



## Casper Alcova Irrigation District

### Regular Board Meeting –May 10, 2022

May 10, 2022, at noon the board of commissioners meeting was called to order by Ron Richner, President. Attending the meeting were Mike Sutton Treasurer, Paula Stewart Secretary, Bob Butler Board Member, Ric Herman Board Member, Joe Meza, District Manager and Drew James, Consultant. Robert Keith Board Member was absent. Also attending: Tim Kulhavy and Randy Becker.

The minutes from April 12, 2022, the Regular Board Meeting were reviewed by the board. Bob mentioned a clarification on Page 5 to designate it to the 15 ft weir. Bob Butler made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 12, 2022, meeting. Mike Sutton seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

The minutes from the April 20, 2022, Special Board Meeting were reviewed. Mike made a motion to accept the April 20, 2022, Special Board Meeting. Bob second the motion and the minutes were approved.

**Financials:** Mike Sutton, Treasurer reported the current balances in the Operating account \$2,320.15 Casper Betterment \$36,798.89, Savings \$ 95,057.41, Payroll \$ 1,441.08, Assessment Savings \$ 764,187.69. Ric Herman made a motion to accept the Treasurer report. Bob second it. The motion passed.

**Public Comment:** Tim Kulhavy- 1555 S. 8 Mile Road, Casper. The board introduced themselves to Tim Kulhavy. Tim told the board that this is the third District manager that he has been in to ask about water that needs to be pumped from a stilling well on Eight Mile Road. He told the board there was a pond lower, and it cost too much for the electricity and Greg Rino showed us the college pond to use as an example. Tim went on to say he moved the pond up to the corner near the lateral and put a culvert in there. Tim explained that last year he talked to Drew James about a headgate, it really doesn't go through is just fills off the ditch. Kody Dockham, his neighbor has the pond on his property and was sharing the reservoir with him. Tim told the board he is planning to install a flow meter on the pump, to measure usage, below that is a check. Tim told the board that him and Kody have a culvert to the culvert on the ditch so they can keep it full. Bob clarified that the water seeks whatever the level the canal is. Ric asked if it fills the reservoir and then goes back to the canal. Tim told the board that it was about 8 ft deep. Tim



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told the board that he called and talked to Joe and asked the best way to get permission for the water. Joe suggested that he come the board meeting and present it to the board members. Ric asked if he ordered water yet or used for irrigation. Tim answered no, he hasn't. Bob asked how many pumps he was planning to use. Tim replied there were two. Bob recommended that he has two meters, one for each pump. Tim asked what type of meter needed? Mike and Tim located the property and ditches on the map. Ron asked if there was a headgate going into the pond; and if the pond was lined. Tim answered that it is lined with bentonite. Ric asked where the original was turn out that was used to irrigate the property. Tim replied that he didn't think there was an original turn out. He explained that there was a large reservoir that the irrigation water was dumped in, and the water was pumped up to the subdivisions. Tim told the board that everything was in, he told the board they needed to figure out how to meter it. Bob asked what size pipe. Tim told him a 2-inch pipe and seven horse pump and rain bird water cans for now. Joe asked if the culvert goes to the ditch. Tim explained that there was a 14" culvert that comes from the ditch to the pond. Then there is a culvert that is used as a pond. Planning to pump out of the pond. Mike asked if the culvert was vertical, Tim answered yes. Ric asked if there was a CAID easement. Tim explained that Lisa Burrige, the developer of the subdivision, where the pond is has an easement from there to his property. CAID doesn't take on additional easements, Mike explained. Tim told the board he moved in before the subdivision. Mike told Tim that the board would need to do some research on the original point of delivery before we can answer his questions. The board discussed that the watermaster was Dean Rose. Mike explained that we need to define the point of delivery so that we could determine what the turn out would be for him to use when ordering water. Drew suggested that it needed the meter to be assigned a turnout number and you will need to split what is in the pond with your neighbor. Mike told Tim we would look at it and Joe will get back to him.

Randy Becker-12260 Zero Road, Casper. He told the board that his wife asked him to come to the meeting because she wanted to get more involved in the district. He told the board that the tumble weed issue has been unbelievable. Randy asked the



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board what the plan was to get rid of them. Joe let him know that they are currently burning as much of them daily. Randy asked what they do with them when dealing with underground pipe. He was concerned about the tumbleweeds clogging up the pipe. Randy went on to say that he observed some Russian olive trees cut and hauled off and the sediment has occupied the ditch road and it has become tough to access since then to feed the animals. Joe told him he would come out and look at the situation. He told the board that he appreciated CAID coming in and cleaning up the trees.

