

Mission Jocko Joint Board
“Mission Jocko Irrigation Districts”
December 12th, 2023 Meeting Minutes

1:00 PM Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

All commissioners for Mission and Jocko District were present.

BIA Report: Eric Bruguier is the new project manager. Furloughs for FIP will start this week, next 2-3 months will be equipment maintenance. Everyone will now be assigned a vehicle. Working on communication, ditch riders will contact owners prior to going out to their area. Would like to GPS vehicles for safety reasons. Working on getting better clay for ditches. Looking into pulling gates that aren't in use. Want a complete assessment of inventory prior to irrigation season starting. Still looking into doing a newsletter, being short staffed has made some things more difficult. Trying to use colleges or other programs to fill gaps with quality applicants, emergency hires were often not quality employees. Thinking of possibly hiring contractors to work on cleaning up the worst ditches so they only have to be maintained. Discussion regarding more efficient ways to order water, as well as how housing developments are affecting the project.

Minutes: Meeting minutes were approved with one correction. Gene Posivio moved and Tracy Gardner seconded, motion passed.

Warrants: Boone Cole moved to approve the warrants, Tim Callahan seconded, motion passed.

Eric @ Cornerstone re Using Room: There is a capacity problem at Cornerstone Church with kids on Sunday, Eric is requesting the Board consider allowing them use of the building for approximately 20 elementary age kids for about 4-5 hours on Sunday morning. Ray Swenson mentioned checking with Flathead first, Eric did state they have special coverage on their insurance for when they are using the building. Action postponed until February meeting so Flathead can address it at their January meeting.

Bank Account: There should be no service or monthly charges as the bank has waived them. Tracy Gardner made a motion to replenish the account when it goes below \$500, Lane Harriman seconded, motion passed.

Office Equipment Upgrade: Gene Posivio moved to purchase the Kelley Connect scanner, Tim Callahan seconded, motion passed.

Audit Letter to BIA: Boone Cole reached out to Zinke's office, meeting might be set for after the holidays. Also talked with a legislator who might be able to get in contact with Rosendale if needed. Postponed until February so Boone Cole and Gene Posivio can work on getting in touch with a legislator.

Water Court Update: Not much happening until March or April for court. Can start collecting documents now to get ready.

Public Comment: Discussion regarding water levels, as well as minimum pools and instream flows. Some discussion regarding the duration of irrigation season.

Adjourn: Boone Cole moved, Lane Harriman seconded, meeting was adjourned at 2:51 PM.