

**DEER CREEK IRRIGATION DISTRICT MINUTES OF THE  
OCTOBER 17, 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, Patrick Johnson, Doug Amato

**DIRECTORS ABSENT:** Jake Thompson

The meeting was called to order by Board President Jeff Rabo at 5:08pm. 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 Johnson seconded, and the vote was unanimous. Director Johnson read the minutes from the October 3, 2022 regularly scheduled meeting. Director Pitter moved to approve the minutes as amended. Director Johnson seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

President Rabo informed the Board that DCID legal counsel, Downey Brand, had provided guidance in regard to modifying the existing tax collection due dates and percentage of taxes to be collected for each of the two payment periods. Both items can be modified with a single board resolution. The new tax installment due dates will be January 2<sup>nd</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, with late penalties being assessed after the 15<sup>th</sup> of each respective month. Each assessment will be invoiced for 50% of the yearly tax dues. A brief discussion followed after a question was asked by Jane Daugherty regarding current landowner voting qualifications.

At the October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, the Board discussed potential tax increase values that would be further discussed with DCID legal counsel. Counsel responded that there is no limitation to the amount of tax rate increase as long as it is supported by fee rate calculations that represent the actual and forecasted cost of water delivery and maintenance. In order to raise rates for the 2023 irrigation year, the Board needs to provide supporting calculations that a 5% increase for both users and non-users is necessary for the services they will be receiving. Due to time limitations for producing the rate calculations and providing advance notification to constituents, the consideration of a rate increase will be suspended in favor of pursuing a comprehensive rate study.

The Board reviewed and discussed the State Water Board Curtailment order WR 2022-0170-DWR. The order requires that 50 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water be maintained in the creek at a point measured below the SVRIC dam beginning October 15<sup>th</sup>. The current flow measured below the SVRIC dam at the DWR monitoring gauge is 40 cfs, and the creek flow measured at the USGS gauge above the DCID diversion is 70 cfs. The District will continue to provide stock water delivery for Todd Leininger, Sheep Camp and DCID lands, but water will be unavailable for irrigation after the 15<sup>th</sup> unless the creek level rises. The Board further discussed submittal of a petition for reconsideration to the Water Board, which needs to be submitted within 30 days of the notice. Director Pitter moved that Jeff prepares a letter of petition for reconsideration to be signed by members of the Board. Director Johnson seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The Board reviewed Melvin's current work schedule, as well as the District's water delivery and maintenance needs during the curtailment and through the winter. It was decided that Melvin would be needed from 8am-11am Monday through Friday, and 8am-5pm on Saturday. This

schedule coincides with available work hours Melvin previously provided to the Board. Director Pitter and Secretary Mullen will meet with Melvin this week to discuss the updated schedule.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Treasurer Ellen Stephens asked if we can have someone adopt the role of a meeting facilitator to keep meeting discussions on topic so as to reduce the overall length of the meetings. President Rabo suggested that he would start enforcing more restricted commentary and discussion in order to reduce the meeting time lengths.

**MEETING ADJOURNMENT at 8:07PM.**

DRAFT