**March 7, 2017**

A meeting of the Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) Board of Directors was held on March 7, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM at the district board room, 410 N Main St, Yerington, Nevada by President Jim Snyder.

**Present:**

Jim SNYDER President

David GIORGI Vice President

Richard NUTI Treasurer

David LITTLE Director

Dennis ACCIARI Director

Robert BRYAN General Manager

Bridget BANTA Secretary

Gordon DEPAOLI Legal Counsel

**Public Present:**

Chad Walling Reed Cozens Dale Borsini Isaac Metcalf

Kris Leinassar Donette Huselton Tim Bardsley Steven Fulstone

Joy Morris Dustin Homan

**Public Comment:**

Donette Huselton shared a photo of the San Joaquin Valley as of March 1,

**Roll Call:**

All 5 board members present.

**Consideration of Minutes of the February 7, 2017 regular meeting.**

Director LITTLE made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Consideration of Minutes of the February 23, 2017 special meeting.**

Treasurer NUTI made a correction to add Dennis ACCIARI to present list. Vice President GIORGI made a motion to accept the minutes with the one correction. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Water Master Report:**

GM BRYAN advised no water master yet. He advised the current priorities are listed as Full plus flood. They have interviews Friday, March 10, 2017.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Treasurer NUTI gave the treasurer’s report.

