Casper Alcova Irrigation District Regular Board Meeting October 12, 2023

The Casper Alcova Irrigation District (CAID) board meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by President Ron Richner. Those in attendance were commissioners Ric Herman (Vice-Chairman), Brad Olson (Secretary/Treasurer), Len Camp, and Dan Robinett. Also present were Joan McGraw (District Manager), and Korry Lewis (Attorney). Absent was Tony Jensen (Field Manager). Guest attending Brian Connely, NCWP. Members of the public attending, please see attached sign-in sheet.

The commissioners reviewed the minutes for the September 14, board meeting. Ric moved to approve the minutes as presented. Len 2nd. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

Joan presented the October financial statement. Dan moved to accept the October financial statement as presented. Ric 2nd. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

Joan presented the October voucher. There was a brief discussion regarding payment for Fresno Valves for the 102 lateral. Ric moved to accept the October voucher as presented. Brad 2nd. A vote was taken. Motion carried. Checks were signed.

Jason Guttierrez gave an update on the committee meeting. The committee reviewed and discussed the voting statues and is recommending the vote be a roll call vote and stating who you are voting for. The committee also discussed arbitration, mediation and a three-member dispute committee. Jason explained in detail. Further discussion regarding sending the updated bylaws out for public comment. Jason will have a draft sent for review by October 27.

Joan gave a brief update on the progress of the items she has been working on as well as upcoming meetings that she will be attending.

District 1: Ron is planning to look at the 57 lateral to make sure the pipe is still in place from two years ago and the banks that have sluffed off at the top end from the rain.

District 2: Len had nothing to report.

District 3: Brad had nothing to report.

District 4: Dan mentioned the tour the board took to view areas of concern was very informative.

District 5: Ric followed up with the 328 lateral and Johnson's request for headgate repairs and replacement. CAID will take over the project. One of the reasons the rates were raised was for these types of projects.

Old Business

Korry gave an update on the CAID and Black Canyon Hydro (BCH) Water Use and Option to Purchase Agreement. This pump storage project is a reservoir right. It is not CAID's secondary. Water in Seminoe Reservoir will be used for the upper reservoir. CAID owns the beneficial water right and must give consent. BOR and BCH will have a separate contract. CAID will receive \$10,000 per year until BCH starts filling the reservoir approximately 2028. Ric moved to approve and sign the contract as presented. Len 2nd. A vote was taken. Motion carried.

Brian Connely with NCWP presented to the board a draft MOU between CAID and NCWP and the vision of getting control of weeds on CAID's ditches and laterals. It provides for a comprehensive cooperative working relationship to get this done and outlines responsibilities of CAID and NCWP including the following: assist with a weed management plan, equipment logistics, mapping including a GIS layer with weed data, and manpower to get the program implemented. Further discussion regarding the Russian Olive trees cutting and spraying. NCWP and CAID will schedule a tour.

Joan informed the board about a meeting with WWC regarding the 256 Drop Structure and Level III study. Waiting for a timeline from WWC. Joan has visited with the BOR and WWDC regarding the deadline for project completing and the funding involved. BOR will be touring the 256 Drop Structure next week. The BOR will be inspecting three siphons at the end of November.

New Business

Joan presented to the board the plans for Chad Ziehl's turnout. This project is an NRCS project, and they will be doing the final inspection. Joan also presented a project on Tracy Baures for overflow. The board has no issues with the projects. Will follow up with Tony.

There was a discussion regarding the possible need to change the time for the monthly board meeting. It was decided to address this at the annual meeting.

Public Comment

Ben Taucher informed the board of his experience in mediation and arbitration and expressed his interest in providing his services if CAID desires. Ben also confirmed items in the BCH and CAID Water Use and Option to Purchase Agreement that were presented in the original MOU to what is presented in the current contract. He also mentioned Russian Olives that have been cut and stored that needed to be cleaned up on this place. He will visit with Tony.

Jason commented on 256 Drop Structure and confirmation of the timeline.

Later in the evening, there will be a meeting with the landowners adjacent to the 256-830 lateral to discuss flooding issues, easement access, tree removal and other concerns. No action will be taken.

Executive Session

Ric moved to go into executive session to discuss the Election Lawsuit at 3:30 p.m. Len 2nd. A vote was taken. Motion carried. Brad recused himself from the meeting. At 5:00 p.m. the board came out of executive session. No action was taken.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. at the Casper Alcova Irrigation District office.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully recorded by Joan McGraw.

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Date 1/19/23

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