

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on January 11, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman, Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.
Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Charlie Swanson, Harvey Hackett, Robert Jackson, Molly Davidson and Cary Hays.

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

The minutes of the regular December board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The December 2015 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley reported that Lake Como elevation is at 4211.2, Twin Lakes snow pack is at 97% and Twelve Mile Creek snow pack is at 108%.

Manager Crowley reported on Smitty's safety meeting this month about trenching where the staff watched three videos and reviewed OSHA safety standards. Manager Crowley informed the board that the District has a trench box for trenches deeper than 4 feet.

The question of reversing the \$3.50 assessment charge for the Siphon I, Phase III bond was tabled last month. Matt Pendergast made a motion to reverse the assessment in thirty years when the bond is paid off and reassess the charge for other purposes if needed. Bill Posten seconds. All in favor, motion passed.

Stacy Coulter proposed to the board that the employee health reimbursement plans be handled by Allegiance Benefit Plan Management rather than here at the District office. Motion to have Allegiance handle the District employees' HRAs made by Matt Pendergast; second by Steve Bauman. All in favor; motion passed.

Manager Crowley and Secretary Coulter summarize financial and budgetary matters that were discussed and strategized with Klarryse Murphy on Friday, January 8. Included was the creation of a reserve account for compensated absences within the District's QuickBooks program. Taxes, audit preparation and transferring budgetary record-keeping from paper to electronic forms were also handled with Klarryse's guidance last Friday.

Charlie Swanson asked the board's permission to put a four-wheeler bridge over the ditch on his property so that he can remove fencing materials and clean up an area of his property that he is unable to access without a bridge. Chairman Schmiedeke suggested that Mr. Swanson provide a proposal with specs to the board by the next meeting. Mr. Swanson agreed to provide a plan to Manager Crowley prior to the February board meeting.

Chairman Schmiedeke and Manager Crowley address the “Resolution of Intention to Adopt a Resolution Determining Irrigable Lands to be Benefited by Improvements and Apportioning Costs of Improvements Thereto and Calling a Public Hearing Thereon.” Motion to adopt Resolution of Intent was made by Matt Pendergast; second by Steve Bauman. All in favor; motion passed.

The District’s recent purchase of a Siphon I, Phase V expansion joint was not in the 2016 budget. The cost of the expansion joint was \$41,250.00. Manager Crowley requested that the budget be amended. Motion to amend budget was made by Steve Bauman, second by Bill Posten. All in favor; motion passed.

Molly Davidson from Morrison-Maierle arrived at 11:00 am. Molly provided the Commissioners with documents outlining the Scope of Services, Summary of proposed costs, project schedule, and standard agreement between Morrison-Maierle and the District.

Molly reminded the board that pipe for the project should be ordered by no later than April or early May because delivery of the pipe will take approximately 90 days. Advertising for bids should begin in early March. Chairman Schmiedeke would like to make sure that other companies in addition to Northwest Pipe be able to make a bid on the pipe. Molly agreed to contact Selway.

A motion to sign the Morrison-Maierle agreement was made by Steve Bauman; Matt Pendergast second. All in favor; motion passed.

Chairman Schmiedeke told Molly that the contract will be signed today and the board secretary will put it in the mail; the District will retain one signed copy.

Matt Pendergast moved to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Steve Bauman; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11586 Stacy Coulter 230.88	Annual Bonus
11587 John Crowley 554.10	Annual Bonus
11588 Elaine Culletto 554.10	Annual Bonus
11589 Larry Neel 554.10	Annual Bonus
11590 Rodney Sacks 554.10	Annual Bonus
11591 Dennis Smith 554.10	Annual Bonus
11592 Gregory Snedigar 554.10	Annual Bonus

11593 Roland Woodburn	Annual Bonus
554.10	
***** E.F.T.P.S.	Auto FED and FICA
7896.78	
11594 Greg Snedigar	Wages
2468.69	
11595 Dennis Smith	Wages
2054.76	
11596 Rodney Sacks	Wages
2779.24	
11597 Larry Neel	Wages
2871.06	
11598 Elaine Culletto	Wages
1819.03	
11599 John Crowley	Wages
2730.49	
11600 Stacy Coulter	Wages
1248.84	
11601 Roland Woodburn	Wages
2224.71	
11602 AFLAC	Employee Pd Policies
3645.00	
11603 American Funds	Emp. Pension
47.42	
11604 Ravalli Co FCU	Emp. Deposits
1000.00	
11605 MT Dept of Revenue	MT State w/h Tax
1202.00	
11606 Carquest	Veh/Equip Repair/Shop
1304.50	
11607 CenturyLink	Telephone Expense
189.19	
11608 Denice Wright	Cleaning
100.00	
11609 Dennis Smith	Med Reimb
2789.46	
11610 Elaine Culletto	Travel Expense
41.21	
11611 Fastenal	Shop
37.87	
11612 Norco	Field/1 st Aid/Fire
810.59	
11613 Ravalli Republic	Advertising
149.85	
11614 Healthcare Svc Corp	BCBS Health Ins
2246.59	
11615 Northwestern Energy	Utilities

131.03	
11616 Ravalli County	Election
1802.00	
11617 Western States Equip	Equip Repairs
552.42	
11618 Bill Posten	Director/Travel
105.17	
11619 Bitter Root Disposal	Utilities/Waste Disposal
70.00	
11620 Bitterroot Star	Advertising
126.00	
11621 VOID	**double print**

11622 Capital One	Safety Incentives
500.00	
11623 CenturyLink	Telephone Expense
53.00	
11624 Cheese Factory	Vehicle Repairs/Exp
91.46	
11625 Chemnet Consortium	Alc/Drug Testing (3)
157.50	
11626 Chuck's Welding	Shop Expense
32.00	
11627 Dave Golay	Director/Travel
111.50	
11628 Donaldson Bros.	Headgate Expense
174.69	
11629 Evan's Ace	Shop Expense
92.53	
11630 Fastenal	Headgate Expense
47.42	
11631 John Crowley	Medical Reimbursement
48.00	
11632 John Deere Financial	Headgate Expense
77.85	
11633 John Schmiedeke	Director/Travel
130.47	
11634 Matt Pendergast	Director/Travel
131.62	
11635 McCrometer	Measurment/GF
1231.77	
11636 Morrison Maierle	Siphon I Phase III (mtgs)
471.80	
11637 MWRA	Conferences/Training
130.00	
11638 MWRA	Annual Subscription
1220.00	

11639 NW Pipe Co.	Siphon I Phase V
41,250.00	
11640 Pacific Steel	Field Expense
280.03	
11641 Ravalli Electric	Utilities
425.74	
11642 Ravalli Republic	Advertising
229.20	
11643 Steve Bauman	Director/Travel
108.28	
11644 United Heritage	Life Insurance
25.50	
11645 UPS Store	GF Expense
139.05	
11646 Valley Bank/Visa	Safety/Computer/Weeds
932.32	
11647 Verizon	Telephone
114.44	

TOTAL
\$94,759.65

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on February 9, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, TC Richardson, Bob Kirkpatrick, Robert Jackson, Randy Nentwig, Cary Hays, Mark Anderson from Farmers State Bank, and Molly Davidson of Morrison-Maierle

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

The minutes of the regular January board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The January 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley's water update: Lake Como Elevation 4213.1; snow pack at Twin lakes is at 94%; snow pack at Twelve Mile Creek 99%.

Manager Crowley reported that the MWRA meeting will be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week at Fairmont Hot Springs and invited the board commissioners to attend.

