**MEDFORD IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

**Special Board Meeting Minutes**

**December 8th, 2023 @ 10:00 am**

Present: Sean Naumes (Zoom), Henry Vaninetti (Zoom), Dave Urton, Matt Borman, Dennis O’Donoghue (Zoom), Jack Friend, Manager/Secretary; David McKay (FCA) and Mattie Bossler (FCA).

**Call meeting to order:** Chairman Naumes called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

1. **Discussion regarding joint district board meeting agenda:**

Friend: The second attachment in your email, shows the agenda for the joint board meeting. We spoke about this at the November board meeting. We only had a quorum of the board and we wanted to have a special meeting with all board members. Would like to review what is going to be discussed at the joint board meeting with RRVID and why it was called. We are going to talk about the engineering firm selection, which is DOWL with the contract agreement, and the payments that are going to be required for their service. The project funding. The EPA fund update. The DEQ update. The repayment obligation for outstanding balances is not covered by grants. The split of the 1/3, 2/3. Letters of support. That is the overview of that meeting. The biggest decision that we want to address is the joint system phase 1 funding scenarios.

Director Borman: It would be nice to see how that is all calculated when the project begins.

David McKay: As soon as I get that information, I will share that with you all and how that process works.

Director Borman: From what I understand, if we want to move forward, MID’s portion of the match funding amount is approximately 40K. That amount will be a loan that we would take out from DEQ and will have to pay back over time. And there isn’t funding to offset that because the timing is to move forward now instead of waiting and looking for funding will put a delay on the project for a year at least.

Friend: That is correct. We didn’t know we were having to come up with a 20% match until recently. The last page of the paperwork you have in front of you shows the timeline of items that we have completed, if we were to continue to move forward with the engineering, we would submit the cost of engineering to DEQ and we would get reimbursed 80% of that with a balance of the 20% which would be put toward the loan amount.

Director Urton: Is there some funding available from the water commission?

Friend: I can check with Paul to see if there is something available. FCA hasn’t heard of any funding through Medford Water. When we meet a the joint board meeting next week and all agree to move forward with the project, we can meet with DOWL to get them started on the surveying. With that said, do you agree with moving forward and using the DEQ loan option.

Director Borman: As slow as things move with as many pieces as you orchestrating, I think if you have a window and we can move forward, I support that moving forward.

Director O’Donoghue: I agree, we do need to strike now and get this thing moving before something derails it. When it comes to funding there is always something that is a potential for causing a delay. I’m in favor of moving forward.

Director Vaninetti: I agree also. I think we are all on a good course right now. As good as we have available to us. Keep going until we have some money or are told it’s over. You have my support, Jack.

Friend: I appreciate that. Anything else Dave?

Director Urton: I agree with that.

Friend: Is there anything else on the joint meeting agenda that you may have questions about? I can briefly comment on the 1/3, 2/3 split. Rogue has been doing 50/50 so far. A lot of these expenses that we have encured, are reimbursable funds, once this gets going.

Director Borman: From the engineering view, is there a significant amount for staffing that would come out of the DEQ funding? We did conclude that there will be staff figures added and are reimbursable.

Friend: The other item that they will want to talk about is the letters of support. Between the managers and Larry Martin and BJ Weslon, we have the letters of support covered. That is all at this time if you have any questions we can answer them or FCA is here to answer any of your questions. If you don’t have anything else to ask, we can adjourn.

**Adjourn:** Chairman Naumes adjourned the meeting at 10:21 am.

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Sean Naumes – Chairman Jack Friend – District Manager/Secretary