Cash in Checking $92,168.22

Cash in Money Market $1,672,073.86

Cash in CD’s $1,240,611.33

Total $3,004,853.41

**Consideration of Bills and Payroll for payment:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Bills & Payroll February 2017* | |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Check Number | Effective Date | Vendor Name | Check Amount |  |
| 119384 | 2/7/2017 | AFLAC | 293.36 |  |
| 119385 | 2/7/2017 | Ameritas Life Insurance Corp | 1,220.60 |  |
| 119386 | 2/7/2017 | Frontier | 274.00 |  |
| 119387 | 2/7/2017 | Giomi, Inc. | 594.85 |  |
| 119388 | 2/7/2017 | Sticks and Stones Buildings Material Inc | 802.53 |  |
| 119389 | 2/7/2017 | AT&T Mobility | 221.90 |  |
| 119390 | 2/7/2017 | Kent's Supply Center, Inc. | 2,870.53 |  |
| 119391 | 2/7/2017 | NAPA AUTO & TRUCK PARTS | 335.30 |  |
| 119392 | 2/7/2017 | MF Barcellos | 2,450.71 |  |
| 119393 | 2/7/2017 | True Value | 252.66 |  |
| 119394 | 2/7/2017 | O'Reilly Automotive, Inc. | 78.16 |  |
| 119395 | 2/7/2017 | Power Plan | 99.02 |  |
| 119396 | 2/7/2017 | Public Employees' Benefits Program | 803.29 |  |
| 119397 | 2/7/2017 | Cal Poly Corporation | 75,005.56 |  |
| 119398 | 2/7/2017 | NV Energy | 225.27 |  |
| 119399 | 2/7/2017 | Southwest Gas Corporation | 433.72 |  |
| 119400 | 2/7/2017 | Stanislaus Farm Supply | 328.24 |  |
| 119401 | 2/7/2017 | Wedco Inc. | 948.04 |  |
| 119402 | 2/7/2017 | Western Nevada Kenworth LLC | 402.07 |  |
| 119403 | 2/7/2017 | White Cap Construction Supply | 1,018.79 |  |
| 119404 | 2/7/2017 | Woodburn & Wedge | 38,852.97 |  |
| 119405 | 2/7/2017 | Momentum Technology Group | 420.00 |  |
| 119406 | 2/7/2017 | Michael T McGuire | 411.75 |  |
| 119407 | 2/7/2017 | PAC Machine Company | 4,176.00 |  |
| 119408 | 2/7/2017 | Sierra Office Solutions | 105.84 |  |
| 119409 | 2/7/2017 | Yerington Ready Mix | 6,966.45 |  |
| 119410 | 2/7/2017 | Michael T McGuire | 403.97 |  |
| 119411 | 2/7/2017 | USBWC | 866.77 |  |
| 119412 | 2/13/2017 | Petty Cash | 74.97 |  |
| 119413 | 2/13/2017 | Esteem Wireless Modems | 1,008.77 |  |
| 119414 | 2/13/2017 | Lyon County Recorder | 42.25 |  |
| 119415 | 2/13/2017 | Power Plan | 1,816.72 |  |
| 119416 | 2/13/2017 | Jim Menesini Petroleum | 792.16 |  |
| 119417 | 2/13/2017 | Tyres International | 742.56 |  |
| 119418 | 2/13/2017 | White Cap Construction Supply | 2,715.45 |  |
| 119419 | 2/23/2017 | Ferguson Enterprises, Inc. 1423 | 1,740.00 |  |
| 119420 | 2/23/2017 | High Desert Internet | 174.95 |  |
| 119421 | 2/23/2017 | AT&T | 117.28 |  |
| 119422 | 2/23/2017 | John Deere Credit | 165.69 |  |
| 119423 | 2/23/2017 | BERKLEYNET | 1,032.00 |  |
| 119424 | 2/23/2017 | MBK Engineers | 589.00 |  |
| 119425 | 2/23/2017 | Power Plan | VOID |  |
| 119426 | 2/23/2017 | Quill | 429.07 |  |
| 119427 | 2/23/2017 | NV Energy | 36.40 |  |
| 119428 | 2/23/2017 | Standard Insurance Company | 220.40 |  |
| 119429 | 2/23/2017 | Verizon Wireless | 265.51 |  |
| 119430 | 2/23/2017 | Wedco Inc. | 90.08 |  |
| 119431 | 2/23/2017 | Western Nevada Kenworth LLC | 1,955.82 |  |
| 119432 | 2/23/2017 | Xerox Financial Services | 139.44 |  |
| 119433 | 2/23/2017 | Yerington, City of | 86.00 |  |
| 119434 | 2/23/2017 | Desert Engineering | 9,769.26 |  |
| 119435 | 2/23/2017 | Desert Research Institute | 2,945.50 |  |
| 119436 | 2/23/2017 | Michael T McGuire | 800.00 |  |
| 119437 | 2/23/2017 | United Site Services | 120.85 |  |
| 119438 | 2/23/2017 | Yerington Ready Mix | 4,567.87 |  |
| 119439 | 2/27/2017 | Cruz, Maria | 350.00 |  |
| 119440 | 2/27/2017 | USBWC | 31,843.14 |  |
| 119441 | 2/27/2017 | State Collections & Disbursement Unit (SCaDU) | 426.92 |  |
| 119442 | 2/27/2017 | PERS Administrative Fund | 5,530.86 |  |
| 119443 | 2/27/2017 | Woodburn & Wedge | 18,540.01 |  |
| 119444 | 2/27/2017 | Mason Valley News | 52.00 |  |
| 119445 | 2/27/2017 | PDM Steel Service Centers, Inc. | 292.62 |  |
| 119446 | 2/27/2017 | HomeTown Health | 6,648.88 |  |
| 119447 | 2/27/2017 | Snyder Livestock Company | 1,336.66 |  |
| 4604 | 2/15/2017 | Bridget A. Banta | 1,166.29 |  |
| 4605 | 2/15/2017 | Jesus Cervantes | 2,266.52 |  |
| 4606 | 2/15/2017 | David Cervantes | 993.25 |  |
| 4607 | 2/15/2017 | Oscar Cortez | 2,092.65 |  |
| 4608 | 2/15/2017 | Damian Diaz Alvarado | 1,227.20 |  |
| 4609 | 2/15/2017 | James Martens | 1,865.92 |  |
| 4610 | 2/15/2017 | Jason R. Milligan | 853.32 |  |
| 4611 | 2/15/2017 | Scott Robinson | 899.84 |  |
| 4612 | 2/15/2017 | Jessica A. Smith | 1,193.51 |  |
| 4613 | 2/15/2017 | Lupe Wagner | 1,063.14 |  |
| 4614 | 2/28/2017 | Bridget A. Banta | 948.39 |  |
| 4615 | 2/28/2017 | Robert C. Bryan | 4,931.36 |  |
| 4616 | 2/28/2017 | David Cervantes | 983.98 |  |
| 4617 | 2/28/2017 | Jesus Cervantes | 2,149.37 |  |
| 4618 | 2/28/2017 | Oscar Cortez | 2,108.44 |  |
| 4619 | 2/28/2017 | Damian Diaz Alvarado | 1,033.26 |  |
| 4620 | 2/28/2017 | Joseph E. Huggans | 776.47 |  |
| 4621 | 2/28/2017 | James Martens | 1,661.22 |  |
| 4622 | 2/28/2017 | Jason R. Milligan | 764.38 |  |
| 4623 | 2/28/2017 | Scott Robinson | 2,025.20 |  |
| 4624 | 2/28/2017 | Jessica A. Smith | 1,045.74 |  |
| 4625 | 2/28/2017 | Donald Swan | 645.72 |  |
| 4626 | 2/28/2017 | Lupe Wagner | 875.98 |  |
|  |  | ***Total Bills & Payroll*** | **271,892.59** |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Vice President GIORGI asked about the Cal Poly bill. GM BRYAN advised it is for the modernization and regulatory reservoir study they are completing. Hoping to get a draft by the end of March. They are scheduled to be here the second week of April. The money is coming out of the leasing program side with the amendment to the grant. Vice President GIORGI made a motion to approve the bills. Director LITTLE seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Manager’s Report:**

