

***Twin Lakes Rathdrum Creek Flood Control 17  
Regular Meeting Minutes***

Public Agency: **Flood Control 17, Kootenai County, Idaho**

Governing Body: **Board of Flood Control District Commissioners**

Meeting Date, Time, and Location:

**January 2, 2020, 6:00 pm**

**Twinlow Camp**

**22787 North Twinlow Rd. Rathdrum Idaho 83858**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Todd Howe at 6:15 pm.

**Present:** Chairman Division 1 Todd Howe

Commissioner Division 2 Adam Kremin

Commissioner Division 3 Gordon Sylte

Commissioner Division 4 Janet Armstrong

Secretary/Treasurer Kathryn Cronin

**A quorum was established**

**Public:** Doug Jones - IDWR

Laurin Scarcello – FCD Dam Tender

Steve Neff - Watermaster

**Meeting Changes:** No Changes to the agenda

**Approval of minutes:** Gordon Sylte moved to approve the minutes from December's regular meeting. Todd Howe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Lake level Report:** Laurin Scarcello – Dam tender stated the lake level is at 8.28' on the staff gauge with the gate at a 1.75 inch opening. Stephen's Connect is an inch off from the staff gauge reading. Laurin suggested in the spring BigFoot should come out and give everyone a walk through of the system. Todd Howe said the BigFoot technician just needs to come out and calibrate the equipment with the staff gauge. Kathryn Cronin asked who was going to connect with BigFoot; Todd Howe will reach out and connect with Tim Guy. Gate changes will be communicated to Laurin Scarcello as the snow pack increases and the weather changes.

**Payment Authorization:**

Kathryn Cronin presented the following bills for payment.

Laurin Scarcello - Payroll \$608.45, Kathryn Cronin - Payroll \$419.04, All Terrain Specialties LLC - Rathdrum Creek Clearing \$3,800, Avista - Utilities \$28.38, CDA Press - Legal Notice \$20.10, Twinlow Camp - December and January Rent \$200, Todd Howe - Reimbursement for Wix Website Subscription \$156.

Todd Howe made a motion to authorize payments. Janet Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Review of bank Statements & Financial records.**

December's bank statement was reviewed by all of the commissioners. The reconciled bank account statements for Checking and Savings from QuickBooks were also reviewed.

### **Correspondence review**

Kathryn Cronin reviewed the correspondence to the Flood Control District with the commissioners. An email from Wix said the card on file would be charged in January for the domain subscription. Currently, the credit card on file is Bobbie Hunsinger's. At the end of the meeting, Todd Howe will give his card information to Kathryn so his card will be charged for the website subscription. A letter from RLI Insurance stated the surety bond for the Flood District had been cancelled. Kathryn Cronin will call, send in payment, and have the bond reinstated and will add the new commissioners to the surety bond.

Todd Howe reiterated the need for communication on the group text, saying the commissioners should know and agree to any opening or closing of the dam gate. In some cases, it may be necessary to act within a short time frame. If this happens, only three commissioners need to respond before action is taken.

### **Old Business:**

#### **Weather Station at the Dam (Gordon Sylte, Steve Neff)**

Steve Neff did not get a chance to connect with Tim Guy at BigFoot about the weather station. Gordon Sylte said cost may vary depending on what kind of weather station unit the Flood Control District decides it needs. He got one for Christmas from his daughter, and it didn't cost \$5,000. He wondered if it would be worth buying a couple smaller units rather than one larger unit. More conversation will happen at the next meeting.

#### **Rathdrum Creek Debris Clearing – Update**

All Terrain Specialties LLC cleared debris up through town to Gordon Sylte's property. Colton Kremmer is willing to do more work in the future. There is always more work that can be done, but for now the debris clearing has reached a stopping point. Laurin Scarcello mentioned Dave was particularly happy with the debris clearing and is happy to help get work done in the future. Laurin also mentioned working with the contractor to map out problem spots and create a list of

neighbors for the future. Doug Jones said an annual log of the work done through Rathdrum Creek would be beneficial for future contractors and commissioners.

### **Temporary Roof Over Sensors (Laurin Scarcello)**

Laurin Scarcello said the Aluminum Roof Cover built by Weld It is finished and ready to be installed. He turned over the W-9 for Weld It along with the invoice totalling \$650. Payment will be completed once the temporary roof is installed over the sensors.

### **New Business:**

#### **Information on Snow Pack and Lake Level Curves (Todd Howe)**

Todd Howe brought copies of the Greenacres Plan and charts of the lake levels and gate openings from the past three to four years. These were to familiarize and educate the new commissioners on snowpack and the lake level curves. The goal is to figure out how much water from the snowpack goes into the lake and when. Todd Howe doesn't want to be stuck like last year, dumping too much CFS through the gate. Laurin Scarcello said the goal right now would be to stick around 8ft but not above 8.6ft. Todd Howe would like to not hit 8.5ft.

Doug Jones offered to send over graphs and charts from IDWR from the last two years of lake levels, precipitation, etc. Todd Howe wondered why the information collected by the Stevens Connect can't be saved and used, another topic to ask Tim Guy from BigFoot. Gordon Sylte said Dan Park is another good resource for information on the snowpack and lake level variance. Todd Howe wants to be able to use the collected data to start charting patterns, but did say the levels coincide with the Greenacres Plan. All this can help with the commissioners' decision to open the gate in order to keep the lake level steady.

Laurin Scarcello said it's good to note lower lake levels can help prevent algae blooms, because it gets frost and sun to plant roots which are usually covered up. Steve Neff mentioned the Verizon camera up at Fish Creek could get reactivated and moved to another location. It would be another way to keep an eye on things and could indicate how precipitation - rain and snow - and lake levels are trending upward. He also mentioned the speed at which the snow comes off is more unpredictable now due to logging.

Todd, based on the projected snow and rain in the forecast, recommended the gate be opened more, starting with a 3 inch opening and adjusting in the future as necessary. All commissioners agreed.

#### **Sump Review, County and Aquifer Protection Board (Gordon Sylte)**

Gordon Sylte wanted to go over the sump project - the plan was to clean out and expand the sump, but the Flood District had run out of money and the time. He wondered if there had been any communication with the Tevis family about the incomplete project and if there are any plans

to continue, particularly with the expansion. Todd Howe and Janet Armstrong clarified with Gordon Sylte there had already been communication with the families, particularly the Greenfields. There is no obligation for the Greenfield family to put up a fence and the Flood District does not have the imminent domain to install one. Gordon Sylte asked if the Tevis family wanted a fence on their side of the sump. No one has communicated with the Tevis family about this topic. Work involving the sump needs further clarification and more discussion, so the topic will come up again in future Flood District meetings.

Laurin Scarcello stated the opportunity to work with the Tevis family should not be ignored and dialogue with them should continue. The sump is important to the Aquifer Protection Board, however they are currently focused on the Hauser Lake project. Any work on the sump could take some time and money, so a Twin Lakes project would be two to five years down the road.

The main goal and responsibility of the Flood District should be to keep the sump clean and clear on both ends. Laurin Scarcello will check in with the Aquifer Board about plans for the sump and will give updates at the next Flood District meeting. Steve Neff recommended connecting with Bill Gumm about the sump, since he is familiar with the history of the current one, and there had been discussion in the past about installing another sump higher up in a different location. The plan is to keep the sump as a discussion topic until the summer, when action can be taken.

### **Adjournment**

Adam Kremin motioned to adjourn. Janet Armstrong seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Cronin