The Board of Directors for the Roza Irrigation District convened in regular session on Tuesday October 13, 2020. Those present via telephone conference were President Ric Valicoff, Vice-President Jim Willard, Director Jason Don, Director Will Jones and District Manager Scott Revell, Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen, Watermaster Assessment Clerk/Assistant Secretary Kristel Espinoza, and District Attorney Tom Cowan & Brian Iller.

The President called the meeting to order at 9:02 A.M. and requested the Board consider the consent agenda as presented:

a. Minutes of September 8, 2020 regular Board meeting.
b. Minutes of September 23, 2020 special Board meeting
g. Claims.

The following claims are approved for payment: payroll numbers 29505 - 29509 in the amount of $4,612.20. Vouchers numbers 64561 – 64567, 64636 – 64678 and 64693 – 64764 in the amount of $750,024.19 and electronic payments 08-20, 09-2020, 20-21, 20-22, 21-20 and 22-20 in the amount of $287, 163.29 from the period of September 1, 2020 to October 13, 2020.

It was moved by Mr. Willard, seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously passed to approve the consent agenda.

District Manager Revell updated the Board on the District’s coronavirus emergency operations and reported no additional Roza employees tested positive for Coronavirus. Mr. Revell noted, off season work will require a different approach compared to water delivery because the nature of the work is different than during the irrigation season.

District Manager Revell requested from the Board, authorization to pursue title transfer of transferred works to the District from the United States government. Mr. Revell noted, staff is seeking the authority to proceed with initiating a request with the Bureau of Reclamation to transfer title of the Roza main canal from 11.0 mile to the tail end, including the lateral canals, pump stations, wasteways, the United States Bureau of Reclamation owned buildings at the District’s Sunnyside headquarters, Upper and Lower end offices plus the four remaining ditch rider houses. Following discussion, Mr. Willard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Don and unanimously approved to authorize the District Manager to initiate the title transfer process with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Jason Sheehan joined the meeting via telephone conference at 9:13 A.M.

Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen reported to the Board on the electrical power required to supply the Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant. The next step is to have Puget Sound Energy develop engineering estimates for two scopes of work that would give cost estimates for constructing power transmission infrastructure with peaking loads at both 70 MW, which is what the current substation arrangement can supply and 11.5 MW which would require upgrades to the substation. Following discussion, Mr. Willard made a motion, seconded by Mr. Don and unanimously approved to authorize the District Manager to execute an Engineering Services Construction Agreement with Puget Sound Energy to develop technical plans and costs for providing power for Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant and not to exceed $43,000.

Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen updated the Board on the Pump 14 upgrade, the District contracted with RH2 Engineering to assess the District’s pumping plant and develop alternative scenarios for upgrades. In August 2019, the District tasked RH2 Engineering with developing design drawings and bid specifications for upgrades to Pump 14 and Pump 16. RH2 recently finished preliminary design and updated cost estimates for the two pumping plants and the costs have come in higher than anticipated. Mr. Sonnichsen noted, staff will be working with RH2 Engineering to understand why the costs are higher than expected and to determine if the budgeted costs for the pumping plant need to be adjusted. A full discussion will be prepared for the November Board meeting, no action was requested of the Board. Mr. Revell explained that the reports prepared by RH2 Engineering for both Pump 14 and Pump 16 will be distributed to the Board prior to the November meeting.
District Manager Revell presented the Board with the proposed 2021 Joint Drains budget for informational purposes and noted a 2.5% increase which is for primarily additional work along Snipes Creek Wasteway. Mr. Revell noted that there are 30 joint drains and that the Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District administers the joint drains. Following discussion, Mr. Willard moved, seconded by Mr. Jones and unanimously approved the proposed 2021 Joint Drains budget.

Watermaster Clay Bohlke presented, and the Board reviewed the Watermaster’s written report.

District Manager Revell presented, and the Board reviewed the District Manager’s monthly written report and in addition noted that the District had entered into a contract with ASM Affiliates for archaeology services on the Pump 9A Enclosed Conduit Project. Mr. Revell explained that a request for qualifications and review had occurred.

Engineering Manager Wayne Sonnichsen presented, and the Board reviewed the Engineering Manager’s monthly written report.

The President declared the Board to be in executive session via a separate call in number for an estimated forty-five minutes beginning at 9:50 A.M. pursuant to:
   a. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Potential and pending litigation—State v. Acquavella, Terrace Heights Sewer District and Blasdel.
   b. Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(2)(a)(iii). To evaluate legal risk of a proposed action.

The President returned the Board to regular session at 10:35 A.M.

No further business appearing and upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Board did thereupon adjourn at 10:40 A.M. on Tuesday October 13, 2020.

ATTEST:

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Scott Revell
SECRETARY

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Ric Willard
PRESIDENT