Manager Crowley gave a Power Point presentation showing the Siphon I Phase V progress including coal tar removal at Harlan Gulch; clamshells are on the pipe and the crew has been welding them in place. The crew will be moving on to the large expansion joint in coming days and weeks. Overall, the project is on schedule. Manager Crowley reported that the Kenworth fuel tank was replaced with an aftermarket tank purchased from Carquest.

Manager Crowley presented the board with a DNRC letter stating that the loan on the Three Mile Gravity Flow System is paid in full.

Chairman Schmiedeke addressed the Bitter Root Irrigation District Operating Policies. There was discussion regarding whether or not to delete the Three Mile Gravity Flow Systems maintenance policies and write an addendum stating that the systems will be maintained by the District until final ruling by the court. There was further discussion on potentially making other changes to current policies. The board will look over the Operating Policies and make decisions regarding changes prior to the regular March board meeting.

Steve Bauman made a motion to adopt the HRA plan as written by Allegiance Benefit Plan Management. Bill Posten seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.

Manager Crowley reported that David Marquette has no recent updates on the Three Mile lawsuit and that discovery evidence from BRID has been turned over to the attorney for Citizens for Fair Water.

Mark Anderson with Farmers State Bank spoke to the board about financing bonds and offered the District a 3.97% interest rate on the \$1,773,976 Siphon I Phase III loan. Manager Crowley informed the board that The District is too far into the agreement with the DNRC at this point to make changes. Mr. Anderson assured the board that he is available for future loans and projects. Chairman Schmiedeke suggested that the District follow through with the DNRC loan, then have Farmers State Bank refinance it. The District will continue to consider lending options with Farmers State Bank.

Molly Davidson from Morrison-Maierle informed the board that bridge and pipe designs for Phase III are getting finalized and bid documents are being assembled. Molly presented and explained the contract agreement involved in the bidding process. The BRID board will need to seek advice from their insurance agents to decide what kind of insurance they would like the contractors to have when they are working on the project. Manager Crowley will provide Molly with a range of insurance coverage to ask for from contractors.

The board will also decide the dates on which portions of the project must be completed and penalties for late completion. Molly and the board members discussed several

different bid and purchasing contingencies. Advertising for bids will be mid-March through early April as planned.

Bill Posten moved to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Dave Golay; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11650 BHX, LLC 10.00	Equip Expense
11651 Bitterroot Valley Tire 84.31	Vehicle Expense
11652 Carquest Auto 116.97	Vehicle Expense
11653 CenturyLink 194.69	Telephone Expense
11654 Chemnet Consortium 100.00	Drug/Alcohol Testing
11655 Healthcare Svc (BCBS) 2246.59	Emp. Healthcare
11656 VOID *****	*****
11657 Mildenberger Motors 550.23	Vehicle Repair
***** E.F.T.P.S. 7835.66	Auto FED and FICA
11658 Norco 2629.33	Field/Shop/Safety
11659 NW Energy 125.74	Utilities
11660 Rod Sacks 70.00	Med Reimb.
11661 Shop Specialties 262.50	Shop Expense
11662 Stacy Coulter 33.74	Mileage Reimb
11663 Stacy Coulter 1982.40	Wages
11664-74 VOID *****	VOID
11675 Denice Wright 100.00	Bldg Maintenance
11676 MT Dept. of Revenue 970.00	MT Tax w/h
11677 AFLAC 100.20	Insurance Exp.
11679 Ravalli Co FCU 500.00	Emp. Deposits

11680 VOID *****	VOID
11681 UI Contributions Bureau 296.44	UI Tax
11682 John Crowley 2708.19	Wages
11683 VOID *****	VOID
11684 Rodney Sacks 2376.54	Wages
11685-6 VOID *****	VOID
11687 Roland Woodburn 1831.87	Wages
11688 American Funds 3230.34	Emp Pension
11689 Markette & Chouinard 3823.50	Legal Fees
11690 Levi Nentwig 797.03	Wages
11691 Evan's Ace Hardware 183.73	Shop/Bldg/Equip
11692 Big Sky Kubota 29.50	Vehicle Expense
11693 Bill Posten 210.34	Director/Travel
11694 Bitter Root Disposal 70.00	Utilities
11695 Carquest 1658.47	Shop/Veh/Equip
11696 Chemnet Consortium 105.00	Drug/Alc Testing
11697 Conney Safety 220.27	Safety Program
11698 Corvallis Auto Parts 486.26	GF Exp/Shop
11699 Cowpoke 30.00	Office/Shop
11700 Dave Golay 223.00	Director/Travel
11701 Davison's 683.24	Fuel
11702 Don's Home Center 10.55	GF/Shop
11703 Fastenal 128.23	Headgate/Safety

11704 Ford's Dept Store 123.90	Safety	
11705 Jerry Wessel's 27.79	Vehicle Repairs	
11706 John Deere Financial 49.56	Safety/GF/Shop	
11707 John Schmiedeke 260.94	Director/Travel	
11708 Matt Pendergast 263.24	Director/Travel	
11709 MT State Fund 2339.92	Tax/Workers Comp	
11710 Norco 515.53	Safety/Shop/Misc	
11711 Ravalli Elec Co-op 413.00		Utilities
11712 Ravalli Republic 189.85	Advertising	
11713 Roland Woodburn 104.90	Med Reimbursement	
11714 Steve Bauman 216.56	Director/Travel	
11715 Sweet Pea 95.00	Miscellaneous	
11716 United Heritage 25.50	Insurance Expense	
11717 Valley Bank Visa 301.50	HG/Conferences	
11718 Verizon 146.15	Telephone Exp	
11719 WGM Group 1000.50	Engineering Fees	
11720 Century Link 53.17	Telephone Exp	

TOTAL
\$43,141.87

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:40 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on March 8, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, TC Richardson, Bill Moore, Bob Kirkpatrick, Cary Hays and Robert Jackson

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:00am.

The minutes of the regular February board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The February 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley's water update: Lake Como Elevation 4218.4 (10 feet lower than last year); snow pack at Twin lakes is at 96%; snow pack at Twelve Mile Creek 82%.

Manager Crowley reported on the joint safety meeting given yesterday by Woody and Rod on cold weather safety and battery safety.

Manager Crowley reported on the MWRA conference that he attended at Fairmont Hot Springs. The conference included fifteen vendors; mostly engineers, and informative presentations over the course of all three days. Manager Crowley strongly encouraged the board members to attend future meetings.

Manager Crowley and Stacy Coulter updated the board on the BOR ("the Bureau") Como Dam loan (#3-07-10-W0971). A conference call between the Bureau and John and Stacy took place on February 18, where the option of extending the length of the loan was discussed. A large increase in the payment amount is scheduled to take place in 2020. John and Stacy are drafting a letter and gathering financial information to send to the Bureau.

Manager Crowley and Stacy Coulter updated the board on the Siphon I Phase I bond payoff. Mark Anderson from Farmers has agreed to refinance the remainder of the loan at 3.97% rather than the current rate of 4.5%. The DNRC has given the District their approval for early payoff. A motion to transfer the Phase I Debt to Farmers State Bank was made by Matt Pendergast and seconded by Bill Posten. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Schmiedeke signed a new Stock Water Agreement for Max Grimmett.

Manager Crowley explained that there was an error with recent assessment payments. David Garten was not charged the taxes on a parcel of land that he purchased from Ronda Woodhouse Wade. The district will collect the \$612 from Mr. Garten and send a check in the same amount to Ronda Woodhouse Wade.

Manager Crowley reported that Jim Saurbier would like to connect to the Ridge Line gravity system in the Three Mile area. The board agreed that the district should consult with attorney, David Markette, before allowing a new user onto the system during litigation.

