

BOISE RIVER FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT NO. 10

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 15, 2024

***ACTION ITEMS**

CALL TO ORDER:

The May 15, 2024 regular Board Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Clayton at 9:00am

ROLL CALL:

Present were Chairman Bill Clayton, Commissioner Mitch Bicandi, Commissioner Tris Yerrington, District Manager Mark Zirschky and Assistant District Manager Erv Ballou. Also present was Attorney Dan Steenson and Jordan Zwygart (auditor). Accountant Kathleen Roma was unable to attend the meeting.

***CONSENT AGENDA:**

February 14, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes – Board Approval

The Board reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2024 Board Meeting. Commissioner Bicandi made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yerrington. With no further discussion, the motion to approve the February 14, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes was approved by unanimous vote.

Financial Report – Board Approval

District Manager Zirschky presented the financial report as prepared by Kathleen Roma. It was discussed that the forecasted spending in River Maintenance and Dry Creek Maintenance did go over budget due to increased workload and increased labor cost. It was also discussed that the Bank Repair/Assist category was also over budget due to costs associated with the emergency IMC Bank Repair. Overall, the financial report is right on track with no concerns. There was a discussion regarding which budget categories to cover project costs for bank repairs and gravel management projects that are discovered during routine river inspection, that may fall outside the normal budget. Commissioner Bicandi made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Commissioner Yerrington seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion to approve the financial report as presented was approved by unanimous vote.

DISTRICT BUSINESS:

Audit Report

Jordan Zwygart with Zwygart John and Associates presented the 2023/2024 audit report. Mr. Zwygart indicated that the financial statements presented fairly and the District was in great position. Chairman Clayton asked if there were any improvements that could be made and Mr. Zwygart responded that he did not see where any improvements were needed. No further action required.

***Operations Update**

District Manager Zirschky updated the Board that flood management flows had reached 4000 CFS at Glenwood Road so far this season and overall conditions were looking really good. District Manager Zirschky indicated that Boise River and Dry Creek maintenance efforts were successful and only two trees had been removed so far due to flooding concerns. Commissioner Yerrington asked if the woody debris piles had been burned downstream of Eagle Road on the south channel off Bogus View Court, that he had discussed with a landowner in late February. District Manager Zirschky indicated that following the IMC Bank Repair, we were able to address the woody debris piles immediately behind the landowners home, but due to the start of flood management releases and concerns with smoke crossing Eagle Road and causing traffic concerns, the piles immediately downstream of the bridge would be burned this next winter when they could be transported downstream to a safe location. Chairman Clayton asked of the status of communication with local entities regarding funding and removal of trees that fall into the river during the summer. Removal of "summer trees" are not always a concern for flood district operations but may be a concern for recreation. It was discussed that we had not landed on a path forward on this matter but could certainly engage in conversations. Commissioner Bicandi made a motion to engage in discussions with Treasure Valley Partnership to determine interest in local government entities to assist in managing the summer tree concern. Commissioner Yerrington seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

OTHER PERTINENT BUSINESS:

IDWR River Maintenance Permit Update

District Manager Zirschky updated the Board that in March, a final River Maintenance Permit was received by the Idaho Department of Water Resources. The permit included a 10 year expiration date, as well as mirroring the language of the Army Corps of Engineers regarding ad hoc tree removal at flows higher than 500 CFS at Glenwood Road. No further action required.

IMC OldCaste Bank Repair Update

District Manager Zirschky presented photos of the emergency bank repair at Idaho Materials and Construction on the north channel below Eagle Island. The Joint Permit to proceed with the repair was obtained within two weeks of filing application after the February 14, 2024 Board Meeting. A requirement to abide by turbidity standards was mitigated for this project. District Manager Zirschky purchased a turbidity curtain to be used for bank repairs to eliminate or lessen the turbidity created by working in the river. Due to delayed shipping on the curtain, a handheld turbidity monitor was purchased, and the permitting authorities allowed the use of the handheld monitor to track turbidity and remain beneath the permitted threshold during the repair. District Manager Zirschky indicated that there was some minor sloughing of the riprap after the repair was completed, due to the gravel floor of the river washing out from under the footing. This was repaired and has since held up during the higher flows this spring. District Manager Zirschky indicated that seeding efforts of the repaired area was completed per the requirements of the permit, but likely failed due to attracted wildlife to the seeded area. It is likely that a protective measure may be required to prevent wildlife from eating the seed. No further action required.

***Flood Management Grant Projects**

District Manager Zirschky updated the Board that he is looking at three projects to be applied for during this years Flood Management Grant cycle. Currently he and HDR Engineering are working on the following projects.

