

**DEER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE
JULY 18, 2022 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

DIRECTORS ABSENT: Doug Amato

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jeff Rabo at 5:06pm. Secretary Donna Mullen 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. Director Pitter read the minutes from the June 20, 2022 regularly scheduled meeting. Director Thompson moved to approve the minutes as read. Director Johnson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Treasurer Ellen Stephens presented two new invoices with checks ready to be signed. The first was to Ellen Stephens for the District website renewal and stamps. The second was a reimbursement to President Rabo for equipment rental and waders purchased for Melvin. Director Thompson made a motion to approve the invoices for the month of June and Director Johnson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. A discussion followed regarding the treasurer's report and how well the District has been able to adhere to the budget.

President Rabo announced that he had rented an excavator and made several improvements to the ditches above the wye, behind Phil Sunseri's house and along Scott Stephens Orchard. He spent approximately 18 hours cleaning out ditches. President Rabo has provided Melvin with guidance regarding locations within the District to have the Convict Crew assigned for brush clearing and ditch cleaning. Further discussion followed regarding the possibility of another weekend of excavation rental to clear heavy debris. It was reported that the District water rotation is currently about 7-8 days. If water continues to hold well, the District may reduce the water diversion amount so that Melvin can clean for a day or two.

Director Pitter presented the current status of the District Audit. A discussion followed about questions that had been presented by the Auditor. The Auditor provided an estimated time of completion of less than a month.

Secretary Donna Mullen presented a draft Property Agreement she created for District equipment. It was determined that the agreement should be expanded to include tools and not just electronic equipment. Secretary Mullen agreed that she would put verbiage on the agreement for other tools, as well as a signature line for the employee. Director Pitter made a motion to adopt the document as amended and Director Johnson seconded. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried. Secretary Mullen also said that she would look into an agreement regarding a Wader program for Melvin.

The Board discussed current tax rate assessments, assessed properties and property delinquencies. The District will further review assessed rates, and evaluate properties that are served differently or can not currently be served with water delivery. It was determined that a decision should be made before September.

The Board briefly reviewed their goal to create a list of District improvement projects ranked by priority and evaluated for cost estimation. Further discussion of the topic will be had at a later date.

The Board discussed the idea of having the District well inspected. John Pitter volunteered to get more information regarding a cost for the well and pump inspection. The Board will continue this discussion when John has information to report to the Board.

In response to a request for a third signatory to be added to the District checking account, the Board discussed the addition of Director Johnson to the account. Director Pitter made a motion to add a third signatory. Director Johnson seconded the motion. There were no objections and the motion carried.

President Rabo summarized the letters from the National Marine Fisheries Service and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding readoption of the drought curtailment regulations for 2023, and revisions to future pulse flow requirements. CDFW requested that no water be diverted from the creek during pulse flows except for stock water. President Rabo reminded the Board that the District recently re-assessed the number of livestock served by the District, which should increase the amount of stock water available for diversion during a pulse flow. No action was required and further discussion amongst those in attendance was heard.

The Board reviewed the current Conflict of Interest Code which was submitted to the County in 1976. Anyone who may be in a position to benefit from work in or with the District has to fill out a conflict of interest code and submit it to the County. Currently, the code lists Directors, Secretary and the Treasurer/Tax Collector. It was determined that the Secretary and Treasurer/Tax Collector should not be included on the code since they cannot make decisions regarding District business, and only report to the Board of Directors. Secretary Donna Mullen will prepare a response form to remove those positions from the code and re-submit it to the County. Changes need to be made by Jan 1, 2023.

There were no public comments and the meeting was adjourned at 9:28 pm.