Manager Crowley informed the board of Dollie Griffin's boundary relocation. Dollie purchased 5.63 acres with 3.0 irrigated acres from Mr. Thompson and would like to transfer the water from Rasmussen Gravity System to the Willoughby gravity system.

The matter of reviewing and possibly changing the Bitter Root Irrigation District operating policies was tabled.

TC Richardson presented a letter to the Board, stating that he is not represented by Citizens For Fair Water ("CFFW"). Mr. Richardson stated that he has personally contacted more than 300 people in the Three Mile area who stated that they are not represented by CFFW. Signatures of people who do not wish to be represented by CFFW are being collected by TC and a few other water users on the Three Mile Gravity System. TC would like for any money that is currently in the Three Mile fund to be earmarked for maintenance on the Three Mile gravity system, not for legal fees.

Stacy Coulter introduced Bill Moore to the board and gave him the floor to ask questions. Mr. Moore is a water user on the Three Mile Gravity System who came to the board meeting specifically to ask questions about the lawsuit and about becoming a sub-district. A lengthy discussion ensued. TC Richardson, Harvey Hackett, Bob Kirkpatrick and board members answered Mr. Moore's questions regarding the history of the district, private gravity systems and irrigation subdistricts.

A motion to approve the Bitter Root Irrigation 2016 Newsletter as written by Stacy Coulter was made by Steve Bauman and seconded by Bill Posten. All approved. Motion passed.

An email regarding timelines for the Siphon I, Phase III project from Molly Davidson was passed out to the board members.

Manager Crowley reported that on March 3rd, Judge Haynes ratified the bond for the Siphon I Phase III project.

Manager Crowley showed the board and guests the sled with attached Go-Pro camera which can photograph and film the inside of pipelines.

Bill Posten moved to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Dave Golay; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11722 Century Link 192.72	Telephone Expense
11723 Denice Wright 100.00	Bldg Maint/Cleaning
11724 Healthcare Svc Corp 2,246.59	Insurance Expense
11725 Morrison-Maierle Inc 910.60	Engineering Expense
11726 Murphy Tax/Acct Svc 1,776.50	Audit Preparation Exp
11727 NW Energy 163.07	Utilities
11728 Markette & Chouinard 7,132.50	Legal Expenses
11729 Roland Woodburn 104.90	Medical Reimb
11730 Stacy Coulter 2219.92	Wages
11731 John Crowley 2708.18	Wages
11732 Larry Neel 2587.28	Wages
11733 Levi Nentwig 1780.08	Wages
11734 Rodney Sacks 2505.07	Wages
11735 Dennis Smith 1793.64	Wages
11736 Greg Snedigar 2206.42	Wages
11737 Roland Woodburn 1955.45	Wages
11738 Aflac 100.20	Insurance Exp
11739 American Funds 3,388.00	Pension Plan
***** EFTPS	Fed and FICA
6,892.30	
11741 MT State Fund 1,123.00	MT State Tax
11742 Ravalli Co FCU 500.00	Emp Contributions
11743 UI Contributions Bureau 144.09	UI Tax
11744 United Heritage 25.50	Life Insurance
11745 All Valley Autoglass	Vehicle Repair

300.00	11746	Bill Posten	Director/Travel
	105.17		
11747		Bitterroot Disposal	Utilities
	70.00		
11748		CenturyLink	Telephone Expense
	53.17		
	11749	Cowpoke Ranch	Safety Expense
	10.00		
11750		Dave Golay	Director/Travel
	111.50		
11751		Davison's	Fuel
	467.50		
11752		Don's Home Center	Shop Expense
	97.21		
11753		Energy Partners	Misc. Expense
	33.90		
11754		Evan's Ace Hardware	Office/Shop
	134.94		
11755		Fastenal	Shop Expense
	9.10		
11756		John Deere Financial	Field/Shop
	82.56		
11757		John Schmiedeke	Director/Travel
	130.47		
11758		Matt Pendergast	Director/Travel
	131.62		
11759		Mildenberger Motors	Repairs/Expense
	16.50		
11760		Morrison-Maierle Inc	Engineering
	3,367.23		
11761		Stevensville Napa	Repairs/Expense
	25.98		
11762		Ravalli Electric Co-op	Utilities
	384.69		
11763		Norco, Inc	Safety/Field/Shop
	326.46		
11764		Petty Cash	Office/Shop/Emp
	170.63		
11765		Steve Bauman	Director/Travel
	108.28		
11766		Western Flag & Banner	Bldg Maintenance
	102.00		
11767		Valley Bank/Visa	Office/Shop/Comp/Phone
	433.89		
11768		Verizon	Telephone
	157.82		
11769		Carquest Auto	Shop/Vehicle Repair
	478.52		

11770 All Valley Autoglass	Reimb Vehicle Repair
150.00	
11771 Ronda Woodhouse Wade	Assessment Refund
612.00	

TOTAL
\$50,627.15

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:00 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on April 12, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman, Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, David Markette (until 10:20) Robert Jackson, Bill Moore, Bob Nicholson, Cary Hays, TC Richardson and Molly Davidson (arrived at 11:00 am)

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The board entered into an executive session with the attorney at 10:05; the regular board meeting resumed at 10:20.

The minutes of the regular March board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The March 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley's water update: Lake Como Elevation is 4227.4 snow pack at Twin lakes is at 106%; snow pack at Twelve Mile Creek 75%.

Manager Crowley asked the board when they would like the crew to start water. The board agreed that water will start on April 18 unless unforeseen problems arise.

Manager Crowley showed a Power Point presentation demonstrating minor repairs that the crew has made, including repairing cracks, leaks and holes on Siphon II. Manager Crowley explained a variety of ways to fix issues along the pipeline once irrigation season has ended. Chairman Schmiedeke recommended that the District have a saddle made and available for future Pipe II repairs. Manager Crowley reported that his plans for work during the off season include a complete Siphon II inventory, ordering another expansion joint and addressing deteriorating thrust blocks.

Manager Crowley reported on the April 6 safety meeting where he presented videos on drowning risks and proper rescue techniques near dams. Laretta Belts from Aflac presented supplemental insurance options to the crew and staff at the safety meeting as well.

Manager Crowley gave a preliminary report on the Misevic/Yoder land transfer. Jacob Yoder would like to purchase property from Don Misevic. The property near the Stevensville Airport is on the boundary of the District's serviceable area. The board will address the water transfer at the next board meeting.

Molly Davidson arrived and distributed bid information to the board members and staff. A total of four bids were received from American Spiral Weld Co, Northwest Pipe Co, Ameron International, and Selway Corporation. All four bids came in under budget. American Spiral's bid was significantly lower than the other three bids. Several of American Spiral's items were more than 100% off, leading Morrison-Maierle to be concerned about the validity of this bid. Morrison-Maierle put a letter together for American Spiral Weld, asking them to verify their bid. Questions include whether freight is included in their bid estimate, whether their bid conforms to coating and lining specs and if bid item 106 (expansion joint) meets required standards. Morrison-Maierle asked for statement from American Spiral Weld that everything in their bid conforms. They have 24 hours to withdraw their bid. American Spiral Weld appears to be a known, reputable company. Molly explained two possibilities to the board: American Spiral Weld will withdraw their bid and the bid will be awarded to Northwest Pipe; or, the bid will not be withdrawn and Morrison-Maierle will request further information. A special board meeting may need to be held to award the project once Molly has all of the information. Molly recommended awarding the project as soon as possible. Secretary Coulter will have the installation bid package advertised in the Helena IR, Missoulia and Ravalli Republic tomorrow. Molly updated the board on the status of local permits: USACE 404, not required; CD 310, exempt; FWP 124, pending; DEQ 318 (issued by FWP), pending; DNRC navigable rivers, pending.

