

Mission/Jocko Irrigation Districts

September 10, 2019

1:00 pm Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

All commissioners for Mission/Jocko are present.

District Recording

David Passiere Video Recording

Minutes: Minutes were approved with corrections.

Mission District: Tim Orr moved to approve minutes with corrections and Gene Posivio seconded. Motion carried with corrections. *Jocko District:* Tracy Gardner moved to approve minutes with corrections and Patty Hahn seconded. Motion carried with corrections.

Warrants:

Whaley's Bill: The bill was discussed where the bill went from \$600 to \$900 per month.

Jocko Irrigation District is at \$125.00 and Mission Irrigation District is at \$175.00.

Mission District: Ray Swenson moved to approve warrants with corrections and Gene Posivio seconded. Motion carried. *Jocko District:* Boone Cole moved to approve warrants with corrections and Tracy Gardner seconded. Motion carried.

The contract was not received back from Bea Kaleva. She is the attorney that has to review and approve the contract. Ray Swenson stated that the commissioners need to start thinking about how they want their board to look and if they want to create another admin account for the new Joint operations. Boone Cole stated that the accounting will still be handled by the acre. Ray Swenson stated that the district percentage will remain the same. Ray Swenson stated that if they added an admin account they will only have to do one budget.

BIA Report: **Present:** Larry Nelson, Nick Belcourt, and Zim Lytle were present.

Zim Lytle the water master for the Flathead Irrigation Project gave a report on the water levels for all areas including conditions of the water cut off dates for existing areas.

He stated that Mission D is shut off, Charlo will be off by September 11, 2019, and Moiese is on until September 15, 2019. They are putting water back into Mission Dam and Kicking Horse. In addition, all water will be shut off by Monday September 16, 2019. He also stated that 2 pumps are running well and that there was excessive water from rainfall.

Gene Posivio brought up a concern from landowner, Glen Stahura, whereas, there is pivot sprinklers irrigating the road that is on his land. There was a discussion about what can be done about this. Zim Lytle stated that the protocol is contacting the county sheriff and they will also talk to the irrigator about controlling their pivots.

Nick Belcourt presented the maintenance report. Including wrapping up cleaning ditches, moss, and taking care of a slide in Hot Springs. In Moiese, they are ready to seal up the canal. They are fixing machines on 32C. He stated there are 3 dump trucks down and 2 trucks operating which are hauling clay and rock. They are not installing no structures at this time. The pumping plant #2 thrust bearings are running warm and will be sent out for a rebuild. The thrust bearings are being bid out for rebuild. He also stated that #3 won't start without new switch gear and they could switch new wiring from #2 to #3.

Larry Nelson stated there's a blackout period where there's no money spent. He stated that we will operate on 2 pumps and directly fix switch gear. In addition, they are very close to WIN Act funds where they were going to 638 the pumping plant. They will bring other water from other sources if the pumps go down.

Tim Orr asked how many years before Crow Dam is operational. Zim Lytle replied in 3 years and will follow up with Safety of Dams to find out when it will be operational.

Larry Nelson discussed with the commissioners a tour of the pumping plant and what parts we would like to visit. He also stated that K canal is in tough shape although the patch job is holding up. They also have to do some tree removal.

David Passiere asked about whether or not meters were coming and be introduced to the area. Larry Nelson replied that metering is quite a ways out and that some can be metered and some cannot. Gene Erb and Nick Belcourt discussed there being more room in the pumphouse and if there was more room for 4 new pumps. Nick Belcourt stated there was no more room.

Gene Erb stated there were logs laying in the creek.

Ray Swenson asked when the fiscal year was. Larry Nelson stated it was from October 1 to September 3.

Website Address and Fees:

Ray Swenson introduced the new domain name for the website which is www.MissionJocko.com and discussed that Whaley approved to pay for the domain name with their credit card at \$8.50 a month with a year subscription at \$162.00.

Kurt Hafferman Discussion

Tim Orr stated that Mr. Hafferman is in bad health. He suggested that we ask him to give us an assessment in a letter of the results of what work he has done for us. Including the total amount of water that the CSKT compact gave us compared to what water was historically given to us. This document would be a final report of his findings.

Mission District: Ray Swenson motioned to request a letter from Kurt Hafferman. Tim Orr seconded. Motion passed.

Jocko District: Tracy Gardner motioned to request a letter from Kurt Hafferman. Patty Hahn seconded. Motion passed.

Discussion of Water Court

Ray Swenson stated that Matt Williams was contacted this summer objecting to FJBC claims, that there is a January deadline and it will take 2 years before anything happens. The irrigators claims also have to be part of the governments claims. It was stated that Matt Williams will be discussing this with Kurt Hafferman and will be getting back to us with a recommendation. The claims will be amended from FJBC and they will have to divide them into separate districts. Into Flathead, Mission, and Jocko Irrigation Districts. Ray Swenson stated if we do go to water court everybody is going to object to the claims.

David Passiere discussed the Vista and objector to claims. Ray Swenson stated when we hear something we will let all know and that claims should be included.

Turn over Discussion:

The restrictions with BIA do not benefit the irrigators. That all 3 hands are tied which is Larry Nelson's, Nick Belcourt's, and Zim Lytle's.

There was another FOIA request done.

Public Comment:

Adjourned:

Mission District: Tim Orr moved to adjourn meeting, Ray Swenson seconded. Motion passed. *Jocko District:* Tracy Gardner moved to adjourn the meeting, Patty Hahn seconded. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.