 7, 2018

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the Board Room of the District Office in Othello by President Orman Johnson.

Present were:

Directors

Orman Johnson
Boe Clausen
Bernie Erickson
Dennis Mickelsen

Staff

Craig Simpson
Richard Lemargie
Rosa Dekker
John McCourtie
Nate Andreini
Jed Crowther
Elaine Little

Visitors: Jennifer Hickenbottom, Clyde Lay and Amy Rodman USBR; Melissa Downes, and Kevin Brown, DOE; Christina Wyatt, BBEC; Ross Fox, Brien Kuest, Jake Wollman Jr., Mark and Sandra Booker, Kevin Lyle, Michele Kiesz, Kent Russell, Mike Anderson, Mike Schwisow, Matt Hawley, Kace Weyns, Thad Taylor, Paul Wollman, Phillip Fox, Kevin Lyle, Jeff Schmidt, Alice Weber, Derek Friehe, Roberta Hodgson, Kristopher Butcher and Edward Stahl

Visitors

Minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2018, the continued meeting of February 9, 2018 and the Canvassing meeting of February 13, 2018, had been mailed to the Directors. Director Clausen moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 7, 2018, the continued meeting of February 9, 2018 and the Canvassing meeting of February 13, 2018, as written. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion carried.

Minutes
Approved

Rosa Dekker, introduced Patty LaRosee to the Board. She has been with ECBID for 19 years.

Recognize
Visitors

Mark Booker announced that he was recording the meeting. He made known that he was concerned about the delays on the EL47.5 with a bond repayment coming due and no revenue from WSCs.

Public Comment

Kent Russell expressed concern that the plotted Farm Units would be responsible for bond repayment and what those costs would be. Manager Simpson explained bond repayment pledged the income from the contracts for EL47.5 delivery system. The District has a general obligation to repay. Mr. Booker challenged that explanation. Attorney Lemargie verified that Manager Simpson is correct.

Kace Weyns and Thad Taylor of Lad Irrigation expressed the desire to donate easements to facilitate extending a scheduled pipeline installation approximately 500 feet to allow placement of 2 delivery points and meters at their irrigation pond locations. Manager Simpson explained that the timing is not favorable as it can take up to a year to get USBR to complete easement acquisitions. These involve compliance with NEPA and cultural resources requirements. The District would also require an increase to the proposed 15" pipeline. He suggested putting a meter at the ELC turnout and using a common delivery point for the two parcels. Mr. Weyns and Mr. Taylor said that was acceptable. Director Clausen moved to approve the meters being placed at the turnout for a common delivery. Director Mickelsen seconded, motion carried with Director Erickson abstaining and President Johnson voting in favor.

Manager Simpson presented the following contracts a. through f. for approval:

District
Improvements

Contracts

- a. Waste, Seepage and Return Flow Contract Renewal, George Salisbury Testamentary Family Trust, 47/034-801, 9 acres
- b. Interruptible Water Service Contract Renewal for Temporarily Deferred Lands, Bertha Munoz, 49/811-803-04, 7 acres
- c. Permanent Release of Water Allotment, Port of Othello, Block 46, A Portion of Farm Unit 181-2, 68.8 acres
- d. Permanent Release of Water Allotment, Port of Othello, Block 46, A Portion of Farm Unit 182-1, 32.5 acres
- e. Permanent Release of Water Allotment, Port of Othello, Block 46, A Portion of Farm Unit 180, 31.2 acres
- f. Permanent Release of Water Allotment, G & O Johnson LLC, Block 46, Farm Unit 67-4, 2.3 acres

Following discussion, Director Mickelsen moved to approve contracts a. through e., as presented. Director Clausen seconded with Director Erickson abstained, the motion carried with President Johnson voting in favor.

Director Clausen moved to approve contract f., as presented. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion failed with Director Erickson abstaining and President Johnson abstaining due to a conflict of interest. Since the vote failed to yield a majority decision the contract will be presented again at the next meeting.

Assistant Manager Andreini presented the following permits a. through e. for approval:

Permits

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| a. | Aurliano Salmeron | Additional Turnout | Block 49, FU 76 |
| b. | Richard Colley | Lower Manhole | Block 45, FU 275 |
| c. | Berend Friehe | Modify Turnout | WSC 390-62 & 63 |
| d. | Roylance Sunset LLC | Modify Turnout | Block 44, FU 131 |
| e. | Yancey Farms | Move Turnout | Block 45, FU 25 |

Following discussion Director Clausen moved to approve permits a. through e., as presented. Director Mickelsen seconded and motion carried with Director Erickson abstaining and President Johnson voting in favor.

Vouchers audited and certified by the Auditing Officer as required by RCW 42.24.080 and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090 have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the Board. After reviewing the vouchers submitted for payment approval, Director Clausen moved to approve for payment check nos. 310139 through 310440 in the amount of \$2,197,585.23 and electronic Payroll and AP transfer in the amount of \$288,511.59 for a total of \$1,155,628.97 from the O&M Fund, \$1,330,467.85 from the 2016 Project Fund. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion carried.

Vouchers

Development Coordinator Crowther updated the Board of the newsletter mailed to OGWRP landowners on February 28th. He reported on recent meetings with the proposed EL79.2 and EL86.4 system landowners regarding the MOU process. Warden Siphon walk-through with USBR is scheduled for next week. Staff attended the presentation at Washington Policy Center and passed out OGWRP information to legislators in attendance.