Changes to the operating policies will be tabled again.

Stacy Coulter and Manager Crowley presented the 2017 FY budget to the board. Changes include taking \$2,000 out of the bridge expense budget and allotting it to equipment expenses. Pay increases for the employees has been requested as well.

Matt Pendergast made a motion to increase employee hourly wage by \$0.75 per hour for fiscal year 2017. Steve Bauman seconded, all in favor. Motion passed. Manager Crowley will receive the equivalent of \$0.75 per hour increase to his annual salary. Matt Pendergast made a motion to accept 2017 budget with no increase to assessments for water users. Bill Posten seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Schmiedeke and Dave Golay suggested having a barbeque for the public at our 2016 annual meeting in July and offered to provide the beef. The District board and management would like to have a larger turnout for the annual meetings and discussed ideas of how to get more people to attend.

Chairman Schmiedeke announced that the paperwork was signed this morning for Farmers State Bank to pay off the DNRC Siphon 1, Phase 1 loan, as decided in the previous board meeting.

The board answered questions from Bill Moore regarding the Three Mile bond and potential outcomes if the Three Mile Gravity System does not become a sub-district of the Bitter Root Irrigation District.

Steve Bauman made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Bill Posten; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11772	Best Fire Equip	Fire/Safety Expense	
	395.25		
11773	BR Computer Guy	Computer Repair	
	180.00		
11774	Century Link	Telephone Expense	191.45
11775	Emerald Services	Misc Expense	
	274.50		
11776	Fastenal	Canal/Shop	37.65
11777	John Deere Financial	Fuel&Oil/Field	509.41
11778	Markette&Chouinard	Legal Fees	
	2077.50		
11779	NW Energy	Utilities	
	99.17		
11780	RCFedCredit Union	457/IRA rollover(EC)	
	29,361.44		
11781	RavCoFloodPlain	Engineering Expense	
	500.00		
11782	Roland Woodburn	Medical Reimb	
	104.90		
11783	Stacy Coulter	Travel/Staff	
	60.47		
11784	Visa	Shop/Adv/Emp/Comp	
	1194.10		
11785	WebDoneRight	Website Maint	
	668.75		
11786	WesternStatesCat	Equip Repairs	
	10.60		
11787	Stacy Coulter	March Wages	
	2448.44		
11788	John Crowley	March Wages	
	2708.18		
11789	Larry Neel	March Wages	

2850.95	
11790	Levi Nentwig 2000.51
11791	Rodney Sacks 2760.14
11792	Dennis Smith 2035.66
11793	Greg Snedigar 2449.59
11794	Roland Woodburn 2204.62
11795	Denice Wright 100.00
11796	MT State w/h 1269.00
11797	Roland Woodburn 8091.60
11798	Aflac 100.20
11799	American Funds 3703.25
11800	RavCoFCU 500.00
11801	United Heritage 8.50
11802	Healthcare Svc Corp 2246.59
11803	UI Contributions 130.81
11804	Bill Posten 105.17
11805	Bitter Root Disposal 70.00
11806	Capital One/Costco 199.42
11807	Century Link 53.17
11808	Dave Golay 111.50
11809	Davison's 1758.93
11810	Donaldson Bros 1852.20
11811	Don's Home Center 3.25
11812	Elaine's Engraving 46.05
	March Wages
	March Wages
	March Wages
	March Wages
	March Wages
	Bldg Maintenance
	State Payroll Taxes
	Compensated Absences
	Insurance Expense
	Pension Plan
	Emp Contributions
	Insurance Expense
	BCBS Insurance
	Unemp Insurance
	Director/Travel
	Utilities
	Office/Emp Relations
	Telephone/Internet
	Director/Travel
	Fuel Expense
	Lake/HG/Field/Canal
	Equip Repair
	Employee Relations

11813 Evan's Ace Hardware	Shop Expense
83.60	
11814 John Schmiedeke	Director/Travel
130.47	
11815 Matt Pendergast	Director/Travel
131.62	
11816 Pacific Steel	Shop Expense
24.75	
11817 Norco	Safety/Field/Shop
194.38	
11818 Titan Machinery	Equip Expense
145.17	
11819 Ravalli Electric	Utilities
285.75	
11820 Steve Bauman	Director/Travel
108.28	
11821 Verizon	Telephone Expense
126.98	
11822 Missoulia	Advertising (Bid Pkgs)
754.20	

TOTAL
\$77,458.12

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:05 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on May 10, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman, Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, Robert Jackson, Bob Nicholson, Clyde Lay, Dick Dinkelman, Molly Davidson, Cary Hays, TC Richardson, Don Misevic, Megan Twohig, Kirk Thompson

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

The minutes of the regular April board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The April 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Chairman Schmiedeke opened the meeting by asking Molly Davidson to speak about Siphon 1, Phase 3 installation bids which were opened yesterday afternoon. Molly's recommendation was to award the bid to Frontier West LLC. Frontier West's bid of \$1,119,587 is \$90,118 under budget. The other two bids came in over budget; one from Dick Anderson Construction in the amount of \$1,465,260 and the other from EDK Engineering and Construction in the amount of \$2,128,901. Molly explained that the District has 60 days to issue a notice of award but cannot do so until the Army Corps grant is finalized, which is contingent on a DNRC navigable river permit. Molly recommended that the board issue an "*Intent to Award*" document, indicating that the District plans to award the contract to Frontier West, LLC.

A motion was made by Matt to issue the Intent to Award, contingent upon all necessary paperwork being in place. Second by Bill Posten. All in favor. Motion passed.

With bids for both the procurement and installation packages coming in under budget, Molly made some suggestions for how to use the \$326,959 - \$448,000 available. One possibility is to purchase approximately 250 feet of additional pipe to create more aesthetically pleasing and functional design on the west side of the new bridge structure. Another suggestion was to create a complete walkway, or catwalk, on the bridge. Chairman Schmiedeke directed Molly do further research into the costs and logistics of both suggestions.

Chairman Schmiedeke introduced Clyde Lay and Dick Dinkelman from the Bureau of Reclamation. Once officially hired, Clyde will be the district deputy of the Ephrata BOR office, acting as a direct contact for districts for the District. Clyde told the board that he will advocate for BRID in regard to our deferment request on the Como Dam loan. Clyde will send information about Water Smart grants to manager Crowley.

Manager Crowley introduced Don Misevic and showed a map of his property. Don would like to transfer 38.8 irrigated acres from Parcel A of CS 608266-TR in the SE and NE section of 24-9-20, Index 6 to Parcel B of CS 5866-R in the NW section of 24-9-20.

Matt made a motion to allow Don to move his water, Dave Golay second. All in favor. Motion passed.

Megan Twohig, a realtor, addressed the board regarding water delivery to two lots owned by the Nancy Gavin 1999 Revocable Trust in Summerdale Orchards. The property has been subdivided into the following two parcels: Parcel #110120, Lot 10, Block 2 and Parcel #110080, Lot 9, Block 2. Megan requested that 6.4 irrigated acres be allotted to Lot 9 and 5.3 irrigated acres be allotted to Lot 10. Megan stated that the process of obtaining an easement has been started.

Motion to allow the water transfer, contingent upon completion of the easement, was made by Steve Bauman and seconded by Bill Posten. All in favor. Motion passed.

Bob Nicholson addressed the board about transferring 2.2 irrigated acres from Parcel 26660, Lots 15 and 16, Block 3 which currently has 19.2 irrigated acres to Parcel 26650, Lot 14, Block 3 which currently has 5.8 irrigated acres. The new irrigated acre totals will be: 17.0 on Parcel 26660 and 8.0 on 26650. Motion to approve the transfer was made by Steve, seconded by Matt. All in favor. Motion passed.

