

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

April 16, 2024

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on April 16, 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); Peter Cooper, USBR (by video teleconference); 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 April 11, 2024.

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

MINUTES. The minutes of the meetings of the Joint Committee held on March 5, 11, 19, and 25, 2024, were mailed to the Committee members prior to this meeting. Mr. Corn noted a correction to the March 5 minutes. In the meeting notice paragraph, the reference to Mr. Flynn's name was left out. Those minutes were corrected. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried approving the March 5 minutes as corrected and approving the March 11, March 19, and March 25 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. Questions about the financial report were asked and answered. Mr. Flynn reported that there is currently 451 cfs going through the Tunnel today. He said that the Power Plant was started back up yesterday. He said that the flows will start to ramp up as the dam flows ramp up.

Tunnel #1 Power Project Accounts Payable. The Committee members reviewed the accounts payable listed on the agenda for the Tunnel #1 Power Project. A motion was made by Mr. Landa, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| E4 Connect | <u>114.94</u> |
| TOTAL      | \$114.94      |

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. It was noted that the Dam Power Plant made almost \$100,000 last month alone. Mr. Horton asked about a negative entry under Utility Expenses and wondered if there was a refund. Mr. Flynn said that he will check into the matter.

Owyhee Dam Accounts Payable. The Committee members reviewed the accounts payable listed on the agenda for the Owyhee Dam Power Project. A motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

|            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| E4 Connect | <u>114.94</u> |
| TOTAL      | \$114.94      |

WATER OUTLOOK. Mr. Flynn said that he does not see a big inflow peak coming in and releases are just following inflows. Peter Cooper of USBR said that the filling of the dam is currently 7,000 a.f. above the rule curve which the Bureau uses in recommending how the reservoir is filled. Mr. Flynn said that looking at prior similar years, he estimates that there will be around 130,000 a.f. of inflow between now and when South Mountain melts off. He predicts that it will take between 8 to 20 days for it to melt off. He said that flows from Wildhorse Dam are now starting to show up at Rome. He said that Mudflat has melted out. He said that inflows at Rome are diving. He said that he does not think inflows will exceed 5,000 cfs.

USBR RECOMMENDATIONS. Mr. Cooper made a presentation on the Bureau's forecast. He showed satellite images. He said the forecast is for dry and moderate temperatures. He said that the project has seen the snow melt peak. He said that flows should exceed demand until South Mountain completely melts off. He said that melt off should come off in a controlled manner. He said that Mr. Flynn and the Committee have done an excellent job in managing the flows. He said that currently storage is at 688,000 a.f. He said the reservoir has gained 18,000 a.f. since the Committee met on Friday. He said that flows at Rome right now are at 7,800 cfs. He said that the forecast for the next 10 days is fairly dry and cool for the first four days with a slow warmup the next 6 days.

Mr. Cooper said that runoff is trending exactly as the year 1985, but that there is more snow than there was then. He recommends keeping 10,000 a.f. of storage space available into May and then managing releases to fill the reservoir sometime in mid-May. He said that this will leave room in the event of a weather event. He said that looking at the historical record, such weather events have occurred during the month of May about 30% of the time. He said the river forecast center model is predicting a one in three chance of inflows exceeding 5,000 cfs sometime during the month of May.

The forecasts and recommendation were discussed. Mr. Flynn noted that the large May inflows, which occurred in 1998, were over two days. Mr. Cooper said that the NOAA forecast, after the next 10-day period, is to then warm up with potential rain the end of April. He said he likes what Mr. Flynn is doing. Mr. Cooper left the meeting at 7:48 p.m.

Releases from the dam were further discussed. Mr. Flynn said that his recommendation is to leave the releases at between 4,000 cfs to 5,000 cfs for a couple of days and then follow the inflows with releases. Mr. Nielson said that he feels that the reservoir is full enough and believes that room should be left in the reservoir in case of a large rain event. Mr. Corn said that the weather forecasts are much more reliable now and come out early enough that if there is a large storm event predicted, releases could be made to get ahead of the inflow. Mr. Flynn said that water in the North Canal will be to the end by Friday, with the laterals filling by Wednesday. Mr. Flynn's recommendation on releases were discussed further and after discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee members to follow Mr. Flynn's recommendations to follow river inflows with releases.

OWYHEE FIELD DAY. Mr. Flynn said that the Owyhee Field Day is being rescheduled.

BOAT RAMP. Mr. Flynn said that the meeting on the boat ramp with the County has been scheduled.

DAM TENDER TRAINING. Mr. Flynn said that one of the benefits of having the ring gate operational is that the backup dam tenders are getting on the job training.

RING GATE. Mr. Flynn said that a generator is being used to help with one of the cables on the ring gate because one of needle valves is sticking a bit. Tourist issues with them coming up to look at the ring gate were discussed.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael W. Horton, Secretary

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

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

April 16, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on April 16, 2024, at Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 7:58 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 April 11, 2024.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held March 19, 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 a lot of the District patrons are now starting to pay their bills online with credit cards. He pointed out in the financial report where a bank account was closed but is showing as an expense.

EQUIPMENT. Mr. Flynn said that the District's wheeled excavator is still being worked on. He explained the issues the District is having with Western State's technicians.

OFFICE STAFFING. Mr. Flynn explained staff changes in the District office.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE. Two lists of District accounts payable for the month were included in the Directors' packets. Mr. Flynn said that there were a lot of automation batteries purchased to replace old ones. The Directors reviewed the accounts payable with questions asked and answered. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable.

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT:

Financial Report. A financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Plant was included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed the report.

Accounts Payable. Accounts payable for the Mitchell Butte Power Project were listed on the agenda. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the following accounts payable:

|                     |               |
|---------------------|---------------|
| FATBEAM (Tekfinity) | \$42.95       |
| AT&T                | 47.87         |
| Century Link        | <u>202.60</u> |
| TOTAL               | \$293.42      |

JOHN WILKS. Mr. Flynn said that Mr. Wilks paid the first half of his bill as promised.

CENTER PIVOT POLICY. Mr. Flynn said that he is still working on the center pivot policy changes.

KINGMAN PIPELINE PROJECT. Mr. Flynn said that the cultural survey is being done. He said that the budget documents for the project are being worked on and will be sent to EPA. He said that it looks like the District may be able to avoid a full NEEPA study on the project.

FUEL TANK. Mr. Flynn said that the fire permit finally came in from the State Fire Marshal. He said he is now coordinating with an electrician and getting quotes on a second tank. He said that the fire permit is good for two tanks. He said that it looks like the pricing for the second tank has gone down.

KOMATSU. President Tschida asked about the status of the Komatsu. Mr. Flynn said that he is still in the process of getting quotes on parts to repair it.

FIRE TRUCK. Mr. Flynn said that the newly purchased fire truck was used when weeds were being burned. He said that it worked good.

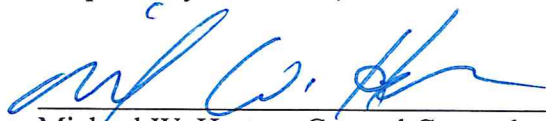
KINGMAN PIPELINE PROJECT (Continued). Director Corn asked about ordering pipe for the project. Mr. Flynn said that he is waiting for an answer from the State of Oregon on the District's grant application before moving forward with ordering pipe. Engineering for the project was discussed. Rock sources for the project were also discussed.

ROAD TO OWYHEE DAM POWER PLANT. The Directors discussed the road to the Dam Power Plant which is currently under water from the releases from the dam.

DAVID KRAUSE. Darla Sebasto said that former employee, David Krause, recently passed away.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_