

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

November 19, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on November 19, 2024, at Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 10:00 a.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; Cole Sahleen, Attorney with Five Rivers Law, P.C.; Barron Andrus, Congressmen Cliff Bentz's Staff; 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 November 13, 2024.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. President Dan Tschida led the pledge of allegiance.

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on October 22, 2024, were mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. Director Clark noted a needed correction to the minutes. He said that the last sentence of the Mitchell Butte Power Project Financial Report paragraph needs to be revised to read "He said that they are gearing up to tear down Mitchell Butte Unit #2 for repairs next week." The minutes were corrected. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried approving the minutes as corrected.

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 it looks like the District will go over budget for the year a bit, but that there will be cash to get through until the assessments come in. Director Corn asked about grant money and getting reimbursed. Mr. Flynn explained the process and said that the purchase of pipe for the Kingman Lateral Pipeline Project will not affect cash flow.

FUEL TANKS. Mr. Flynn said that he ordered 10,000 gallons of fuel and that about \$10,500 was saved by buying in bulk. He said that he also ordered a small 250 gallon fuel tank for \$1,200.

KOMATSU. Mr. Flynn said that a remanufactured Komatsu engine was purchased for \$9,700. He said that it came with a one-year warranty.

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 and credit card charges. Questions on some of bills were asked and answered. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried approving the accounts payable.

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT:

Financial Report. A financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Project was handed out. The Directors reviewed the report. Mr. Flynn said that Unit #2 was taken apart and they are currently looking at it to determine what repairs are needed. A discussion was had on how much money to set aside for relicensing the power plant with FERC or applying for an exemption.

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 Corn, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable.

WILDERNESS BILL. Barron Andrus, a staff member with Congressman Cliff Bentz's office, introduced himself. He then provided an update on Congressman Bentz's Wilderness Bill. He said that the bill is getting a hearing today.

2025 BUDGET. Clancy Flynn passed around a draft budget for 2025. The Directors reviewed and discussed the draft budget. The potential cost for the repairs to the Mitchell Butte Power Plant unit and the impact on the budget was discussed. Mr. Flynn said that the special assessment for the Malheur Siphon was taken off. The Directors discussed what to do with the return of capital from the Owyhee Dam Hydro.

EMPLOYEE WAGES. The Directors discussed setting employee wages for 2025. Each Director provided their input on potential wage increases. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Director Corn and was seconded by Director White to increase employee base wages by 3% with an additional 2% performance based incentive. A vote on the motion was had. Directors Corn, Ausman, and White voted in favor of the motion. Directors Clark and Tschida voted against. The motion passed on a vote of 3 to 2.

EMPLOYEE VACATION PAYOUT. The Directors discussed how to handle the employees' request for additional vacation time for long tenured employees. Mr. Flynn explained that if an extra week of vacation time is paid out to employees who have been with the District for more than seventeen years, it will affect three or four employees. The matter was further discussed. After discussion, a motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried that the vacation policy will remain as is except that employees who have been with the District for more than seventeen years, shall be paid an additional one-week's pay.

2025 BUDGET(Continued). Discussion on the draft budget continued. After discussion, a motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously carried authorizing Mr. Flynn to draft a revised budget based upon a 50 cent per acre increase in last year's base incurred charge, with the Malheur Siphon special assessment being removed.

CHINA WALL INSPECTION. Mr. Flynn reported on a recent inspection of the China wall. He explained potential repairs that are being looked at. He said that the rebar in some places is exposed. He said that in some places there is one inch of concrete left where originally there was seven inches of concrete. The matter was discussed. Director Clark suggested installing a catch basin to catch rocks before they enter the China wall. Mr. Flynn

said that he will look into that potential fix and said that he thinks that the repairs and installation of a catch basin could be done this offseason.

SNIVELY OUTLET. Mr. Flynn said that the Snively outlet was looked at. He said that a more detailed inspection needs to be done. He said there is some seepage there.

