

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

February 20, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on February 20, 2024, at Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 10:05 a.m. Vice-President Frank Ausman presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn                      Gregory Clark  
Eric White                      Dan Tschida (who joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m.)  
Frank Ausman

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

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on February 15, 2024.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Vice-President Frank Ausman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held January 16, 2024, were mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. Mr. Flynn noted that “variable speed pumps” in the Grant Applications paragraph needs to be revised to read “variable speed drives”. The minutes were amended. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried approving the minutes as amended.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT. Mr. Flynn handed out a financial report for the month. The Directors reviewed and discussed the financial report.

Director Dan Tschida joined the meeting at 10:09 a.m., and took over presiding as Chairman.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE. Two lists of District accounts payable for the month were included in the Directors’ packets. The Directors reviewed the accounts payable with questions asked and answered. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable.

FUEL TANKS. Mr. Flynn said that he is waiting for the State Fire Marshall permit for the fuel tanks.

QUAGGA MUSSEL PRESENTATION. Nick Zurfluh, from Idaho State Department of Ag, did a remote video presentation on the quagga mussel infestation in the mid-Snake River in September of 2023. Mr. Zurfluh said that the best time to monitor for the quagga mussel would be June, July, and August and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wild Life should be sampling Owyhee at that time. He explained the Rapid Response Plan if infestation

is identified. He said that they used a version of copper sulfate to treat the mussels. He said that 50,000 gallons of the product was used for a 10-day treatment. He said that they will sample again in the spring. The Directors asked questions about the treatment. Mr. Zurfluh said that it was the biggest treatment ever done for quagga mussels. Mr. Flynn said that he will have an Oregon Fish and Game employee visit potential boat inspection sites with the staff and himself. Mr. Zurfluh said that hot water is used to clean the boats. He said the mussels mainly move down stream with flows or upstream with water crafts. He said that Idaho is willing to partner with Oregon on Owyhee Irrigation District, but an interstate agreement would be needed. He said that some federal funding was used with a 50/50 cost share. He said that the total cost for the project was around \$3,000,000.

At 11:44 p.m., Mr. Zurfluh's presentation ended.

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. Mr. Flynn said that the \$2 per acre amount has been transferred. He said that work is being done on a bearing for one unit.

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

AT&T	\$47.87
FATBEAM (Tekfinity)	42.95
Century Link	201.01
Spiegel & McDiarmid, LLP	1,569.25
Owyhee Irrigation District	<u>134,500.00</u>
TOTAL	\$136,361.08

RILEY PEASTER DRAIN RELOCATION. Mr. Flynn said that the USBR work has started on the Riley Peaster drain relocation. He said that he has a notarized letter from the property owner consenting to the drain relocation. The Board indicated that they want to make sure there is room for spoil. Director White said that language needs to be added to the agreement that where the pivot crosses the drain chemigation will not be allowed without piping.

PICKUP PURCHASE. Mr. Flynn said that a Nissan pickup was purchased.

MEETING RECESSED. At 12:00 p.m., President Tschida declared the meeting in recess to reconvene after the Joint Committee meeting this afternoon.

MEETING RECONVENED. At 3:17 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

SURPLUS PROPERTY. Mr. Flynn said that there are two pickups and a welder generator that needs to be surplus. He provided a list of the property to be surplus. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried declaring the property as surplus and authorizing the manager to sell it.

BRUSH TRUCK PURCHASE. Mr. Flynn said that a brush truck was purchased for \$5,000, but it needs head work.

WATER RIGHT EXAMINER LICENSEE. Mr. Flynn said that he cannot qualify for a water right examiner license because the state will not accept out of state experience.

WATERSMART GRANT APPLICATIONS. Mr. Flynn explained that he is having a company review and comment on the WaterSMART grant applications before submitting them.

SECOND FUEL TANK. Mr. Flynn said that he received quotes for a second fuel tank. After discussion, a motion was made by Director Clark and was seconded by Director White that \$103,598 be spent on buying a second fuel tank. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON GRANT APPLICATIONS TO OREGON WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT. Mr. Flynn said that a grant application was submitted for variable speed drives for the pumping plant pumps and other pumping plant upgrades.