GM BRYAN advised Topaz is currently at 36,880 acre feet or 61% and Bridgeport is at 28,540 acre feet or 67%. GM BRYAN uses the capacity as to what triggers the syphons. He advised he has been dropping the reservoirs in anticipation for the run off. The reservoirs can be filled quickly once the run off starts. He advised Counsel DEPAOLI and he have been discussing the runoff and reservoir situation with MBK engineering. They are putting together a protocol to operate the reservoirs to not exceed the levels of 2011. He is attempting to mitigate flood issues as much as he can. GM BRYAN went over a handout from NRCS and SNOTEL. He advised we have a much healthier snowpack than 1983. GM BRYAN put in a request with Jeff Anderson to come in and give a presentation to the board in April. He has already expressed the interest to come in and give a report to the board. The projections they have shown is a lot of water and they are more concerned with our basin than any other in the state. Tim Bardsley with NOAA is here today to give an update. GM BRYAN reminded the board about the gages that have been lost due to lack of funding throughout the basin. He advised Walker Lake level is at 958,600 acre feet as of today. 44,300 acre feet has been sent to Walker Lake and it is not going to slow down anytime soon. The Wabuska Gage is showing 717 cfs this morning.

President SNYDER requested to know if the work on Miller Ln is being used for flood prevention. GM BRYAN advised any prep work now will help in the long run. Ed Moreda has asked about renting the District’s long reach to help clean out the areas that have already flooded. The levels are only going to rise as the season moves along. Director LITTLE requested to know if it is a good idea to bring the reservoirs down to 30% and let it fill later on in the year. GM BRYAN advised he has sought out the district’s consultants and specialists regarding the reservoirs and the levels we are going to be at. Director LITTLE stated he thinks the reservoir should be lowered more and would like to see the reservoir at 30%. Director LITTLE advised he won’t be calling for anytime soon because of the duty they are all held to. He will only call for water when he needs it. He advised he is not the only user out there with the same concerns. No one wants to go over their duty with the state. Director LITTLE advised he is concerned for the reservoirs and would like to see them drop more. GM BRYAN advised he is dropping more water than is coming into the reservoirs. Counsel DEPAOLI advised they are waiting for MBK to get back to GM BRYAN soon and will be giving recommendations. Treasurer NUTI advised he spoke to GM BRYAN regarding the spillway. They went over the information on it. The California and Nevada safety of dams have no issue with the spillway at the Bridgeport Reservoir.

