**DEER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE**

**MARCH 4TH, 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**PLACE**: Vina Elementary School Auditorium, 4790 D Street, Vina, CA 96092

**TIME**: 5:00 P.M.

**DIRECTORS PRESENT:** Jeff Rabo, Linda Pitter, Jake Thompson, and Doug Amato

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Patrick Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jeff Rabo at 5:12 PM. Pledge of Allegiance followed immediately after call to order. Secretary, Jennifer Salisbury, recorded the minutes. With no corrections to be made to the agenda, Director Pitter moved that the agenda be approved as is. Director Thompson seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**:

Director Pitter handed out copies of Form 700. They need to be collected and returned before April 1st, 2024. (Form 700 - Statement of Economic Interest).

**-END OF PUBLIC COMMENT-**

Director Pitter read the minutes from the regularly scheduled February 19th, 2024, meeting. Director Thompson moved to approve the minutes as amended. Director Amato seconded it. A vote was unanimous to approve the minutes as amended.

Treasurer Ellen Stephens presented the following invoices for the period of February 19th, 2024, through March 4th, 2024.

ACH Payments:

1. QuickBooks, $60.00 online bookkeeping
2. Allevity, $1144.43, Payroll for 2.12.24-2.25.24
3. ClockShark, $25.12 Timeclock

Checks to be signed:

1. #776 Mark Boggs, $150.00 Phone allowance for February and March
2. #777 Downey Brand, 7, $5212.00 Legal services for January
3. #778 Tehama County Air Pollution, 2024 Burn Permit $38.50

Treasurer Stephens provided a summary of the February 19th, 2024, bank statement and the corresponding reconciliation report. The current burn permit will expire this month, and a new burn permit needs to be submitted before the end of the month. The cost of the burn permit has increased from $37.00 to $38.50.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer Stephens reported that the bank balance as of March 4th, 2024, was $173,238.50, however, once all the checks clear the balance will be $185,465.68. Two credits showed up on the January credit card statement. A $30.36 refund for late fee penalty and $47.12 cash back as part of the rewards program.

**IRRIGATION REPORT:**

Ditch Tender Mark Boggs provided an update on the irrigation system. He was pre-emptively advised by Director Thompson on managing potential freeze conditions over the last weekend, ensuring future preparedness for similar scenarios. Mark reported that water flow from the head gate to Tod Lenninger’s Pond takes approximately 7.5 hours. Additionally, he observed an issue with the concrete ditch adjacent to Lenninger Road below the Reed Orchard intersection. Water is leaking through a longitudinal crack in the ditch. Mark will repair the crack with concrete and mortar prior to further water deliveries.

Discussion was had concerning the reimbursement of mileage and cell phone stipend for Mr. Boggs. President Rabo recommended a single monthly payment. Mr. Boggs agreed with the monthly payment proposal. The secretary and the treasurer will work together to make sure that a monthly schedule and payment is kept. The agreed mileage reimbursement rate is set at $0.67 per mile.

**GRANT APPLICATION REPORT:**

It was noted that DCID currently does not comply with FSA requirements for the grant due to the Districts lack of land ownership. President Rabo discussed solutions, including the possibility of establishing a lease agreement with Darrell and Callie Wood. The board is awaiting further guidance and alternative suggestions from NRCS on how to proceed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Further discussion will be had regarding the voting and landowner representation sections of the by-laws at the next meeting. The by-laws discussion has been tabled until the next meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Water Management and Reporting Course**: The Board deliberated on the proposal for Mr. Boggs' participation in the upcoming Water Management and Reporting Course scheduled for March 15th, 2024, in Red Bluff. This educational program aims to deliver an in-depth understanding of current regulations and culminates with an exit examination to qualify attendees as certified measurers and recorders. President Rabo advocated for Mr. Boggs' attendance to further his proficiency in his duties. The enrollment fee is set at $30, in addition to his standard compensation. The Board unanimously consented to enroll Mr. Boggs in the course.

President Rabo has engaged in discussions with OSHA and, as a result, will oversee the acquisition of various safety equipment. Mark is tasked with compiling a list of necessary items for purchase by the board. Additionally, President Rabo has developed multiple safety protocols for implementation by the ditch tender. The board deliberated on the purchase of specific items, including two fire extinguishers, water jugs, earplugs, Tyvek suits, chemical-resistant gloves, mounted and portable first-aid kits, and T-shirts.

**CSDA Survey Discussion:** The Board engaged in a comprehensive review and dialogue concerning the survey circulated by the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) on Initiative 1935. This legislative proposal aims to impose stricter regulations on the ability of special districts to introduce or increase fees and taxes. CSDA's intent behind the survey is to gather insights from its members to ensure that their representation reflects the collective interests and concerns regarding this initiative. Although our district has not implemented any rate hikes recently, there are considerations for future adjustments to meet operational and infrastructural needs.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT @ 8:31 pm**