Joe told the board that Jerry was out of service, and is planning to make the meeting today. Joe let him know we had a contract for him. Bob told the board that he was in contact with Jerry. Jerry told Bob he is waiting to blade it but says that it needs to be complete before the water runs.

#### **Office Report:** Paula Stewart

1. Website- Paula told the board that the website is in process. Matt told let her know he received her pictures and is waiting for the board to give him a mission statement, photos of the crews and board members. He will also add blurbs to the website.
2. Storm- Paula told the board that so far Storm has been a great program, easy to use. She told the board that she and Leah have done double entries for receivables and water orders. RimRoc has all the information, but not as good as Storm. Goshen called and plan to contact Ken and get Storm. Paula explained that we are working with the geocodes to identify landowners.
3. Water smart grant large book, from the Bureau of Reclamation was passed around to the board members.
4. Projected expenses for this coming month-Paula gave the board an estimated amount of expenses they would need to cover for the coming month, the payroll including taxes, and insurance came to approximately \$49,500., other expenses came to approximately \$26,000. which totaled approximately \$75,500. Paula told



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the board that she would need a vote to authorize Mike to transfer the funds. Mike told her they would go over the figures before they decide on the amount.

5. Assessment report – Paula told the board the approximate remaining Accounts Receivable is \$ 76,721.92 from the RimRoc program. Mike went over the totals and wanted to research it further. Paula told the board that we will be adding the 18% interest to all outstanding accounts. Drew asked if there were any outstanding accounts from the previous year. Paula answered no, all has been paid for the previous year. Bob questioned the check register negative amounts. Paula explained the negative balances in the operating check account in Sage (accounting program) was the result of the large check paid out to cover the project 102. Paula went on to explain that the balance reflected the checks that they are signing today and will be covered by the deposit Mike will be making before the checks are sent out.

Mike made a motion to approve the Office report. Bob second the motion and the motion carried.

**District Manager's Report:** Joe told the board they did a lot of burning this month, trying to get ahead of the weed problem, seems to be every time we turn around, we have missed a spot or someone else is calling about another place to burn. So, we are burning as much as we can, and you will see some propane charges. We finished patching up the liner out there. Chris Gilbert finished the ditch near Dugan's area and on 6 Mile ditch and it all looks pretty good. We did not have time to get to the other four on Poison Spider lateral 218. We finished getting the culverts out on the Rodger's Ranch. We installed a measuring device for Mike Rodgers. We did a cement patch on tunnel 2 and closed all the head gates twice. Still went back and found Lateral 102 and 128 were open, found that dirt on the bottom of the gate caused it to be open. We have been discussing putting locks on the headgates to stop tampering. Mike discussed closing and opening the gate, and there are weeds keeping it open. The 147 box, we replaced the screen. Joe asked if they ever got a chance to look at it, on Don Pavack's place. Joe told the board that they replaced the ram on the mini excavator with Mike's help. The



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\$220. Joe told the board maintenance crew are going to do some clean up on Lateral 328. Joe told the board currently there is 110 CFS coming out of the canal, coming through the 15 FT weir at 20 CFS He went on to say there is nothing on the 4890. Joe told the board he had some concerns about the ratings on the v notch. Mark told him there was 62 CFS coming through. Mike asked if he was checked up at Lat 102, and does he know where his at on flow at the Lateral 102. Joe said no, but at Poison Spider we are running 55 CFS. Drew and Joe discussed the level of ponds and how long the water takes to get to the Poison Spider. Joe told the board that he was thankful that he had so much help from Drew on learning how to manage the irrigation flow. Mike suggested to taking a lot of notes and compare the length of time the water gets to each place. Joe discussed the large number of weeds this year, he asked Ric if this was normal. Mike suggested that he send people to burn weeds whenever the laterals get turned on. The board and Joe discussed when there was too much water and what to do about it. Joe told the board that he was in the process of getting Jacob educated on the upper end. Joe told the board there was a cement pipe collapse on 12 Mile Road that will need to be addressed.

Bob Butler made a motion to approve the District Manager's Report. Ric second the motion and the report was approved.

#### **District Reports:**

District 1- Ron Richner: Ron told the board that no one is on in the upper end. He plans to burn more weeds in the ditches on Lateral 59 and Lateral 60.

District 2- Mike Sutton: He told the board likewise; he was planning to also burn weeds as there was an abundance of them. Don Pavack updates since Joe installed the screen. Joe told the board he hasn't heard anything. Drew mentioned that the NRCS was going to meet with Don and Joe would probably not hear anything regarding the meeting. Joe mentioned Don requested that we install a meter and Joe declined. Joe told the board that Don was disappointed with his answer.