GM BRYAN advised the shop crew has finished concrete on the Campbell. All 3 have the structures in place. The electronics are still being configured. Pictures will be provided in April. Vice President GIORGI asked if there are going to be any fences around the structures. GM BRYAN advised they will all have fences and cameras. The crew did repair and maintenance on the East Spragg and replaced culverts by Spradlins. The district signed an agreement with Sciarani and Co. and they are hoping to start undertaking the testing in May. Jim Sciarani will be doing the audit.

Counsel DEPAOLI and GM BRYAN attended a workshop discussing proposed legislation SB 47, 73 and 74 and they intend on having further workshops.

GM BRYAN will be attending the Lahonton Water Quality meeting for the Bridgeport grazing lease. They are going to speak to potential working with WRID on a water shed approach.

**Legal:**

Counsel DEPOALI advised the 9th circuit will set the re appeals for sometime this summer. They sent out a calendar suggestion for 4 days in July. Some of the lawyers are having issues with the dates. Looks like the argument is set for summer 2017. Unknown exact dates.

**2017 Election Update:**

*Report on upcoming election:*

Secretary BANTA advised March 15 is the last day for anyone to run for director. This includes the current directors, LITTLE and ACCIARI, if they would like to be re-elected. The registration day is scheduled for March 15 from 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM at the Smith Valley Library and the WRID office. Jessica will be at the Smith Valley Library and Secretary BANTA will be at the WRID office. The election will be held April 4, 2017.

*Appointment for Registrars:*

The registrars will be Jessica Smith and Secretary BANTA. Jessica will be the Smith Valley registrar and Secretary BANTA will be the Yerington Registrar.

**Consideration of Appointment of three (3) inspectors of election and two (2) clerks of election for each of the Mason Valley Precinct and the Smith Valley Precinct and designation of hour and place in each precinct where the April 4, 2017 election will be held.**

Treasurer NUTI made a motion to approve the Order of the Board. Director LITTLE seconded the motion. Motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Recess as Board of Directors and convene at 10:39 AM.

Counsel DEPAOLI recommended to continue the agenda item to Friday, April 7 because per NRS the corrections is required to be published in the local paper for two weeks. Vice President GIORGI made a motion to continue to the next monthly meeting. Director LITTLE seconded. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Adjourn as Board of Corrections at 10:40 AM.

Reconvene as Board of Directors.

**Storage water allocation for the 2017 irrigation season:**

GM BRYAN recommended 100% allocation for the 2017 irrigation year. Vice President GIORGI made a motion to accept GM BRYAN’s recommendation of 100% allocation for the 2017 water year. Treasurer NUTI seconded the motion. Treasurer NUTI requested to now if you can allocate water that is not currently in the reservoir. He would like to know the restrictions on allocation within the water rights.

Counsel DEPOALI advised GM BRYAN can allocate 100% even if the reservoir is not full. The other things that come into play are the differences about what the decree says about the storage water rights and what the licenses say. The licenses have a storage season for Topaz, from about October 1st to about July 5th. California no longer uses the “about” language in their licenses. You can store anytime everyone else is getting their water no matter what time of year it is. Bridgeport says from about September 1st to about July 20th. There is a difference between the licenses and the decree as to how much you can put into storage in a year. The license for Topaz says you can store up to 57,580 acre feet but the decree says you can go up to 85,000 acre feet. Bridgeport’s license says you can store 39,700 acre feet but the decree says 57,000 acre feet. There is the issue in California when you draw the reservoir’s down, are you releasing stored water and does that count or are you simply regulating water as it goes through. It’s not stored water so it will not count as the amount stored. If the water has been stored for more than 30 days, then the water is counted towards the storage totals. They have also talked about the situation we have this year with the water, the state board will not be too much of a stickler on the storage issues. Treasurer NUTI advised there is a lot more to the decisions other than just storing and releasing water.

