**Mission Jocko Joint Board**

**“Mission Jocko Irrigation Districts”**

**March11th, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

1:00 PM Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

All commissioners for Mission and Jocko District were present.

**Minutes:** Meeting minutes were approved with one correction. Tim Callahan moved and Gene Posivio seconded, motion passed.

Warrants**:** Tim Callahan moved to approve the warrants, Lane Harriman seconded, motion passed

**BIA**: Brian Haley stated the exemptions have been lifted for the BIA. They will proceed with re-hiring ditch riders. Brian and Eric Bruguier will be staying with the BIA for this season.

Skye Cooley presented information on the snowpack conditions. He stated the current snowpack conditions of the Mission and Salish mountains is consistent. He stated the reservoirs are filling slowly. Due to recent layoffs, their administration has been affected. They expect to make it through with temporary changes.

**Office Manager:** Denise Marks has been hired through May 2025 at a rate of $18 per hour for a total of 20 hours per week.

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**Community Well:** Ray Swenson explained the reasoning behind thoughts on a community well. Some discussion on possible use of the well at the Saint Ignatius airport. So far responses have been leaning towards not in favor by irrigators. Gene Posivio moved to table the discussion until the fall, Ray Swenson seconded, motion passed.

**Potential Lobbyist:** It is looking less likely that the Board will need a lobbyist. The two possible proposed bills haven’t been introduced yet, and there is only about 3 weeks left to do so. A couple of potential lobbyists (including John Metropolous) withdrew due to conflicts. Some discussion on language differences in state compact vs federal. Personal injury due to the compact will be addressed in water court. Scott Richner (lobbyist) called in to meet with the Board. Ray Swenson summarized what the Board is looking for and the two bills the Board would be keeping an eye on, the main focus would be on the bill that is requesting to amend the language of the compact. Scott recommended to stay away from the bill trying to reverse the compact as it is dead in the water. He recommended a retainer to do research for the next two weeks and figure out if there is a lane to pursue offensively. It would $5000 to start, and if there are options it would be $10,000 per month for the remaining session (two months). Boone Cole suggested to table the topic and speak with Keith Regear about what he can offer to the Board before moving forward, the rest of the Board agreed.

**Office Manager Position:** Renee Roragen has accepted a new position and gave notice to the Board prior to the meeting. She did offer to stay on until the Board found a replacement. Denise Marks attended the meeting as a possible candidate for the position, some discussion on training and time frame. Tim Callahan moved to hire Denise Marks on a 30 day trial to train with Renee and determine whether it was a good fit by the next meeting, paying both employees for half time which is 15 hours per week at $18 per hour, Gene Posivio seconded, motion passed.

**Office Equipment**: Renee Roragen gave a summary of cost for a new computer and new conference phone. Tracy Gardner moved to approve a new computer tower purchase from Kelley Create between $600-1000, and a new conference phone if Kelley Create has one for $3-400, Tim Callahan seconded, motion passed.

**Water Court Update:** Some discussion about timeline in court.

**Public Comment:** Some discussion on lobbyist and options.

**Adjourn:** Tracy Gardner moved, Lane Harriman seconded, meeting was adjourned at 2:49 PM.