

**ELEPHANT BUTTE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 13, 2020**

A Special Board of Directors meeting of the Elephant Butte Irrigation District was held by teleconference on Wednesday, May 13, 2020. The meeting was called to order by President Michael McNamee. All Board members were present.

EBID personnel present were Gary Esslinger, Manager; Naomi Ontiveros, Secretary; Gail Norvell; Finance Director; Erek Fuchs, Groundwater Resource Manager; Delyce Maciel, HR/Safety Director; Zachary Libbin, Engineer; James Narvaez, Irrigation Systems Manager; Karen Ray, EBID Media Consultant; Consultant Dr. King and attorney Samantha Salopek were also present.

The Invocation was given by Joe Paul Lack followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Greg Daviet.

As of May 7th, little inflow is down. 108,101 thousand acft has been released from storage leaving 678,908, this is only an improvement of close to 7 thousand acft from the previous month. The allocation is in the process of being finalized. Dr. King has reduced diversion ration to .879 out of precaution. Dr. King would like to see how Mesilla does when it comes on, normally it hits steady loss of 200/250 loss in Mesilla. Allocation 189,347 for this year 86 thousand from last year will recommend no increase in the allotment. The river stations have gotten worse since last month. There is no spring run off this year and snowpack is done. Not much is happening with El Nino.

James Narvaez added in April 353 irrigations have irrigated with a total of 6,904 acres watered and an actual diversion to heading of 7,553. He adds the efficiency is at 37% averaging 200 cfs per day, which is typical for a start up season, the target is 55%. The current end of season for Hatch/Rincon Valley is looking to be around July 21st with Mesilla/South Valley being last week of August first week of September. James suggested flat rate schedule be May 30th and 31st for the first irrigation and June 27th and 28th for the second and final irrigation. James Salopek motioned and Keith Deputy second to approve the suggested flat rate schedule. Motion carried.

Gary advised the Board the District has remained COVID free and have had no issues. The purchasing department has been able to receive sanitation and cleaning products. Face masks have been handed out to all employees for use. EBID office is not open to the public yet. The Governor is schedule to make an announcement on the process to begin opening up business later in the day, May 13th.

Zack presented the permits for approval. Permit 2020-L023 city of las cruces has requested fees be deferred. The board had previously denied the CLC request for a 25 year permit and it has been brought back for reconsider with a 5 year request with fees still being requested to be deferred. Keith Deputy asked if there was a 100% guarantee stormwater could not get down to the drain. Zack advised it is diked up and is likely not to get in the Districts drain. Greg expressed his concerns about any stormwater getting in the drains as well as his concern and not support of deferring payment of permit fees. James Salopek motion and Bobby Sloan second to deny fees being deferred. Motion carried.

License List for Special-of-Use-Permit Applications for May 13, 2020 Board Meeting			
Licensee	Assessment	Term	Fees Requested to be Waived?
2020-L-023 CITY OF LAS CRUCES	\$13,650	5 YEARS	
TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A WATER LINE, FIBEROPTIC CABLE IN CONDUIT, AND A STORM SEWER CROSSING THE MESILLA DRAIN AT STA#438+13 AND STORMWATER DISCHARGE AT STA# 439+13			DEFERRED
			FOR 1 YEAR

Roll Call

COVID-19
Health
Emergenc

Gail Norvell introduced Brad Watts with Watts CPA, P.C. Mr. Watts presented the annual audit report to the Board and advised he had conducted the annual audit for fiscal end year of 10/31/2019 and issued an unqualified opinion (clean opinion). An unqualified opinion indicates that the financial records have been maintained in accordance with the standards known as Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) and that the financial statements of the District are fairly presented. Greg Daviet motioned and Sam Salopek second to accept and approve the presented audit. Motion carried.

Mike McNamee called to order the Suspension/Transfer Hearing. Zack Libbin presented a total of 7.96 acres for suspension and transfer. Ubaldo Grajeda & Ubaldo Grajeda Jr to Ubaldo Grajeda 7.01 acres. Owen Stryker to Russel & Karen Stryker Family Trust .75 acres. Charlee Goetz-Koch to Justin & Sharlae Garcia 0.20 acres. James Salopek motioned and Bobby Sloan second to approve the presented water transfers for a total of 7.96 acres. Mr. McNamee asked that a Resolution be formalized as called for by Section 73-13-5 of the New Mexico Statutes Annotated, and that the Secretary of the Board certify and file with the State Engineer a true copy of the Resolution and action of the Board. Mr. McNamee also announced that if there be a protestant who disagreed with the action of the Board, he/she may appeal this decision directly to the District Court as provided under Section 73-13-4 of the New Mexico Statutes. Motion to adjourn the Board sitting for water transfer hearing by Greg Daviet seconded by Sam Salopek. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Steve Lyles motioned and James Salopek second to adjourn the meeting. Motions carried.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held Wednesday, April 15, 2020 beginning at 9 AM.



MICHAEL MCNAMEE, President

SAM SALOPEK, Secretary

Adjourn