

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF THE  
BROWNS VALLEY IRRIGATION DISTRICT  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017**

At 5:00 pm President Winchester called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Browns Valley Irrigation District to order. Directors present were Lowe and Wheeler. Directors Woods and Bordsen were absent. Also in attendance were Manager McNally and Clerk Springsteen.

**1. Minutes:** The Minutes of the August 24, 2017 Regular Board Meeting were approved on a motion by Director Lowe, seconded by Director Wheeler. Directors Wheeler, Winchester and Lowe ayes, Directors Bordsen and Woods absent, motion passed.

**2. Public Forum:** None

**3. Finance Committee Report: Concerning the Financial Report for August 2017.** Director Wheeler reported that the Committee had reviewed the financial records for the month of August and found everything to be in order. Director Wheeler, seconded by Director Lowe moved to approve the financial reports for the month of August. Directors Wheeler, Winchester and Lowe ayes, Directors Bordsen and Woods absent, motion passed.

**4. The Board will consider allowing the O'Brien Ranch access to water from the O'Brien Pipeline after the end of the Collins Lake Irrigation Season.** A motion by Director Lowe, seconded by Director Wheeler to allow O'Brien Ranch to access water off the O'Brien Pipeline after the Collins Lake Season at no expense to BVID. Directors Wheeler, Winchester and Lowe ayes, Directors Bordsen and Woods absent, motion passed.

**5. The Board will discuss the Tennessee Ditch Hydroelectric Project.** Discussion only, no action taken.

**6. Manager's Report:**

**COLLINS LAKE STATUS**

DATE	REMAINING SUPPLY VOLUME	%	LAKE ELEVATION	DIST BELOW SPILL	RELEASES	GEN OUTPUT
TODAY	31,180 AF	63.0%	1,162.6 FT	20.4 FT	66.2 CFS	377 KW
1 YEAR AGO	26,520 AF	53.6%	1,156.6 FT	26.4 FT	61.4 CFS	307 KW

**STAFF ACTIVITIES**

On 08/28/2017 the union executed the MOU.

On 08/29/2017, staff learned that the USBR awarded the District with \$1 million in grant funds to facilitate the Tennessee Ditch Hydro Project. However, with a remaining cost estimate of \$2.8 million, in order to complete the project at cash flow net positive on day one, the District will need to secure financing at 1% interest or less for a term no less than 25 years. Furthermore, with the PG&E

interconnect costs uncertain, the cost of the project may increase beyond the figures as projected in the March 2017 50% design plans and specs, rendering it not cost effective.

On 09/01/2017, the flume along the Thousand Trails ditch near Los Verjeles failed when a section of material approximately 1-foot-wide by 6 feet long rotted away resulting in the complete loss of water for customers beyond the failure. It was temporarily repaired by using conveyor belt material adhered to the remaining section of metal. The corrugated metal (and support structures) are rotting along the bottom on most of the flumes so the District will need to address repairs accordingly in the 2018 Budget.

The Freightliner dump truck was repaired. On the last day in the shop, the mechanic advised that he learned that the motor in the truck is susceptible to failure due to an oil pickup tube in the oil pan that cracks and falls free of the crankcase, resulting in catastrophic failure. The mechanic asked if we wanted to inspect the tube to ensure the District truck was not affected. The Manager authorized the inspection and they discovered that the pickup tube was faulty and replaced accordingly. Per the mechanic, the truck was on the verge of catastrophic damage before this repair.

On 09/03/2017, an accident on Highway 20 caused one of the 100 HP pump motors at the river to fail. The theory is that when the RV hit the power pole, it caused a short circuit. The failure was discovered when the motor stopped working and continually blew fuses. Diamond Well inspected the pump motor and discovered that the internals were completely destroyed. Staff is working with insurance to try to get the repair covered under the at-fault's auto policy.

On 09/12/2017, the rebuilt gearhead at the Redhill East pump station was reinstalled and is operating as normal. While Killingsworth was onsite, staff sent an additional gearhead from the pumpsite on the unused side back for rebuild. Upon disassembly, Killingsworth discovered that it was rebuilt at a previous date using sealed bearings that would not allow oil penetration and that the gears had zero lash and would have malfunctioned in an hour or two. Work will commence this winter to rebuild the other two (2) gearheads and remaining three (3) pump and turbine columns and ensure the system operates entirely as designed in hopes of providing another five (5) years of service before overhaul. The Redhill East Assessment generates just over \$5,000 per year and it has been four (4) years since the last major maintenance effort. Although we don't have final numbers on the impact of this failure, we are still likely within \$20,000.

The tenants of the District's rental property have given thirty (30) days' notice that they are moving.

## **CURRENT PROJECTS**

### **Annexation**

The County Administrator's office advised that the formal Resolution of the Board for the annexation will be on the consent agenda for 10/10/2017. After approved by the Board of Supervisors, the process goes back to LAFCO for finalization.

### **FEMA Disaster Assistance**

Staff continues to work with FEMA regarding the January high water event.

**Tennessee Ditch Hydro**

NLine is working with the management at PG&E in an attempt to bring the interconnection costs down.

**Virginia Ranch Dam Spillway Focus Study**

FERC has requested additional copies of the PMF study and GEI has responded by sending additional hard copies as well as data files.

**UC / Porter Creek**

On 09/05/2017, the UC’s Legal Counsel responded with unfavorable terms that predicate the amount of water being accumulative and not on real time flows. Staff is unwilling to accept this agreement and this issue will be an agenda item at the next Board meeting.

**PAST MEETINGS**

- 09/08/17 The Manager met with Mr. Morgan Read, Mr. Don Eckstrom and MBK via teleconference to discuss deliveries from Prairie Creek as they relate to SB 88.
- 09/12/17 Director Winchester and the Manager met with the Farmer’s Conservation Alliance at YCWA.
- 09/13/17 Director Winchester and the Manager attended a Groundwater Sustainability Committee Meeting at the Yuba County Government Center.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- TBD Meeting with MBK and Yuba Investments to discuss water rights at Lake Mildred.
- TBD Meeting with MBK to discuss Porter Creek.
- 09/28/17 BVID Board Meeting

**DISTRIBUTION MAINTENANCE / OPERATIONS**

- RECENT PROJECTS
  1. Repaired a leak on the Mahle pipeline.
  2. Mechanically cleaned the Palomine ditch and a section of the Arnold ditch.
  3. Cut back trees on the Thousand Trails and Heintzen ditches.
  4. Replaced two services on the Lambert ditch.
  5. Continued limping Redhill East along until parts were available.
  6. Repaired a mainline break on the Peoria pipeline and the Redhill West pipeline.
  7. Pulled the new 100 H.P. pump motor at the river and sent it in for repair.
  8. North Valley Diesel repaired the Freightliner dump truck.
  9. Removed a large willow tree from the Harding Canal.
  10. Repaired a flume on the Thousand Trails ditch.
- FUTURE PROJECTS
  1. Replace the turbine and gear head at the Redhill East pump with the newly rebuilt equipment.
  2. Mechanically clean a section of the Dexter ditch.

**7. Director's Comments and Reports:** None

**8. Correspondence:**

- Letter dated August 2017 from an DWR to BVID regarding VRD Public Records Act
- Letter dated August 29, 2017 from Bureau of Reclamation to BVID regarding Tennessee Ditch Hydroelectric Grant
- Letter dated September 6, 2017 from Yuba County Mounted Posse to BVID regarding appreciation

**10. Adjournment:**