

Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Farmers Union Ditch Meeting

Board Present:

Sam Rosti, Lloyd Akins, Paul Akins, Tom Foster

Craig Waddell - Ditch Rider, Seth Kettering – Ditch Rider

Rosalie Cope, Secretary/Bookkeeper

Jerry Kiser, Attorney for FUD

Guests: Jay Camp – HG 72; Mike McGowan – HG 140; Kerry Angelos - North Star Homes, LLC

Sam Rosti called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. McGowan has an interest in filling the vacant seat on the board and attended the meeting to get more information. Mr. McGowan lives at 6745 Willis Road, near Tom Foster.

Katie Miller with Bailey Engineering and John Laude, Jr. with Trilogy Development presented the Board with plans for a static irrigation system for Trapper Ridge Subdivision. Jerry said he previously received a copy of the plans and had a chance to review. Jerry stated the pump is sized appropriately and there are enough water shares to adequately water. Jerry said they will need to meet with Craig to determine positioning of a flow meter. Craig asked to have the flow meter mounted close to the road so the ditch riders can see it and possibly purchase a meter that can be read remotely. Mr. Laude said they have already purchased a flow meter. Ms. Miller asked if the easement on the plans is acceptable. They plan to hook on to the existing line at headgate 135. The number on the gate will be re-numbered to 134A. Craig will meet with a representative from the project to identify a suitable location for the pump station. Jerry Kiser will issue a license agreement.

Minutes were read by Rosalie Cope.

Lloyd Akins moved to approve the minutes with corrections; motion was seconded by Paul Akins.

DITCH RIDER REPORT

Craig Waddell reported they are currently spilling 4" at the Klondike. The automated headgate is working well. The Board asked what emergency procedures are in place. For example, if a cable breaks how much time is needed to repair? Craig

explained an alert will be sent to both his and Seth's phones and either or both of them can be onsite within 20 minutes.

Sam Rosti is working on locating a tractor and mower. He is waiting on a price sheet on the tractor.

Sam stated the property belonging to J&M Land which is being farmed by Coombs is now irrigating well. The pump has been turned on. Jerry Kiser presented the Board with a copy of the letter he sent Mr. Coombs.

Craig reported the sprayer is repaired.

Lloyd Akins and Sam Rosti did a site visit to the intake and the ponds at the Whitewater Park. Lloyd explained there is a Waterman headgate on a 42" bypass pipe underneath the concrete where the stop logs are that runs from the Farmer's Union intake manifold approx. ¼ mile and comes back into the river. Lloyd thinks if the waterman is opened up it will draw the sand through the pond and dump it back into the river. Jerry Kiser asked if the slues channel would pull through both. Lloyd said no because the slues channel does not draw from the bottom. Craig explained the Obermeyer also does not draw from the bottom. He said they are spilling all of the water by the fish ladder and everything else is closed; the slues channel and wave machine. Craig said the City has discovered there is not enough water to run the wave machine. They put blocks down both sides and have tried to adjust the water but there is not enough flow feeding the Farmer's Union canal to run the wave machine therefore they have opened one Obermeyer similar to the operation at Thurman Mill and are running the wave off that. This has created a pond of stagnant water with moss filtering over the sandbar into the Farmer's Union headgate.

The Board would like to set a meeting with John Tensen to discuss the sandbar and moss. Lloyd said the situation at the Whitewater Park is new and it needs to be decided how to work the Oberman and buried pipe to distribute the sand better. Lloyd is not ready to get into a dispute with the City, more time monitoring sand levels, etc. needs to be done before coming to any conclusions. Sam said another site visit is going to need to be done. It is not certain if the sandbar is a onetime occurrence because of the work being done in the river or if it is a result of not properly regulating the gates. We need to continue to monitor the sand level. Craig reported sand is now down the intake channel where it hasn't been before.

Sam asked if this is also the time to have the City of Boise reimburse Farmer's Union for the additional copper needed as a result of the ponds spilling into the canal or have them purchase more.

Craig Waddell reported the day of allocation was June 27th. The canal is running at 10 cfs below what it was at this time last year. Craig said they are still not spilling at the Klondike or Dry Creek.

KERRY ANGELOS

MJH Investments purchased property from Alice Culver and built a home on the property. They are now beginning to landscape and would like to install a 3' cinder block retaining wall from the ac unit along the tow of the canal. Mr. Angelos presented the board with a site plan and multiple pictures of the property. They would like to curve the wall around the back of the house and install a fence along the side of the road. The Board explained clearing the vegetation will allow erosion. The Board suggested covering the slope with weed barrier and perma bark. The Board reiterated they need to stay 25' from the top of the canal bank. Jerry Kiser will issue a letter of approval for the landscaping, cinder block wall and fence as discussed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Jerry reported the City received an application to build a two story motel with 27 rooms and parking lot on the triangle piece of ground on Alamosa Street, next to Wylie Lane. Jerry does not know the outcome from the Planning and Zoning hearing last Tuesday. The last correspondence he received from the City was they were not inclined to approve the request. Jerry sent a response to the City reiterating Farmer's Union has a 25' right of way from the top of the canal bank and it appears the right of way will be impacted by the project as proposed. The placement of any improvement within the right of way will not be approved.

