

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WOOD RIVER VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT #45
February 9th, 2021**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Director Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., February 9th, 2021 Via ZOOM.

- 2. ROLL CALL TO ESTABLISH QUORUM:** Director Johnson, Director Clark and Director Casey were present.

- 3. READING AND CORRECTION OF MINUTES FOR:** Director Johnson attested to the meeting minutes for January 12th, 2021. Director Johnson made the motion to accept the minutes for January 12th, 2021, Director Clark seconded the motion, motion passed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Review of Grant Application for corrections or changes:

John Wright, Water master and Justin Stevenson, Water master Supervisor have finished their rough draft part of writing the Grant Application. Mr. Wright has sent it to Cindy Gooch one week ago for Ms. Gooch to clean up repetition items and re-write for clarity.

Mr. Wright has received this final draft from Ms. Gooch. He will now send it to TID & D45 directors for a final reading and request any final changes.

Director Johnson made the motion to proceed with the final reading and approval of the final draft by the directors and suggestions for changes via e-mail. Director Clark seconded this motion. Motion passed.

Mr. Wright will then send this final draft to most important shared stake holders such as TU, TNC, District 37, and Upper Wood River Water Users Association which includes Ketchum and Sun Valley municipalities. Sharing the grant with these groups would be done so as to receive declaration letters of support for this grant and the SOR.

The SOR will provide a list of possible grants applicable to fit the list of projects determined by the SOR. NRCS will be potential funding downstream from the SOR.

b. Response to MGM Subdivision Application:

1. Sarah Gardner director of TID and sits on the BOC board has had a conversation with Samantha Stahlnecker of Galena Engineering and was informed that sometime early next week the MGM subdivision will have an exhibit that better explains their irrigation plans. It would be more appropriate for the district to view this exhibit before submitting our response.

Samantha indicated that the subdivision will have some open space which will be HOA owned and the plan is to use their water right to irrigate this space. She said each parcel will have its own well which allows for lawn irrigation. Samantha also indicated that there is some potential to supplement their water right and this is being pursued.

At the end of this conversation Ms. Gardner confirmed to Ms. Stahlnecker that the districts would likely require a measuring device and would wait for the new plans to review before submitting the districts complete recommendations.

2. John Wright, water master also had a conversation with Kevin Lakey of Water District #37 regarding this subdivision plan. Mr. Lakey made a strong recommendation that the districts do three things:

- a. Sit down with him and to pin down exactly what MGM's water rights are.
- b. Create an appropriate bylaw/resolution of our own that will require a modern measurement device, not just for MGM, but on all new systems or upgrades.
- c. Clearly established a formula for percentage of ditch loss/percentage on water rights delivered at various distances away from the main head gate.

Mr. Lakey sees the district having legal disputes when we are expected to deliver this full right to the MGM takeout.

3. Director Johnson took the time to review the adjudicated water rights for this piece of property planning to be subdivided and it stated very clearly on the water rights that the owners have to install a measuring device.

c. Director Chairman Position:

Director Johnson informed the board that he has retired from his job at Power Engineers and wishes to step down from the Director Chairman position.

Both directors indicated that it would be difficult to accept this position at this time. Private discussion between directors will continue and a solution will be determined later.

6. REPORTS:

a. Claire Casey, BOC Representative:

1. There was a BOC meeting in March 9th, 2021 at 9am.
2. She is planning on conducting the Canal Safety Program for third graders in all the elementary schools this April. She is looking ahead and trying to create a presentation that meets the current Covid safety guidelines.

b. John Wright, Water Master:

1. Mr. Wright strongly recommends that the Water Districts come up with two resolutions.
 - a. water measuring devices at all water takeouts/diversions
 - b. Clarifying conveyance loss percentages to water rights the further away from the main head gate the takeout/diversion is located.

c. Shirley Spinelli, Treasurer:

1. Invoice for the publication of District financials.
2. Invoice from District #37
3. Invoice for workman's comp.
4. Current Balance sheet & Profit Loss.
5. Checks for Secretary & Treasurer.

d. Bette Gower, Secretary:

1. Published the WRVID#45 financials in the local paper as per Idaho Statute 43-324.

7. NEW BUSINESS AND OTHER ITEMS THE BOARD DEEMS PERTINENT:

a. Howard Preserve Project:

Biota has plans to remove material out of the main river. The City of Bellevue has given permission for this material to be stored at the foot of the bluff behind/west of Mahoney's. Mr. Wright assisted in locating the appropriate location for this crossing of the districts canal.

1. Ryan Colyer of BIOTA outlined the plan. Biota is working with the Land Trust on the Lower Howard Preserve project, which is largely focused on reactivating a historic flood channel through the Howard Preserve on the east bank of the river downstream of

the diversion works. In seeking equipment access to the work area, we are coordinating with the City and other stakeholders. The preferred access route would enter the preserve from Martin Lane through City property. In order to then gain access to the project area, I would like to request permission from the Canal owners to cross the Canal with equipment during construction.

BIOTA would place temporary fill in the canal so that haul trucks could cross the canal as they haul overburden out of the project area. Ryan Colyer proposed that Biota construct the project, and have a temporary canal crossing, during periods when no water is being diverted. This could include a spring window spanning from March 1 to the last week in March, 2021. If project work is not completed during that time, we would request a second window for this access to be allowed in the fall of 2021 after diversion activities culminate.

The access route we are contemplating with this permission request would allow us to stockpile alluvial material generated during the Howard Preserve Project on City property outside of the floodplain, and out of the way of canal operations.

Biota has installed and removed this type of temporary earthen fill crossing in numerous canals during recent projects. If this request is ultimately approved, I assure you that we would fully reclaim the localized area of the temporary crossing to the pre-project condition.

2. Ms. Spinelli, Treasurer suggested that a Hold Harmless Agreement be implemented to protect the districts from Acts of God in relation to this project.

Director Johnson made the motion to approve the Howard Preserve Project and for John Wright, Water Master to contact BIOTA or the Land Trust to have them put forth a Hold Harmless Agreement. Director Clark seconded this motion. Motion passed.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT:

NONE:


9. SETTING DATE FOR NEXT MEETING: Next meeting will be March 9th, 2021.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION:


10. ADJOURNMENT: Director Casey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Director Clark seconded the motion. Motion passed.



Director Johnson



Director Casey



Director Clark

FINAL