Manager Crowley's water update: Lake Como Elevation is 4241.7 snow pack at Twin lakes is at 35,000 acre feet; Lake Como is 89% full.

Manager Crowley showed pictures of the Headgate 44b repairs done by the crew in the past few weeks. A deep hole was discovered and water had to be shut down briefly while repairs were done.

The results of the board commissioner election were as follows: Dave Golay and Steve Bauman ran unopposed. Matt Pendergast ran against David Tripp and won; 5,318 to 2,719. All three commissioners retained their seats on the board. Following an election, the board must officially reorganize. A motion was made by Steve to keep the board as it is. Second by Bill Posten. All in favor. Motion passed.

Health insurance options were presented to the board, including putting Stacy and Levi on the District's policy in July. Steve Bauman made a motion to enroll Stacy and Levi. Bill seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

Kirk Thompson asked the board for approval of the following:
Parcel 381800, Lot 13a, Block 3 which he sold to Dollie Griffen, be allotted 3.0 irrigated acres; and, Parcel 402800, Lot 13b, Block 3 which he sold to Tim and Mary Ann Miller, be allotted 18 irrigated acres.
Lot 14a, Block 3 will be allotted 3 irrigated acres and Lot 15, Block 3 will be allotted 15 irrigated acres.

A motion to allow water transfers was made by Dave. Second by Matt. All in favor. Motion passed.

There was discussion of planning for the annual meeting on June 14. The board would like to have a barbecue at 6:00, following the regular meeting of the board and before the annual presentation to water users. Items such as the menu, advertising the meeting, and expected attendance were discussed. There will be more discussion and planning to follow.

Chairman Schmiedeke suggested that the board make their proposed changes to the Operating Policies for David Markette to review. TC Richardson provided language to add to the Three Mile section of the Operating Policies to include as an addendum until the lawsuit is settled.

Manager Crowley reminded the commissioners to formally reinstate Stacy Coulter as the secretary as part of the reorganization of the board. Motion to keep Stacy as secretary was made by Steve and seconded by Matt. All in favor. Motion passed.

Steve Bauman made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Bill Posten; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11823 Bureau of Reclamation	Hydromet	
350.00		
11824 Carquest Auto	Shop/Vehicle	
295.98		
11825 Chemnet Consortium	Drug/Alc Testing	87.50
11826 Energy Partners	Misc Expense	
23.70		
11827 Morrison Maierle	Siphon 1, Phase 3	
40,120.72		
11828 NW Energy	Utilities	
84.04		
11829 CenturyLink	Telephone Exp	
193.59		
11830 Chemnet Consortium	Drug/Alc Testing	
52.50		
11831 Fastenal	Field Expense	
90.69		
11832 VOID	VOID	-----
11833 Markette/Chouinard	Legal Fees	
7007.45		
11834 NW Energy	Utilities	
11.40		
11835 Visa	Shop/Office/Emp Relations	
3307.67		
11836 Massa Home Center	Canal Maintenance	
33.40		
11837 Stacy Coulter	April Wages	
2104.16		
11838 John Crowley	April Wages	
2708.18		
11839 Larry Neel	April Wages	
2454.44		
11840 Levi Nentwig	April Wages	
1925.54		
11841 Rodney Sacks	April Wages	
2663.93		
11842 Dennis Smith	April Wages	
1951.97		
11843 Greg Snedigar	April Wages	
2081.83		

11844 Troy Derr	April Wages	
132.76		
11845 Aflac	Insurance Expense	
100.20		
11846 American Funds	Pension Plan	
2821.98		
11847 MT State w/h	State Payroll Taxes	
1269.00		
11848 RavCoFCU	Emp Contributions	
500.00		
11849 United Heritage	Insurance Expense	
8.50		
11850 Healthcare Svc Corp	BCBS Insurance	
2246.59		
11851 MT State Fund	Workers' Comp	
2339.90		
11852 John Deere Financial	Shop/Equip	
291.95		
11853 VOID	VOID	-----
-		
11854 Denice Wright	Office Cleaning	
100.00		
11855 Ravalli Co FCU	Woody's 457 Rollover	
14,242.44		
11856 Bill Posten	Director/Travel	
105.17		
11857 Dave Golay	Director/Travel	
111.50		
11858 John Schmiedeke	Director/Travel	
130.47		
11859 Matt Pendergast	Director/Travel	
131.62		
11860 Steve Bauman	Director/Travel	
108.28		
11861 Bitter Root Disposal	Waste Disposal	
70.00		
11862 Century Link	Telephone Exp	
53.14		
11863 Donaldson Bros.	Equip/Shop	
275.40		
11864 Dykman Electric	GF Expense	
472.38		
11865 Evans Ace Hardware	Shop/Equip	
87.81		
11866 Helena IR	Advertising	
288.00		
11867 Jerry Wessel's	Equip Repair	

1321.80	
11868	Markette/Chouinard
5583.20	
11869	Corvallis Auto
51.57	
11870	Ravalli Electric
2021.94	
11871	Stevi Hardware
13.73	
11872	Verizon
124.02	
11873	Carquest
344.50	
11874	Bill Posten
105.17	
11875	Dave Golay
111.50	
11876	John Schmiedeke
130.47	
11877	Matt Pendergast
131.62	
11878	Steve Bauman
108.28	
11879	Davison's
1825.89	
11880	Missouliau
1347.45	
11881	Northwestern Energy
26.93	
11882	Norco
157.82	

Legal Fees
Equip Expense
Utilities
GF Expense
Telephone Expense
Equip/Veh Repairs
Director/Travel
Director/Travel
Director/Travel
Director/Travel
Director/Travel
Director/Travel
Fuel
Advertising
Utilities
Field/Veh Repairs

TOTAL	\$
106,841.67	

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:10 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on July 12, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, Robert Jackson, Bob Kirkpatrick and TC Richardson

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

The minutes of the regular June board meeting and the special June meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The June 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley gave the following water report: present Lake Como elevation is 4240.7 feet, which is 4.1 feet ahead of last year at this time. Manager Crowley estimated that we will make it to Labor Day weekend this year before shutting down and still have approximately 50 CFS of Lost Horse water.

Manager Crowley reported on the July 7 safety meeting. The meeting topics included mowing and tree pruning safety. A video on each topic was shown at the safety meeting and handouts on each topic were discussed. The meeting lasted approximately one hour.

Manager Crowley reminded the board that the annual triathlon will be held on July 23rd at Lake Como. Manager Crowley will go and oversee the event as a District representative.

The board and management discussed the annual meeting which took place last month. All agreed that it went well. A less lengthy presentation was the only suggestion for change.

Manager Crowley informed the board that the District was awarded a \$6000 grant to be used for a Siphon 2 inventory.

Manager Crowley showed an aerial map of where Alan Dukelow would like to put a drain on the ditch. There will be more to follow on this matter.

The assessment charge on the Three Mile Gravity system was discussed. The board decided to ask David Markette whether or not to continue charging Three Mile water users while the ownership of the system is in litigation.

Manager Crowley asked the board about making a budget amendment in order to pay for a repair to the CAT 320 Excavator. The cost of the repair will be \$7058.86. There was discussion on less expensive options. The matter was tabled until other options are explored.

The matter of the District's role in disputes between water users on private gravity systems was discussed. Manager Crowley informed the board of a recent situation where the District drafted a letter for the board of the Mountain View private gravity system to help keep water users compliant.

The board resolved into an executive session, then resumed at 11:50 am.

A motion was made by Matt Pendergast to remove the \$10 assessment charge from Three Mile water users' property taxes. Bill Posten seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

The meeting was opened up for public comment. Some discussion of the benefits and logistics of a sub-district ensued.