President SNYDER called for the vote to approve GM BRYAN’s allocation recommendation. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

**Presentation and discussion from NOAA regarding the current year weather and water outlook for 2017 irrigation season:**

GM BRYAN introduced Tim Bardsley from NOAA. Tim Bardsley gave a presentation on the current year weather and water outlook for 2017. He advised this is a once in a career winter and they are expecting record run off in July and possible major flooding. He advised there are 3 big factors in the snow melt flooding potential. The rate of the melt and the area and if we run off efficiency. He advised to be prepared for flooding and to reach out to users to prepare for flooding. Director LITTLE requested estimates regarding how much water we are looking at. Bardsley advised they have the projection he went over in the power point presentation. It depends on weather and any further storms that may happen prior to the run off. GM BRYAN advised we must wait and see how fast the run off comes and how warm the weather is going to be. He advised MBK will be putting together a prediction of the water and run off situation. GM BRYAN has provided them with a tremendous amount of information including the size of the discharge tube to put a calculation on what they think can come out of the reservoirs with a certain pool.

**WBC update.**

Joy Morris advised more spring planting on the Aguiar property. The Pitchfork lease is out this year and proposals will close March 20. The gage was looked at for the inlet of the Walker Lake. They have adjusted the gage and it reads similar to what is coming out of Weber.

Joy advised for the 2017 year, they will not be offering a forbearance program with flood water. She suggested to come up with a protocol regarding the forbearance program for future years. President SNYDER asked if the East Walker Ranches will be able to take water to help alleviate flooding. She advised the more water they can get to Walker Lake reduces the amount of water they have to buy in the future. She advised they would be able to take some water to alleviate flooding in town.

**Update from the Division of Water Resources regarding groundwater pumping and upcoming fieldwork schedules.**

Reed Cozens advised he has seen groundwater up 4-5 feet. 2016 NRCS river forecast was 90% of normal and was at 70%. They are getting ready to publish the 2016 pumpage inventories and it should be released to the public by June. Chad Walling advised he believes Mason Valley was down 15,000 acre feet. Pumping is down to comparative years.

Reed Cozens brought information regarding the forbearance program. The state engineer’s office is neutral on the forbearance program. The water rights that are looking to be involved in the forbearance program, you must have a use of the water to divert it and it is supplemental ground water only. If you do not have the right to use the water, you don’t have the right to divert the water. If the program was to go into place, we must account for the water that was diverted as if it wasn’t diverted. It would be used against the 4 acre feet per acre duty.

Steven Fulstone advised Reed Cozens is right about the 4 acre feet per acre for the certificated rights. You will be held to the 4.0 duty if you forbear your certificated water. Reed advised you will be held to the 4.0 acre feet per acre including the flood water.

**Director Comments:**

None

**Public Comment:**

Donette Huselton advised Red Canyon is flowing water down through the culvert with some waterfalls and the last time the canyon was flowing was in 2010.

Dale Borsini requested to know if the flood water Reed was talking about was decree flood water or WRID certificated flood water. Reed advised he was just talking about the WRID certificated water.

Treasurer NUTI requested to know if the decree is set at full and flood on May 1, when WRID’s certificate kicks in, will it be decree flood or WRID certificated water.

Cozens advised his opinion is the WRID certificate would be in effect. The 1953 does not trump the certificated water. GM BRYAN advised our certificated water is May 1-July 31. You are held to 4.0-acre ft. per acre if you intend on turning your pump on or intend on using the certificated water. Decreed flood water is not counted against you if you do not use the supplemental well.

Dale Borsini requested to know if there is a duty on storage water. He wants to know if there is a limit on how much storage you can take, or is it unlimited. He asked this at the last monthly board meeting and the question was not answered. Dale Borsini asked, if he has strictly Newlands water, is there a limit on how much you can put on the parcel. Counsel DEPAOLI advised as far as he can tell, there is no limit on the stored water. When the board made the factors for allocation, they used 4.2 acre feet per acre. In terms, as to how much stored water one can get, he is unaware of any limit one can use.

**Adjourn**

Director LITTLE made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:57 AM. Director ACCIARI seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

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Jim Snyder, President David Giorgi, Vice President

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Richard Nuti, Treasurer David Little, Director

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Dennis Acciari, Director