OGWRP
a. Development
Office Report

Development Coordinator Crowther presented a Big Bend Electric Scope of Work for a South Substation to serve EL54, EL73.3, EL79.2 and EL86.4 delivery systems. Board action is necessary for BBEC to request power supply from BPA. Christina Wyatt, of BBEC, explained this can be a 6 year process and this would get the project put in line at BPA. Director Clausen moved to authorize BBEC to do a Scope of Services for East Low Expansion 115kV Transmission and Substation. Director Mickelsen seconded with Director Erickson abstaining, the motion carried with President Johnson voting in favor.

1) BBEC Scope
of Services

Mike Schwisow reported that the Washington State Legislative committee has passed an amendment in the house and it is expected to be voted on in the Senate this week. It will then go to the Governor to sign. This gives clarity to how the \$5M can be used for building out the EL47.5 system to 10,500 acres. OCR would then proceed with a grant for the OGWRP project.

EL47.5 Update

There are four WHB contracts that are in the process of being amended and two new contracts for the EL47.5. One of those will require a reclassification before finalizing. Maps have been updated to show correct acreage served. All EL47.5 delivery system easements are still awaiting landowner signatures.

Assistant Manager Andreini reported that staff has prepared cost estimates for upsizing the EL47.5 to 10,500 acres. He passed out cost summaries to the Directors, explaining the cost projections. He requested direction from the board whether to continue on the path of 8,500 acres or switch to 10,500 acres. Following discussion Director Mickelsen moved for staff to evaluate expansion to 10,500 acres best utilizing the \$5M. Director Clausen seconded with Director Erickson abstaining, the motion carried with President Johnson voting in favor.

There was nothing new to report for the EL11.8 and EL22.1 delivery systems at this time.

EL11.8 & EL22.1

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

Manager Simpson reported that staff is still waiting for a revised Basis Of Negotiation for the MWSC. Jennifer Hickenbottom reported that is now with the Commissioner awaiting her approval.

MWSC
Amendment

Manager Simpson presented Resolution 2018-07, Declaring Unit Process Sole Source Provider of Siemens electromagnetic flow meters. Director Mickelsen moved to adopt Resolution 2018-07, as presented. Director Clausen seconded and motion carried.

Resolution 2018-
07

Assistant Manager McCourtie asked to authorize a call for used Long-reach Excavator Bids. Director Clausen moved to authorize a call for used Long-reach Excavator Bids. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion carried.

Quotes and Bids

Manager Simpson reported that payment was sent to Grant PUD for 2017 charges along with a letter protesting the charges.

Grant PUD
Reserved Power
Wheeling

Deputy USBR EFO Manager Lay reported that the land slide at Trail Lake has been cleaned up and boulders removed. They will continue to monitor the area for slide activity. At 9:00 a.m. today water was turned on at Dry Falls. The monitoring oversight is continuing to be moved to Grand Coulee Dam with March 27th expected fully operational. Staff in Ephrata are still in place for training and backup. The new website is up and running with links to the SCADA sites

USBR Report

Dannielle Walraf presented the monthly safety report.

Safety Report

Assistant Manager Andreini reported that staff worked on the EL47.5 cost summary in order for the Board to make a decision regarding the build out to 10,500 acres.

Technical
Services Report

Treasurer Dekker presented the monthly Treasurer's report. She reported on investments and maturities for the month.

Treasurer
Report

Assistant Manager McCourtie gave the monthly O&M report. He reported on winter work projects being wrapped up in anticipation of startup later this month. Director Mickelsen asked for an update on the inspection results for the Fox farm from last month. McCourtie reported there was a small void that has been filled in.

Assistant
Manager O&M
Report

Manager Simpson reported on meetings attended, completion of the election, and upcoming USBR tour with new EFO Manager Marc Maynard. This month he will have Ditchrider meetings and speak at the Sandhill Crane Festival. He covered some of the topics that will be discussed at the NWRA Conference next month in Washington D.C., such as the MWSC, RRA, funding design and possibly the CBHP North Dam project.

Manager Report

Director Erickson moved to authorize Assistant Manager Dekker to attend the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA), May 6-9, 2018, Pear Tree Inn Union Station, St. Louis, MO and Rebecah Klesch to attend the ESRI User Conference, July 9-13, 2018, San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion carried.

Authorize Travel

Jake Wollman Jr. urged the Board to consider the options outlined in the recent East Basin Irrigation Association letter. The organization provided comments on the MWSC and EL47.5 delivery system design.

Public Comment

Roberta Hodgson expressed EL47.5 landowner concerns with accepting the \$5M implementing design changes and the delays that would occur. Those that have signed contracts and incurred expense to be ready for 2019 water delivery don't want further delays. She asked that the Board not consider removing 900 acres from the EL47.5 causing added expense to others. Mark Booker suggested hiring consultants to determine costs for OGWRP systems.

Michele Kiesz pointed out that funding from the legislature is a gift and not to discourage their support. She also urged teamwork.

Mark Booker stated that the District was not listening to landowners. He also asked the Board to have a thank you sent to the legislature thanking them for the \$15M gift. Director Erickson moved to have a thank you sent to the Washington State Legislature. Director Mickelsen seconded and the motion carried.

President Johnson declared an executive session at 2:35 p.m. to discuss personnel performance. The meeting returned to regular session at 2:45 p.m.

Executive Session

At 2:45 p.m., there being no further business to come before the Board at that time, President Johnson adjourned the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned


Secretary


President