**DEER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE**

**DECEMBER 16, 2024**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

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

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

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

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Patrick Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jeff Rabo at 5:13 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance followed immediately after the 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 Amato seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments were made.

**-END OF PUBLIC COMMENT-**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Treasurer Ellen Stephens presented the following invoices for the period of December 2, 2024 through December 16, 2024:

ACH Payments:

* Allevity for payroll period 11-18-24 through 12-01-24; $1,150.54

Other Invoices:

* Check #843 to the U.S. Postal Service for the 2025 twelve-month box rent; $72.00
* Check #844 to Jennifer Salisbury for paper purchase reimbursement; $41.90

It was noted by Treasurer Stephens that Check #842 had been voided due to a duplication error.

**OLD BUSINESS**

The board discussed ongoing and future maintenance issues of the district’s primary diversion channel and headgates. Concerns have been identified regarding scouring and erosion caused by high water conditions adjacent to the concrete diversion channel and at the headgates wall. Erosion repairs resulting from recent high flow conditions in the creek were completed by Trout Unlimited at no expense to the District. Repairs included embankment rehabilitation adjacent to the fish screens and paddle wheel, sediment removal from the diversion channel and downstream of the paddle wheel, access road rehabilitation and culvert drainage repairs. Discussions with Trout Unlimited and Brian Wardman have resulted in solutions that include placing large boulders adjacent to the diversion channel and fish screen paddle wheel to armor the embankment and reduce erosion. It is uncertain how much this project will cost, but preliminary estimates are between $30,000 and $40,000. The board discussed possible outcomes and pledged an initial contribution of $8,500 towards potential repairs. At this time no money is being put forth and no commitments have been made by any parties.

Board president Jeff Rabo summarized the information presented during the State Water Board’s workshop held on December 9, 2024. The meeting was attended by representatives from the State Water Board, CDFW, NMFS, SVRIC, DCID, Los Molinos Mutual, Antelope Creek, Golden State Salmon and The Nature Conservancy. Tim Scully, environmental scientist with the state water board, presented a background of the States’s water conveyance system to the delta and current conditions of the salmon and steelhead fisheries in Northern California. Matt Johnson with CDFW presented salmon and steel head data related to fish returns in Deer Creek, Mill Creek and Antelope Creek. Brian Hellmair with Fish BIO presented analysis of creek flow conditions at critical riffles and creek flow conditions that refuted those of CDFW, which Mr. Hellmair claimed were outdated and no longer represented the conditions of the creeks. Workshop attendees from the three creeks expressed frustration that the proposed water flows put forth by CDFW are far more than what is available in most years, including years with high rainfall totals. Adoption of CDFW’s proposed flows would reduce DCID’s irrigation season to 10 weeks or less, resulting in more groundwater pumping or ground fallowing. The Board agreed to initiate more aggressive efforts to meet with State Water Board representatives, State government representatives, and local representatives and agricultural groups.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT at 7:15 pm**