

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

October 22, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on October 22, 2024, at Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 7:50 p.m. President Dan Tschida presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn	Gregory Clark
Eric White	Dan Tschida
Frank Ausman	

Also present were: Clancy Flynn, District Manager; Michael W. Horton, Attorney; Darla Sebasto and Linda Henderson, Members of the Public.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on October 11, 2024.

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held September 17, 2024, were mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried approving the minutes as mailed.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT. Mr. Flynn handed out a financial report for the month. The Directors reviewed and discussed the financial report. Mr. Flynn said that the gopher money has been spent. He reported that on the fuel tanks he is waiting for the fire marshal inspection which should be done next week.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE. A list of District accounts payable for the month, together with a breakdown of credit card charges, were included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed the accounts payable and credit card charges. Questions on some of the bills were asked and answered. Director Ausman suggested shopping around for better prices on auto parts. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously carried to approve this month's accounts payable.

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT:

Financial Report. A financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Plant was handed out. The Directors reviewed the report. Mr. Flynn said that the entry in the financial report showing a transfer to OID as administrative costs needs to be corrected. He said that they are gearing up to tear down the Mitchell Butte Power Plant next week.

Accounts Payable. A list of accounts payable for the Mitchell Butte Power Project was included in the Directors' packets. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable.

JOHN WILKES. Mr. Flynn said that Mr. Wilkes has paid current his past due account and has used water. Mr. Flynn said that Mr. Wilkes requested to be on the agenda, but is not in attendance at tonight's meeting.

VACANT LOT ACROSS FROM DISTRICT OFFICE. Mr. Flynn said that he received an offer on the vacant lot across from the District office. He said that the offer was for \$42,270. The matter was discussed and after discussion, it was the consensus of the Directors to reject the offer.

EMPLOYEE WAGES. Director White said that he and Director Ausman met with the Employee Group again and presented the District's counter offer on their last proposal. He said that the counter offer was for a 2% base wage increase with an additional 2% performance based incentive with no change to the vacation policy. Director White said that the Employee Group countered with a request of a 3% base wage increase with an additional 3% performance based incentive. Director White said that they discussed just paying a bonus to longer term employees instead of increasing their vacation days. Mr. Flynn said that after the meeting with Directors White and Ausman, the Employee Group advised him that they are open to a 3% base wage increase with an additional 2% performance based incentive. The matter was discussed. Director Ausman mentioned how much health insurance premiums have gone up. He stated that he would prefer to wait on making a decision until after the upcoming general election. The other Directors all agreed.

KINGMAN PIPELINE PROJECT UPDATE. Mr. Flynn said that the RFP for the pipe for the Kingman Pipeline Project is currently held up and waiting for EPA to sign off. He said that some road building has been done on the project.

SNAKE RIVER PUMPING EFFICIENCIES WATER SMART GRANT. Mr. Flynn said that the District should hear back on its Water Smart grant application in June. He said that he estimates a \$150,000 savings on electrical cost for the pumps by switching to VFDs. Director Clark said that the VFDs produce a lot of heat and will require additional cooling and air flow.

MOWER TRACTOR LEASE. Mr. Flynn said that the mower tractor lease does contain a provision that the District can get out of the lease if the BLM grant does not get renewed for the second year. He said that the mower tractor has been ordered.

PL-566. Mr. Flynn said that the PL-566 Notice of Intent should be published by the end of the month.

DIRECTOR POSITIONS. Mr. Horton explained that after publishing Notice of the Right to Submit Petitions for Director Positions for the first and third divisions of the District, only one Petition for each division was filed. He explained that Oregon law provides that in such event, an election is not necessary and the individual submitting the Petition for the division can be appointed as a director of that division. He said that Eric White submitted the only petition for the first division and that Bruce Corn submitted the only petition for the third division. A motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously carried appointing Eric White as Director of the first division and Bruce Corn as Director of the third division, each for a three-year term beginning the first Tuesday in January 2025.

EQUIPMENT. Mr. Flynn reported that he purchased a vehicle for office staff for \$1,500. He said that a vacuum truck was purchased at auction for \$28,000. He explained the planned uses for the vehicle and vacuum truck. He explained his plan on having employees run the vacuum truck. Mr. Flynn reported that the old engine is now out of the Komatsu and he is going to get a bid on a new replacement engine.