Kendall Rivers is making an attempt to move out of the house. Jerry will keep in communication with Craig as to the actual move out date.

Jerry Kiser sent a letter to J&M Land reminding them gates are to be left open during irrigation season. The Board will revisit the issue when the water is out.

John Roldan forwarded an email from Richard Llewellyn in response to the Lander Street water reuse proposal. Mr. Llewellyn is opposed to the project because he believes there will be discharges of Contaminants of Emerging Concern. Jerry asked the Board to review the email. There needs to be a discussion so Jerry can provide the City with a response from Farmer's Union. Jerry told John he would like to see peer reviewed science and more information but regardless Farmer's Union is still on board with taking the water as long as the water going into the canal is class A and meets applicable water quality standards.

The Board reviewed an email from Kate Harris regarding data collected at the ponds. The bacteria monitoring locations are immediately at the bottom of the intake structure which is river water, just below the spill from Crane Creek and at the bridge crossing the canal at Veteran's Park. Jerry sent Ms. Harris an email asking if water temperature was also monitored at those locations. Jerry is going to try to set a meeting with Ms. Harris and discuss the temperature monitoring along with the water quality issue to include the overage of chemicals Farmer's Union has purchased over the last couple of seasons. The bacteria and algae problems did not exist before the park ponds were in place. Farmer's Union does not want to take the water if the

quality continues to be a problem. Jerry stated all of the aerators are not working yet either. He is also going to talk to John Roldan regarding the application for an alternate point of diversion. If the additional water does not seem to be helping the algae problem there may be no point in submitting the application.

Jerry provided the Board with a memorandum titled Floodplain Management Memorandum No. 1 regarding NFIP Irrigation and Drainage Permit Guidance. Jerry stated IDWR and FEMA have entered into an agreement requiring permits for "development" in the floodplain/floodway. Jerry said as of now there are no floodplain administrators or ordinances in effect in any of the governmental entities that would implement the permitting process. IDWR is looking into the permitting requirement as it applies to two areas, the floodplain which is the river channel and areas where any construction or other work may cause a rise. Those areas are not far outside the banks of the river. Then there is the floodway, where in the event of extremely rare weather conditions flood flows may cause damage to structures. IDWR is trying to get floodway eliminated from the permitting requirements. The only advantage Farmer's Union has is there is not much of the canal in floodplain or floodway. Jerry looked at the maps and there are only a couple of places impacted; from the intake structure to Veteran's Parkway, the road blocks almost all of the flood waters. That section of the canal would require permits under the new guidelines. There are a couple other spots; the area below Pierce Park and a little at the Dry Creek siphon and Big Gulch, but almost all of that is at the very corner of the canal. Jerry said Craig needs to receive a copy of the memorandum and Farmer's Union needs to mark the sections of the canal that fall within the floodplain or floodway so the ditch riders are aware when preparing to do work.

Jerry Kiser reported he met with TVWUA and proposed the idea of an informational handout to be provided to new homeowners regarding canals and irrigation districts, easement, water rights, etc. Jerry said TVWUA is in support of the idea and is willing to help develop, print and distribute to the Board of Realtors, Title Companies, etc. Jerry is going to find out if there is an association for title companies and talk to IDWR to see if they want to participate.

Jerry stated the grand opening for the Whitewater Park is Thursday, the 25th of July at 1:00 for McMillen, Parks & Rec., Farmer's Union and other entities involved in the project. The grand opening for the public will be at 2:00.

Paul Akins moved to approve the financials; motion was seconded by Tom Foster.

Jerry is going to talk to the managers of Dry Creek Cemetery and Idaho Veteran's Cemetery to get more information on how they are irrigating, which headgates they are using with what quantities of water and which water rights. He would like to gather more information then issue a letter similar to how the situation with Mr. Coombs was handled.

Sam Rosti reported the City of Star would like to pump out of their test well into the canal for 24 hours. They will pump uphill and discharge into the canal to avoid possibly flooding Trident Ridge. There is potential for 3,000 gpm but they don't expect to get that much. Sam said he or one of the Board members needs to meet with Rain for Rent. He has given approval as long as they don't blow out the side of the bank. The City will pay Farmer's Union \$500 for taking the water.

Sam said Farmer's Union does not need another ditch rider at this time. There is potential to rent the house separately from a job with the company. Jerry said if the company is interested in hiring an additional ditch rider a proper job search needs to be done and consider all applicants then select the most qualified. Lloyd and Paul don't think we need an additional person on the ditch at this time, possibly in the fall when there is maintenance to do. The Board also would like Jerry to issue Craig a letter informing him there are to be no non-employees in company vehicles unless pre-authorized by the Board. Paul Akins made a motion that at this point Farmer's Union does not need an additional ditch rider; motion was seconded by Lloyd Akins. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul Akins moved to adjourn the meeting; motion was seconded by Tom Foster. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.