District 3-Robert Keith: No report as Robert was absent.

District 4- Bob Butler: Bob told the board there were no concerns in his district.



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District 5- Ric Herman: Ric told the board he checked the 15ft Wier and it looks good. Bob agreed with him. The excavator was needed to pull some debris out of the drop structure. If not cleared out, it would force water on edges to form a sandbar. Drew asked if anyone cancelled orders on Lateral 256. Paula answered yes, Randy Welch pushed his order back to the following Monday.

#### **OLD BUSINESS-**

1. 102 Overflow project- Joe updated the board on the overflow project. He told the board that they have 12" on top to pack down and across to build the road. The packer was tipped over during the past week. Mike mentioned he observed the window was broken out of the packer when he was out there on Sunday. The board was given a printed email from WLC regarding Liquid damages, and how to use the 5% retainage. WLC hasn't submitted any bills for us to pay. Mike mentioned that they were over budget and the board discussed how to handle it. Joe let the board know the gates were needing to be adjusted to stop leakage. He told the board that he asked when the leaks were going to be fixed., there was no answer. The board discussed what is causing the leak and how to fix it.
2. Jerry Cook's agreement-The board reviewed the agreement between CAID and Jerry Cook. Bob made a motion to approve the agreement. Mike second approval of the agreement. The agreement was approved unanimously by the board and signed. Bob asked about the liner and if it was installed for Jerry.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Waterman Subdivision-Don Hollingsworth property located on Garbutt Road. Natrona County Zoning & Planning set to approve the subdivision. Joe told the board it was determined that there were no irrigated acres on the property. The Natrona County Zoning & Planning (NCZAP) will be sending the Platt to the Wyoming State Engineers Office. Joe told the board he didn't



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feel we needed to attend the NCZAP meeting this evening. Drew suggested that we write a letter to let them know the laws regarding moving of water rights to subdivided land. Joe gave the board a copy to the proposed Baldwin Subdivision.

2. David North-Ron observed dirt around the structure on David North's property which has no irrigated acres. The board discussed the need to send David North a letter stating that the Bureau of Reclamation was aware of structure in CAID drain and requested that CAID contact David North.

#### **Adjourn-Recess:**

Mike Sutton made a motion to adjourn the meeting for a recess. The board meeting was adjourned at 3:08 pm.

Ron Richner called the meeting to order at 3:25pm. Attending the meeting were Mike Sutton Treasurer, Paula Stewart Secretary, Bob Butler Board Member, Ric Herman Board Member, Joe Meza, District Manager and Drew James, Consultant. Robert Keith Board Member was absent.

3. Mike Sutton wrote the letter to David North, letting David North that CAID was aware of the structure on the CAID easement on Oregon Trail Drain, and that we will need an encroachment permit completed and or be removed. Mike made a motion to approve the letter to Dave North regarding the removal of his structure on the Oregon Trail Drain pending legal review from Keith Burron. Ric second the motion. The board approved the letter to send to Dave North. The board requested the letter to be certified with a return receipt.
4. Completed Budget-Mike went over the completed budget figures with the board. Mike reminded the board that the changes included the increase of \$2.00 per acre rate for the 2022-2023 irrigation season. Bob Butler made a



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motion to adopt the increase from \$24.00 per acre to \$26.00 per acre rate for the 2022-2023 irrigation season. Ric Herman seconded the motion. The increase of the per acre rate to \$26.00 was adopted. Mike continued to review how he came to the figures to balance the proposed budget for the board. Ron asked about how the assessment and first acre charges were figured. Mike explained how he did it and what the total was. Mike suggested in the future if we have another income source, we should put back into the savings account approximately 10% for grants. After reviewing the proposed budget, Ric Herman made a motion to approve the proposed budget. Bob Butler second the motion. The proposed budget was approved unanimously.

5. Meeting regarding Casper Contract with the City of Casper-Drew James told the board that the State Engineer is still in line with their determination in the letter sent out September 9, 2021, stating that the City of Casper is to contact CAID regarding the water rights. The memorandum of understanding and timeline for the proposed contract were cancelled on April 1, 2021, Drew told the board he did not know why it was started again. Drew stated that the new contract wording with salvage water rights would need to be different because of the expiration of the contract between the City of Casper and CAID. Drew told the board that he did not know what the outcome will be. The State Engineers office is working to get a meeting with all entities involved. The board discussed the Meeting in Cheyenne Thursday, May 12, 2021, with the State Engineers and who should attend.

Ric made a motion to adjourn the meeting 5:50pm.





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Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Richner", is written over a horizontal line.

Ron Richner, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paula Stewart", is written over a horizontal line.

Paula Stewart, Secretary