Manager Crowley gave a Power Point district update including the Observation fire which is now 90% contained, mowing by the District crew and weed spraying by the District crew. There are some locations where no herbicides can be used on the noxious weeds.

Steve Bauman made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Bill Posten; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11935 Stacy Coulter 2288.58	June Wages
11936 John Crowley 2708.18	June Wages
11937 Larry Neel 2666.39	June Wages
11938 Levi Nentwig 2054.50	June Wages
11939 Rod Sacks 2581.39	June Wages
11940 Dennis Smith 1871.15	June Wages
11941 Greg Snedigar 2280.37	June Wages
EFTPS First Interstate 5785.92	Federal w/h
11942 American Funds 2891.62	Pension Expense
11943 Aflac 42.30	Health Insurance
11944 Healthcare Svcs 2711.98	Health Insurance

11945 Ravalli Co FCU 500.00	Emp Acct
11946 UI Contributions Bureau 440.44	State Unemployment
11947 United Heritage 8.50	Insurance Expense
11948 MT State W/H 1020.00	Tax Expense
11949 Bermad 54.16	Gravity Flow
11950 MaCo 13,781.00	Insurance
11951 Fastenal 68.29	Shop Expense
11952 Stevi Napa 114.59	Vehicle Repair Exp
11953 Sweet Pea 130.00	Pub Ed (Annual Mtg)
11954 WGM Group 1153.00	Engineering
11955 Visa 916.34	Office/Safety/Vehicle Repair
11956 Bill Posten 210.34	Director/Travel
11957 Dave Golay 223.00	Director/Travel
11958 John Schmiedeke 260.94	Director/Travel
11959 Matt Pendergast 131.62	Director/Travel
11960 Steve Bauman 108.28	Director/Travel
11961 Evan's Ace Hardware 19.47	Weed/Shop
11962 Bitter Root Disposal 70.00	Utilities
11963 Century Link 53.14	Phone/Internet
11964 Corvallis Auto 32.17	Vehicle Repair
11965 Davison's Svc Center 2148.69	Fuel
11966 Don's Home Center 13.34	Field Expense
11967 Farmer's State Bank 19,394.11	Phase 1 Debt Svc
11968 Mountain West Coop	Weed Control

1030.00	
11969 Norco, Inc.	Shop Expense
223.00	
11970 Ravalli Electric	Utilities
115.58	
11971 VOID	-----

11972 Ravalli Republic	Advertising
72.00	
11973 Titan Machinery	Equip Repair
390.95	
11974 Valley Irrigation	Gravity Flow Exp
42.75	
11975 Verizon	Telephone Exp
124.02	
11976 Morrison Maierle	Sipon 1 Phase 3
12,972.35	
11977 Bitterroot Star	Advertising
252.00	
11978 Carquest Auto	Veh Repair/Weeds
50.97	
11979 DNRC	Engineering
553.00	

	TOTAL	\$
	84,560.42	

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:30 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on August 9, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Harvey Hackett, Robert Jackson, Bob Kirkpatrick and Cary Hays.

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

The minutes of the regular July board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The July 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley reported that the current elevation at Lake Como is 4223.4 feet, which is 5.6 feet higher than at this time last year. It still appears that water will continue until Labor Day; last year, the ditch was shut down on August 28.

Manager Crowley reported that our Safety Meeting this month will take place on August 17. Bureau of Reclamation representatives will be here to discuss emergency action plan (EAP) in the event of disasters.

Manager Crowley explained a document regarding a post-construction map revision on the Siphon I Phase III project which requires a signature from Chairman Schmiedeke. The District must pay to obtain a Letter of Map Revision from FEMA upon the completion of Phase III. The application process will cost the District \$18,244.

Manager Crowley showed the following updates in a Power Point presentation:

- Photographs and explanation of the location where Bob Birch would like to build a bridge over the ditch in the Bonanza Land area of Hamilton. Mr. Birch may attend a future board meeting to discuss the matter.
- Follow-up on the purchase of CAT excavator parts, an issue that was tabled last month. The District contacted North West Parts and was able to save \$3707.88. Photos of Greg and Larry working on the excavator repair were shown.
- Current St. Mary's Irrigation projects and issues, which are numerous and extremely costly.
- Equipment staging for the Siphon I Phase III, which has recently begun.

Manager Crowley informed the board that the crew has been actively spraying weeds and have covered a lot of ground so far. There was discussion on where the District plans to spray in the immediate future.

Matt Pendergast made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Dave Golay; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

11980 Stacy Coulter	July Wages
2197.36	
11981 John Crowley	July Wages
2708.18	
11982 Troy Derr	July Wages

176.00		
11983 Larry Neel	July Wages	
2,560.92		
11984 Levi Nentwig	July Wages	
2098.22		
11985 Rod Sacks	July Wages	
2479.97		
11986 Dennis Smith	July Wages	
1768.15		
11987 Greg Snedigar	July Wages	
2181.10		
EFTPS First Interstate	Federal w/h	
5598.12		
11988 Aflac	Health Insurance	
42.30		
11989 American Funds	Pension	
2792.38		
11990 MT State W/H	State Taxes	
984.00		
11991 Ravalli Co FCU	Emp Acct	
500.00		
11992 UI Cont Bureau	Unemployment	
126.55		
11993 United Heritage	Insurance Expense	
8.50		
11994 VOID	-----	---

11995 Healthcare Svcs Corp	BCBS Insurance	
2711.98		
11996 John Deere Financial	Weed Exp	
145.01		
11997 Markette & Chouinard	Legal Fees	
10,156.50		
11998 Northwestern Energy	Utilities	
19.15		
11999 Sweet Pea	Pub Ed (Annual Mtg)	
130.00		
12000 WGM Group	Engineering	
1153.00		
12001 Northwestern Energy	Utilities	
18.19		
12002 Petty Cash	Cash for office	
140.00		
12003 Massa Home Center	Shop Expense	
39.99		
12004 Denice Wright	Bldg Maintenance	
100.00		

12005 John Schmiedeke 130.47	Director/Travel
12006 Dave Golay 111.50	Director/Travel
12007 Matt Pendergast 131.62	Director/Travel
12008 Bill Posten 105.17	Director/Travel
12009 Steve Bauman 108.28	Director/Travel
12010 Big Sky Kubota 107.24	Equipment Repair
12011 Bitter Root Disposal 70.00	Utilities
12012 Mountain West Co-op 845.00	Weed Control
12013 Century Link 55.21	Telephone/Internet
12014 Corvallis Auto 33.67	Equipment Expense
12015 Evan's Ace Hardware 50.96	Shop/Bldg/Equip
12016 Jerry Wessel Tires 70.00	Vehicle Expense
12017 Northwest Parts & Equip 3350.98	Equipment Repairs
12018 Ravalli Electric Co-Op 2046.15	Gravity Flow Elec
12019 Verizon 124.12	Telephone Expense
12020 Valley Bank – Visa 101.48	Office/Employee Rel
12021 WGM Group 188.50	Engineering Fees
12022 MT State Fund 3062.28	Work Comp Insurance
12023 Markette & Chouinard 450.00	Legal Fees
12024 Century Link 194.59	Telephone/Internet
12032 Aflac 42.30	Health Insurance
12033 Healthcare Services 2711.98	Health Insurance
12034 Carquest 38.78	Vehicle Repairs

12035 CenturyLink	Telephone Expense
199.02	
12036 Davisons	Fuel
1076.40	
12037 Fastenal	Field Expense
50.87	
12038 Mtn West Co-Op	Weed Control
371.00	
12039 Norco, INC	Shop Expense
53.77	
12040 NW Energy	Utilities
34.22	
12041 American Funds	Pension
2792.38	
12042 Markette & Chouinard	Legal Fees
10,156.50	
12043 Visa	Ads/Office/Computer
939.03	
12044 Ravalli County FCU	Payroll Liability
500.00	
12045 Denice Wright	Bldg Maintenance
100.00	
12046 United Heritage	Insurance
8.36	
12047 Morrison Maierle	Phase III Expense
10,006.30	

TOTAL	\$
82,300.18	

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:30 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on September 13, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Bob Nicholson, Robert Jackson, Harvey Hackett, Cary Hays

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

The minutes of the regular August board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The August 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley reported that the current elevation at Lake Como is 4199.8 feet and that the ditch was shut down on September 6, completing the second irrigation season in a row with no shut-downs. Three thousand acre feet of fish water will be delivered, beginning on September 15. On October 5, a dive team with an ROV will be coming to Lake Como to inspect the intake structure and 260 feet of pipe.