OFFSEASON PROJECTS. Mr. Flynn said that he has a full slate of smaller projects planned around the District to get done before the Kingman Lateral Project starts next year. The matter was discussed.

FUEL PURCHASES AND USE. The Directors discussed filling the new fuel tanks and potential fuel use.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF JOINT COMMITTEE
OF THE OWYHEE PROJECT**

October 22, 2024

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on October 22, 2024, at the Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 7:00 p.m. Eric White, Chairman of the Joint Committee presiding.

The following members of the Joint Committee were present:

Eric White	Bruce Corn
Gregory Clark	Frank Ausman
Chris Landa	Bret Nielson

Also present were: Clancy Flynn, Manager of the Hydro Projects; Michael W. Horton, Secretary and Legal Counsel; Carl Sieders, South Board Manager; Dan Tschida, (OID Alternate); and Darla Sebasto and Linda Henderson, Members of the Public.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on October 11, 2024.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Chairman Eric White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES. The minutes of the September 17, 2024, regular meeting of the Joint Committee and the minutes of October 4, 2024, special meeting of the Joint Committee were mailed to the Committee members prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Clark, and unanimously carried approving the minutes of both meetings as mailed.

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. Mr. Flynn handed out a financial report for the Tunnel #1 Power Project which was reviewed by the Committee members. Mr. Corn asked Mr. Flynn if the financial statement could break out the reserve accounts and show current balances. Mr. Flynn said that he will get that done starting next month.

Tunnel #1 Power Project Accounts Payable. The Committee members reviewed the accounts payable report included in their packets. A motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable for the Tunnel #1 Power Project.

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. Mr. Flynn handed out a financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project which was reviewed by the Committee members.

Owyhee Dam Accounts Payable. The Committee members reviewed the accounts payable report included in their packets. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable for the Owyhee Dam Power Project.

POTENTIAL GRANT APPLICATION FOR LIDAR FOR WATERSHED. Mr. Flynn said that he went to a recent OWRC conference and learned of a district using Lidar for forecasting precipitation for their watershed. He said there is a company willing to help apply for grants for doing this, but the company quoted him \$5,000. Mr. Flynn explained that the cost for each Lidar flight is quite expensive. The matter was discussed. Mr. Flynn said that if the grant is applied for and granted, then the Committee could potentially get funding to have an initial Lidar baseline done. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee members to table the matter.

JOHN KEYES TOUR. Mr. Flynn said that the follow up John Keyes Tour went well, but that he still wants to talk to the person in charge of the program at the Bureau about getting the right Bureau people to participate. The matter was discussed by the Committee members.

TUNNEL #1 GANTRY CRANE. Mr. Flynn said that the gantry crane at the bottom of Tunnel #1 has a hydraulic fluid leak that will need to be repaired next offseason. He said that he does not anticipate doing the repair this offseason, but wanted to give the Committee members a heads up for next season.

RING GATE. Mr. Flynn said that USBR will be inspecting the ring gate during the second week of November.

DAM COMPOUND SEPTIC REPLACEMENT. Mr. Flynn said that the septic and drain field replacement work at the Dam Compound is scheduled to start next week.

DAM TENDER POSITION. Mr. Flynn reported that moving to only one dam tender has been working better than having two. He said that a call box has been installed at the Dam Compound, along with new cameras and additional fencing. He said this will ease the workload of the one dam tender.

PUBLIC MEETING VIDEO. Mr. Flynn explained that Oregon law requires all members who sit on public boards to watch an OGEC certified video on public meetings. He then showed an OGEC public meeting video put on by SDAO. The video lasted for approximately 20 minutes and was watched by all of the Committee members and Dan Tschida.

WATER SEASON REPORT. Mr. Flynn reported on inflows and releases for the Owyhee Reservoir for the water season. He said the reservoir ended the season with 412,943 acre feet of water in storage.

NEXT MONTH'S JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING. Mr. Flynn reminded the Joint Committee members that the monthly Joint Committee meetings go to day meetings starting next month.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, Secretary

APPROVED: _____