**DEER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE**

**April 1ST, 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, Patrick Johnson and Doug Amato

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** None

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jeff Rabo at 5:15 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**:

There was no public comment

**-END OF PUBLIC COMMENT-**

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

Treasurer Ellen Stephens presented the following invoices for the period of March 19th, 2024, through April 1, 2024.

ACH Payments:

1. QuickBooks, online bookkeeping subscription, $60.00
2. Allevity, payroll for 3.11.2024 - 3.24.2024, $2,333.22
3. ClockShark, timeclock service for April, 2024, $23.00

Checks to be signed:

1. #784 Mark Boggs,  $944.87 ($100 phone allowance for April plus $844.87 mileage reimbursement for 2.19.24 - 3.30.24)
2. #785 Downey Brand, legal services February, 2024, $4,312.00

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Treasurer Stephens provided a summary of the April 1st 19th, 2024, bank statement and the corresponding reconciliation report. Treasurer Stephens reported that the bank balance as of April 1st, 2024 was $185,598.05, however once all the checks clear the balance will be $174,898.05.

**IRRIGATION REPORT:**

Ditch Tender Mark Boggs provided a comprehensive update on the status of the irrigation system during the meeting. He successfully organized and led a safety meeting that was attended by the entire staff. Boggs reported notable improvements in the system's operation but highlighted ongoing issues that require attention, including the absence of restroom facilities. Additionally, he informed the board of his unsuccessful attempt to establish an electrical connection for the shed, but assured them that he is investigating alternative solutions. Boggs proposed the implementation of a sprayer and volunteered the use of his personal four-wnoahheeler for this purpose. The board consented to this proposal, agreeing to compensate him for the use of his equipment. Furthermore, the board deliberated and unanimously agreed to the acquisition of a leaf blower.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

During the board meeting, members engaged in a comprehensive evaluation of a letter from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), addressed to the State Water Resources Control Board. The letter underscored the significance of safeguarding the migration paths of salmon and steelhead by recommending specific minimum flow levels for Deer Creek during pivotal migration periods in Spring and Fall. NMFS, in collaboration with Department of Water Resources (DWR) representatives, scrutinized the communication's purpose and urgency. Despite initial reservations, it was acknowledged that DWR has extensive resources and strategies for managing water flow effectively. The conversation also reflected on concerns voiced by Jackson Minasian regarding the potential repercussions on Tina Bartlett's duties and roles. President Rabo acknowledged the diminishing urgency of the matter but advocated for utilizing this juncture to formulate a thoughtful response to the CDFW's letter. Sue Knox emphasized the importance of addressing the letter earnestly and without delay. Director Pitter voiced frustrations over certain verifiable discrepancies within the correspondence, reinforcing the need for a prompt reply. Additionally, Treasurer Stephens, though not a board member, expressed alignment with the sentiments conveyed in the letter and its relevance to Governor Newsom’s strategic initiatives, advocating for a formal response. President Rabo asserts the necessity of drafting a response letter, highlighting certain discrepancies within a single page. He advocates for collaborative efforts with the agencies and Stanford Vina, emphasizing the strategic advantage of aligning interests due to our dependent position. President Rabo spoke with Mike Wallace about entering into a voluntary agreement, If DCID is interested in being involved, then they would need to participate on the report at an expected 1/3 participation of costs that have already been paid. Director Pitter proposed that her a Director Thompson shall draft a specialized letter addressed to Eric Oppenheimer regarding the recommendations for long-term flow settings, and suggested appointing two directors to undertake the task of composing this letter. This motion was supported by Director Thompson. A unanimous vote followed.

By-laws – The board shall reviewed and discussed the status of draft by-laws, regarding voting and eligibility for the board. Currently the vote stands at one vote per property regardless of how many parcels are owned (land owner). The bylaws would need to be presented today for it to be submitted as a legislative bill to change the voting. The board has proposed to not to change anything on the vote per landowner, however, open up who qualifies for the board. President Rabo will draft a document before the end of the month. Director Amato moved that any appointed representative of a land owner could serve on the board.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT at 8:32pm**