BOARD TRAINING. Mr. Flynn gave an update on potential Board training.

LGIP OPERATING RESERVES. Mr. Flynn asked about a preference or thoughts on the LGIP operating reserves. The matter was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:

  
  

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

February 20, 2024

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on February 20, 2024, at the Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 1:03 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	

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 and Ryan Hendricks, USBR; and Linda Henderson, Member of the Public.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on February 15, 2024.

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

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on January 16, 2024, were mailed to the Committee members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried approving the minutes as amended.

USBR CONDITIONS REPORT. Peter Cooper from USBR made a video presentation on the snow and water situation. He said the precipitation is 120% of normal. He said it got really wet in January and February. He said that flood prevention measures have been started in the Malheur Basin. He said that snow/water is 144% of normal. He said that storage is around 500,000 a.f. and inflows are now averaging 1,100 cfs. He said that the 6 to 10 day forecast is colder and wetter than normal with March being the same according to the Northwest Forecast Center. Mr. Cooper said that USBR is forecasting 700,000 a.f. of inflow with a 90% chance of 500,000 a.f. of inflow. There is currently 200,000 a.f. of available storage space. He said USBR projects will be spilling in the Snake River this year. Potential flooding was discussed.

POWER PLANT OPERATION. Mr. Flynn said that approximately 13,500 a.f. could be taken out of the reservoir through the operation of the Owyhee Dam Power Plant. He said that between the Dam Power Plant and jet flows, 2,300 cfs can run.

SNOW FLIGHT REPORT. Mr. Flynn reported on his snow flight on January 30. He said there was full snow coverage except for west of Jordan Valley ridgeline with a hard crust. He said that the snow was up to over half of the fence posts with really tight frozen snow. He said there is a lot of snow out there.

OWYHEE DAM POWER PLANT OPERATION POLICY. The Board reviewed the Owyhee Dam Power Plant Operation Policy and Mr. Horton read from the policy the Committee Members noted the parameters are met to start the Owyhee Dam Power Plant.

At 2:30 p.m., Peter Cooper from USBR, left the meeting.

POWER PLANT OPERATION. The Committee members discussed the operation of the power plant and running water through the Tunnel Power Plant. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Landa and unanimously carried to start the Owyhee Dam Power Plant at full capacity and to be monitored weekly. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Clark, and unanimously carried to call a special meeting if storage reaches 575,000 a.f. and flows rise above 5,000 cfs, with the manager having authority to call a meeting if other conditions arise.

ALLOTMENT. Mr. Flynn said that the allotment can be set at 4 foot per acre with excess water determined at a later date. A discussion was had on the allotment. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Landa, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried setting the allotment at 4 foot per acre with excess water to be determined at a later date.

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.

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. Ausman, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

AT&T	\$103.92
Five Rivers Law, P.C.	1,390.00
E4 Connect	114.14
Spiegel & McDiarmid, LLP	1,569.25
SDIS	<u>69,159.50</u>
TOTAL	\$72,336.81

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 listed on the agenda for the Owyhee Dam Power Project. A motion was made by Mr. Ausman, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

SDIS	\$69,159.50
E4 Connect	114.14
Spiegel & McDiarmid, LLP	1,569.25
Five Rivers Law, P.C.	<u>1,390.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$72,232.89

REVENUE SHARING COMMITTEE REPORT. Mr. Corn said that the Revenue Sharing Committee members are still gathering information and updated the Board on their progress. The matter was discussed.

MANAGER'S REPORT. Mr. Flynn said that the tour by Real Oregon did not happen on February 7 as planned due to the elevator circuit breakers going out.

RECOATING ON TUNNEL #1. Mr. Flynn said that jet flow recoating on Tunnel #1 will be done today.

SEPTIC PROBLEM AT DAM COMPOUND. Mr. Flynn said that the septic problem at the dam compound is being addressed and there will be some expenses for that.

PUMPBACK STORAGE. Today was the deadline for comments on the study plan. The Joint Committee submitted comments.

RING GATE. Mr. Flynn said that the ring gate is ready for operation.

BOAT RAMP. Mr. Flynn said that he has no new report on the boat ramp. He said he will be meeting with the county shortly.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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 Michael W. Horton, Secretary

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