KINGMAN LATERAL PIPELINE PROJECT. Mr. Flynn said that EPA has completed their review of the pipe RFP. He said that the engineering firm is moving forward with going out for bids for the pipe. He explained the plan for this off-season's work. Purchasing and transporting the pipe was discussed. Security measures for protecting the pipe and construction were discussed. A potential building for storing the pipe and fittings was discussed.

CURRENT PROJECTS. Mr. Flynn said that the Ontario shop furnace is in. He said that a stop log is being installed at the Dead Ox Pumping Plant today.

NWRA CONFERENCE. Mr. Flynn reported on his recent attendance at the NWRA National Conference. He said that the organization is responsible for national lobbying for irrigation districts.

HOUSE BILL 3111 BENEFICIAL USE REPORT. Mr. Flynn said that he received a call from USBR with regard to needing to extend the time on getting the beneficial use reports to the State of Oregon under House Bill 3111. The matter was discussed.

POTENTIAL WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP. Mr. Flynn explained that OWRC is requesting him to make a trip to Washington D.C. in April. He said that he is concerned that such a trip would interfere with his ability to get the water turned on in April.

RECESS. At 12:00 p.m., President Tschida declared the meeting in recess to be reconvened after lunch.

MEETING RECONVENED. At 1:00 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

CHRISTMAS BONUSES AND THANKSGIVING TURKEYS. A motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried that the District provide Christmas bonuses and Thanksgiving turkeys the same as last year.

B2H. Mr. Flynn said that he was contacted by USBR and asked to review a proposed agreement and license between USBR and Idaho Power for the B2H transmission line. He said that USBR is wanting to the District to give its approval on the agreement and license before December 17. He said that he and Mr. Horton made comments on the draft agreement and license. Mr. Horton said that USBR has not made the requested changes to the document yet and that there is not a final document for the Board to approve at this time. The matter was discussed and after discussion, it was the consensus of the Directors that there is not enough information to make a decision at this time. The Directors expressed their desire that the transmission line footprint be moved out of the agricultural lands and onto BLM ground to avoid conflicts with area farms and the irrigation districts' infrastructure.

RECESS. At 1:20 p.m., President Tschida declared the meeting in recess to reconvene after the Joint Committee meeting this afternoon.

MEETING RECONVENED. At 1:45 p.m., the meeting was reconvened and J.L Eldred, OID Watermaster, joined the meeting.

MITCHELL BUTTE REPAIRS. J.L. Eldred reported on the repair being done to the one unit which has been pulled out of the Mitchell Butte Power Plant. He said that an investigation still needs to be done in order to determine the reason for the vibration in the unit. He said that preventive maintenance will also be done while the unit is apart.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:

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

November 19, 2024

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on November 19, 2024, at the Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 1:22 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
Steve Clappier (South Board Alternate)

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); Cole Sahleen, Attorney with Five Rivers Law, P.C.; J.L. Eldred, OID Watermaster; 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 November 13, 2024.

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

MINUTES. The minutes of the October 22, 2024, regular meeting of the Joint Committee were mailed to the Committee members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Ausman, seconded by Mr. Corn, and unanimously carried approving the minutes 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. The Committee members discussed the FERC relicensing or exemption request process.

Tunnel #1 Power Project 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 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. Ausman, seconded by Mr. Clark, 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 has more details on the company's proposal for preparing a grant for Lidar for the watershed. He handed out information on the proposal. Chairman White encouraged the Committee members to review the proposal for possible consideration at next month's meeting.

RING GATE. Mr. Flynn said that USBR completed their inspection of the ring gate. He said that they have a couple of items that may need addressed.

DAM COMPOUND UPDATES. Mr. Flynn reported on updates and repairs at the Dam Compound. He specifically explained the septic and gating work being done.

QUAGGA MUSSELS. Mr. Flynn reported on an Oregon response plan that recently came out for quagga mussels. He said that he has nothing to report on funding for a boat check station. He said there is draft legislation being worked on for the next legislative session.

BENCH FLUME. J.L. Eldred reported on the bench flume. He said that it does not look like it has moved any in the last ten years. He said that some measuring instruments could be set up to see if it moves at all when it is being filled. He said that it could use some sealant and that the floor does not seem to leak much.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, Secretary

APPROVED: _____