Manager Crowley reported on the Safety Meeting this month on hand tools and grinders.

Regarding Siphon I Phase III, a pre-conference meeting was held on August 5 where the final approval from Army Corp of Engineers was received. The District crew members will begin the demolition and removal of the old pipe on Monday, September 19. The arrival of the new Pipe is tentatively set for the end of September and bridge construction is scheduled to begin on October 15. Pro Pipe and Frontier West both expect to have the project completely wrapped up by mid-December.

Manager Crowley reported on Orly Troyer. Mr. Troyer asked to move the water that he is receiving from the District at no charge. Legally, this cannot be done because the final judgment in regard to the water specifically attaches it to the current ground.

Manager Crowley reported that Bob Birch on Running Elk Ranch is requesting a bridge structure. The bridge will have to be placed in a different location than originally planned but will still meet District specs. No decisions about this proposed bridge are required from the board at this time.

Manager Crowley reported on John Schriever: Mr. Schriever would like to change his point of delivery. The decision on this matter was tabled until we can confirm that the other users affected have given their consent.

Manager Crowley reported on the Comerford subdivision and water re-allocation. The property has been divided (parcel #380400) has been divided into two parcels. Owners are seeking approval to put 4.8 irrigated acres onto the 5.01 acre parcel and 4.8 irrigated acres on the 4.81 acre parcel. John Schmiedeke made a motion to allow, Dave Golay seconded)

Manager Crowley reported on the Dorsey & Whitney document that needs to be signed by Chairman Schmiedeke. The document refers to the resolution to adopt Siphon I Phase III bond. A motion was made by Matt Pendergast to accept (insert name of document) in reference to Phase III project. Second by Bill Posten. All in favor; motion passed.

Bill made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Matt; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

12048	Stacy Coulter	Wages	2203.2
12049	John Crowley	Wages	2708.19
12050	Larry Neel	Wages	2811.42
12051	Levi Nentwig	Wages	2309.86
12052	Rod Sacks	Wages	2683.82
12053	Dennis Smith	Wages	1968.16
12054	Greg Snedigar	Wages	2379.64
12055	American Funds	Payroll Liability	3413.36
12056	MT State w/h	State Taxes	1043
12057	Dave Golay	Director/Travel	111.5
12058	Bill Posten	Director/Travel	105.17
12059	John Schmiedeke	Director/Travel	130.47
12060	Matt Pendergast	Director/Travel	131.62
12061	Evans Ace	Shop/Office	9.98
12062	Best Fire Equip	First aid/Safety	210
12063	Bitter Root Disposal	Utilities	70
		Telephone	
12064	Century Link	Expense	54.35
12065	Corvallis Auto	Equip Expense	33.88
12066	Davisons	Fuel Expense	1491.66
12067	Donaldson Bros	Headgate Expense	537.6
12068	F/S Manuf	Weed Control	163.58
12069	Lakeland Feed	Weed Control	139
12070	MADCS	Conf/Training	255
12071	Norco, Inc	Equip/Field	190.66
12072	NorMont	Equip Expense	333.44
12073	Pacific Steel	Bridge/Field/HG	2005.3
12074	Ravalli Electric	Utilities	98.93
12075	Stevi Hardware	GF Expense	7.78
12076	TT&E Inc	Equip Purchase	15,500.00
		Telephone	
12077	Verizon	Expense	124.12
12078	Mtn West Co-Op	Fuel/Weed	438.91
12079	Capital One	Misc	344.85
12080	Carquest	Shop/Field/Vehicle	70.81
12081	Fastenal	Headgate Expense	165.24
12082	NW Energy	Utilities	19.15
		Total:	44263.65

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:55 a.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on October 11, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten,
Dave Golay and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: John Crowley, Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, Bob Kirkpatrick, Robert Jackson, and Cary Hays

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

The minutes of the regular September board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The September 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley reported on the Bureau of Reclamation dive team inlet inspection that took place at Lake Como last week. Showed picture of ROV used, which went 260 feet into the pipeline, will have film of what was captured at a later time. Overall, everything looked good. The dive was funded by the BOR.

Manager Crowley reported that the employees will be attending an MADCS meeting in Missoula next week as the monthly safety meeting of the District.

Manager Crowley reported on the progress of Siphon I, Phase III. The District crew removed a large portion of the old pipe on the east side of Highway 93. Pro Pipe has also been removing pipe. Photos show extensive cavitation and scouring in some of the pipe that has been removed. Photos of culvert underneath the highway, everything looked to be in good condition. Manager Crowley also showed photos of the box culvert on the west side and photos of Frontier preparing to install new pipe. Nine pieces of pipe have been delivered so far. Manager Crowley showed the board several photos of pipe, inside and outside.

Manager Crowley reported on problems with the District's 320 CAT. The final drive motor has already been replaced but the problem wasn't solved. Oil samples will be taken and further inspection to figure out and repair the problem.

Manager Crowley reported on the water exchange with John Westenberg in the Burnt Fork area and informed the board that the District needs to tie up loose ends and clarify specific rights and plans in the area. Water from Swamp Creek goes into the ditch, those users get it back out of the ditch. The problem is that the users always get their water

out, we don't always get water from the creek. There will be more discussion on this matter later.

A work directive change was signed by John Schmiedeke in regard to the removal of valve on the pipeline which will end up saving the District over \$8,000. Motion to accept work change made by Dave Golay, second by Bill. All in favor. Passed.

Stacy explained the new fund account at the County that was created specifically to manage funds for the Siphon I Phase III project (#7289). \$150,000 was taken out of the general fund and the catastrophic fund and put into #7289 as the District's contribution to the project. The \$2.67 per irrigated acre that was building up the catastrophic fund will now go toward the Siphon I Phase III semi-annual bond payment.