- Mulchay bank repair and gravel management
- Eagle Sewer District repair and gravel management
- Randy Wood bank repair and gravel management

Photos and maps were viewed of each project and corrective actions were discussed. Further development of each project is currently underway and will be presented again once a financial determination has been made. It was discussed that flood management releases have delayed survey of each project, but we are moving forward to the best of our ability. There was further discussion regarding funding for the projects, and review of the budget was conducted. Attorney Dan Steenson indicated that water quality grants could be available for the Randy Wood project, as it is certainly creating turbidity in the river. Commissioner Yerrington made a motion to make \$50,000.00 available from the remaining flood management budget category to apply as match funding for the Randy Wood project if it is found to be in the District's best interest and proceed with making application in the 2024/2025 Flood Management Grant cycle. Commissioner Bicandi seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Channel Maintenance Plan Update

District Manager Zirschky and Attorney Steenson presented photos and maps of the current development and details of the Channel Maintenance Plan (CMP). HDR Engineering is expected to have a final draft of the CMP to present to the Steering Committee within a few weeks. The results of the Steering Committee meeting and proposed direction of the CMP will be delivered to the Board for consideration. The development of the CMP will be the driver for a request to the regulatory agencies for long-term permitting for river maintenance. It was discussed that the surveillance, monitoring and mitigation phases of the CMP should allow pre-determined corrective measures to be applied to projects that are documented within the CMP. The value of using this approach along with a long-term channel maintenance permit, will avoid lengthy permitting delays and provide more immediate resolution to worsening water quality or damage to the river system and properties. Attorney Steenson indicated that the previously discussed Randy Wood project is an ideal candidate for the long-term permitting request. District Manager Zirschky indicated that Ada County recently contributed \$20,000.00 to the development of the CMP. No further action required at this time.

***iPad/Tablets**

District Manager Zirschky requested whether Chairman Clayton needed an updated iPad, as he was absent at the last meeting during this discussion. Chairman Clayton indicated that he is not in need of an upgrade at this time.

Storage Unit Update

District Manager Zirschky updated the Board that he had recently moved into a larger storage unit. Following the purchase of the turbidity curtain, there was not adequate room to store the curtain in the old 8x10 unit. Photos were shown of the new storage unit and the contents. The price of the new 8x14 unit increased the monthly cost by \$17.00. Commissioner Yerrington indicated that storage shelves should be looked at to keep file boxes off the floor and protected from moisture. No further action required.

***Insurance Update**

District Manager Zirschky updated the Board that he had recently received a survey from Hartwell Corporation to determine the District's needs or changes in insurance coverage. Two of the topics that came out of the survey were coverage for terrorism and coverage for personal vehicles used for District business. It was the consensus of the Board to not pursue coverage for either matter at this time. No further action required.

Mark Zirschky Vacation – June 6-10, June 20-24

District Manager Zirschky informed the Board that he had plans for vacation during the above referenced dates. District Manager Zirschky indicated that he would have retired Manager Mike Dimmick available on standby should the need arise to have matters tended to. It was the consensus of the Board to allow District Manager Zirschky to pursue his vacation plans. No further action required.

***Legal Update – Dan Steenson**

Attorney Dan Steenson updated the Board on the recent success of having the Flood Control District legislation passed. He indicated that during the process, it was discovered that Flood Control District 17 had additional concerns in the Flood Control District Statutes that should be addressed. There is interest in updating the purchasing threshold in the existing Statutes, to more reasonably pertain to modern day operations. District Manager Zirschky suggested possibly mirroring what Irrigation District Statutes allow for purchasing thresholds. Commissioner Bicandi made a motion to pursue discussions with Paul Arrington of the Idaho Water Users Association to draft language addressing the purchasing threshold and carry legislation during the upcoming Legislative session. Commissioner Yerrington seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed by unanimous vote.

There was discussion regarding the status of forming a Flood Control District Association to address these areas of concern. It was discussed that a video conference could be utilized to gauge interest of other Flood Control District's to form an association. It was the consensus of the Board to discuss this in more detail at a future meeting.

Attorney Steenson indicated that Tim Luke at IDWR has now retired and he is uncertain who has taken over his duties. Tim has been a supporter of our activities in the past.

***PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:**

There was nobody present or signed up from the public to present to the Board.

MISCELLANEOUS BOARD COMMENTS :

Chairman Clayton presented a draft plan for the City of Nampa's Boise River Floodplain and Side Channel Restoration Project. Chairman Clayton indicated that a 30% design is complete and being submitted for a grant for further development. Some of the improvements included side channel development and Cottonwood trees being planted for improvement to the floodplain and wildlife. No further action required.

The next scheduled meeting is July 18, 2024 from 0900-1200. This is a Budget Workshop/Board Meeting. Location to be determined.

The August 15, 2024 Budget Hearing/Board Meeting has been scheduled and reported to Ada and Canyon County and will be held at the Star City Hall from 9am to noon.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chairman Clayton adjourned the meeting at 1230pm.