Matt made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Bill; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof:

12083 Stacy Coulter	Wages
2203.20	
12084 John Crowley	Wages
2708.18	
12085 Larry Neel	Wages
2,666.38	
12086 Levi Nentwig	Wages
2218.04	
12087 Rod Sacks	Wages
2581.39	
12088 Dennis Smith	Wages
1871.15	
12089 Greg Snedigar	Wages
2280.37	
EFTPS First Interstate	Federal w/h
5869.42	
12090 Century Link	Telephone
195.89	
12091 IRS	Quarterly Taxes
1986.97	
12092 Healthcare Svcs	Health Ins Expense
2711.98	
12093 Don's Home Center	Bldg Projects
636.72	
12094 UI Contributions	UI Expense
123.70	
12095 John Deere Financial	Shop/Weed/3mile
545.81	
12096 Northwestern Energy	Utilities
13.51	

12097 Stacy Coulter 103.00	Emp Travel Exp
12098 United Heritage 8.43	Insurance Exp
12099 Western Business Equip 120.00	Office Equipment
12100 Denice Wright 100.00	Bldg Maintenance
12101 Matt Pendergast 131.62	Director/Travel
12102 John Schmiedeke 130.47	Director/Travel
12103 Dave Golay 111.50	Director/Travel
12104 Bill Posten 105.17	Director/Travel
12105 Corvallis Auto 58.17	Equip Exp
12106 Big Sky Kubota 117.06	Insurance Expense
12107 Bitter Root Disposal 70.00	Utilities
12108 Century Link 54.35	Phone/Internet
12109 Cowpoke 15.00	Shop
12110 Davison's Svc Center 1185.30	Fuel
12111 Evan's Ace Hardware 70.04	Shop/Office
12112 Mildenberger Motors 106.10	Vehicle Maintenance
12113 Ravalli Electric 118.47	Utilities
12114 Visa 877.67	Office/Comp/Misc
12115 Valley Irrigation 1320.69	Gravity Flow Exp
12116 Verizon 124.12	Telephone
12117 Western States CAT 17.44	Equip
12122 Carquest 977.98	Vehicle Expense
12123 Fastenal 26.97	Shop Expense

12124 Jerry Wessel's	Vehicle Expense
1239.00	
12125 Northwest Parts & Equip	Vehicle Expense
310.92	
300 Morrison Maierle Inc	Engineering
7063.37	
301 Northwest Pipe Co	Pipe S1Ph3
51,265.20	
302 Northwest Pipe Co	Pipe S1Ph3
56,477.40	
303 Frontier West	Siphon 1 Ph3 Install
151,012.00	

<i>TOTAL</i>	\$ 36,094.74
<i>S1PH3 Total</i>	<i>\$ 265,817.97</i>

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:55 a.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on November, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman, and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, Bob Nicholson and Robert Jackson

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

The minutes of the regular October board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The October 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Manager Crowley reported on the annual safety committee meeting. There were no injuries or accidents in the 2016 irrigation season. The employee bonus will remain at \$100.

Manager Crowley reported on the November 6 safety meeting regarding fire hazards. The meeting topics included proper cleaning and maintenance of household clothing dryers and the fire dangers associated with Christmas trees. A video on each topic was shown at the safety meeting, which lasted approximately one hour.

The board resolved into an executive session, then resumed at 10:55 am.

Manager Crowley gave the board an update and showed a Power Point presentation of the Siphon 1 Phase 3 project. Pictures of the new pipe, inside and out, were shown. To date, the bridge over the river has been entirely removed and the railroad tracks have not yet been replaced. Power Point photos indicated that the concrete piers that were removed were extremely worn and crumbling.

Secretary Coulter reported on the 2015 audit that was recently completed. There were no issues found. The final totals for the Fiscal Year 2016 came in under budget.

Manager Crowley reported on John Shreiver. He would like to change his point of diversion. Mr. Shreiver provided a letter from other water users in his area indicating that they have no objections. Bill made a motion to allow the change of diversion point. Matt seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

Manager Crowley reported on the MADCS meeting recently attended by the crew and himself in Missoula.

Manager Crowley reported that Greg Snedigar experienced problems with our plasma cutter while working on the Siphon 1, Phase 3 pipe. The purchase of a more efficient plasma cutter designed to run on a generator was proposed to the board. The cost would be approximately \$4,000. The board will consider the purchase.

Bill Posten made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Matt Pendergast; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof (see attached):

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:20 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of The Bitter Root Irrigation District held at the District office at 1182 Lazy J Lane, Corvallis MT on December 13, 2016.

Commissioners present: John Schmiedeke, Bill Posten, Steve Bauman,
and Matt Pendergast.

Also present: Manager John Crowley, Secretary Stacy Coulter, Harvey Hackett, TC Richardson, Cary Hays, Randy Nentwig, Robert Jackson, Kevin Gordon, Molly Davidson

Chairman Schmiedeke called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.

The minutes of the regular November board meeting were mailed to the Board. There were no additions or corrections. The November 2016 minutes will stand approved as mailed.

Chairman Schmiedeke asked for public comment. TC Richardson presented a box of signed petitions from a little over 60% of the Three Mile Gravity System users to the board on behalf of Randy Nentwig and Cary Hays. They asked that the Three Mile Gravity pipelines become a sub-district and suggested the name: "The Three Mile Gravity System, sub-district of the Bitter Root Irrigation District."

Matt moved to accept the petitions; Bill seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

After further discussion by the board members, Matt made a motion to have Tracey Turek, a local water expert, verify the petitions and Bill seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passed.

There was discussion about where to hold a public meeting in the event that the petitions were verified to be over 60% of the Three Mile gravity system users and acreage. The board and manager Crowley looked through the current Montana Code Annotated ("MCA") to discern the appropriate protocol for proceeding with the petition verification and sub-district process. It was determined that once the petitions were verified by Ms. Turek, a public notice would be posted two times within 15 days, and a public meeting for discussion would be held thereafter.

Manager Crowley suggested that a meeting with Attorney, David Markette, will be necessary in order to be sure that the process is followed to the letter of the law.

TC Richardson inquired about what the opposition to a sub-district (CFW, et al) might do to stop the sub-district efforts. He requested that Manager Crowley ask Mr. Markette about that. Cary Hays would like to know if petitions can still be gathered or rescinded at this point. Those questions remained unanswered after further review of the MCA by board members and management.

Molly Davidson updated the board on the Siphon I Phase III project. The new bridge will be set tomorrow, likely around midday. The project is ahead of schedule and should be finished by mid- to late January. The contingency budget has not yet been used. The entire project should come in around \$300,000 under budget. Molly had prepared a memo to summarize the effort and methods applied to the cathodic protection of the project and different cost effective and long-term options. She wanted to be sure that the District is satisfied and aware that higher degrees of protection are available. Upon our

request, a cost quote for maintenance and higher protection options will be available from Morrison-Maierle.

Manager Crowley introduced Kevin Gordon who was here to represent Bob Burch. Mr. Gordon proposed building a steel bridge at Mr. Burch's property and proposed the particular materials and specs to the board. Mr. Gordon provided designs from his engineer and hopes to begin installing the bridge as soon as possible and be finished by spring. Manager Crowley recommended putting a gate on the bridge as well as a cattle guard. The board requested that the bridge shall be finished by April 1. A motion was made by Matt to approve the bridge and seconded by Bill Posten. All in favor, motion passed.

Manager Crowley gave the following water report:
Lake Como is currently at 4217.8 feet.
Last year at this time it was at 4207.8.

The Snotel site at Twin Lakes is currently at 50 inches.
Last year at this time it was at 33.

Manager Crowley reported on dam tender training that was attended by Rod Sacks, Greg Snedigar, Larry Neel and himself last week.

Manager Crowley reported that the transmission on the District's International dump truck seized up and that it is being rebuilt by Peterbilt. We are waiting for an update on the cost of the repair from Peterbilt at this point. More to follow.

Manager Crowley reported on recent damage that was done to the ditch in Stevensville by local resident, Todd Will. The ditch was torn up and there was a hydraulic oil spill that needed to be cleaned up. Mr. Will was invoiced and reimbursed the District \$310 for the clean-up efforts required.

Manager Crowley reported on a matter of the Bugli family planning to use septage (raw sewage) on their property for fertilization. Neighbors of the property have called the District office with concerns that the septage will drain into the big ditch.

Planned discussion about replacing the plasma cutter was tabled.

Bill made a motion to approve the monthly warrants and adjourn the meeting; second by Matt; all in favor. Motion passed. Warrants ordered and drawn in payments thereof (see attached):

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 12:30 p.m.

