

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

March 19, 2024

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on March 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; Monty Culbertson and Dillon Mitchell, Old Owyhee Ditch Company; Lynn Larson, NRCS; and Linda Henderson, Member of the Public.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on March 13, 2024.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. President Dan Tschida led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held February 21, 2024, were mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director Corn, 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 explained that he is still waiting for the State Fire Marshall permit on the fuel tank before installation can continue.

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 Ausman, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable. Mr. Flynn said that cash back from the credit card goes back towards the credit card bill.

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 he is not sure exactly when the unit will go back in. He said it is still being repaired and should be ready by April 1.

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

FATBEAM (Tekfinity)	\$42.95
Century Link	<u>201.01</u>
TOTAL	\$243.96

KINGMAN LATERAL. Mr. Flynn said that the federal funding cost share waiver for the Kingman Lateral was denied. He said he is waiting to hear from the state on a cost share grant. He expects to hear back on the state loan grant in June. He said that an RFP for pipe needs to be put out in the next month. Logistics for storing pipe before installation was discussed. A discussion was had regarding making sure insurance will cover the pipe. Mr. Flynn said he will check with Waldo Agencies.

Mr. Flynn said that since the District did not get the cost share waiver, that it can start spending funds. He said he has contracted for a historical/archaeology study at a cost of approximately \$5,000.

Mr. Flynn said that the District has been approved for a \$500,000 DEQ loan, of which a portion is forgivable, but an additional \$250,000 is needed for cost share if the state cost share grant does not go through. The Directors discussed the fact of getting money from the Feds for the project and that they do not want to lose the funding. A motion was made by Director Corn and was seconded by Director White to increase the DEQ loan application by \$250,000. A vote on the motion was had. Directors White, Corn, Tschida, and Clark voted in favor. Director Ausman voted against the motion. The motion passed on a vote of four to one.

JERRY BOWMAN. Mr. Flynn said that Mr. Bowman got the required permission for his proposed piping project completed, the project is a go, and the pipe will start to be installed. Mr. Flynn said that the District will install the pipe, but the landowner will be responsible for maintenance and he will get an easement from the landowner's neighbor.

WHEEL-MOVED IRRIGATION "CENTER PIVOT" CROSSING DISTRICT FACILITIES POLICY. Mr. Flynn handed out a proposed Policy and Resolution 2024-1 adopting the policy. The Policy was reviewed and discussed. Potential amendments, including irrigation system applied fertilizer and water right requirements to cover the right of way, were discussed. Mr. Flynn will make changes to the policy and present it at next month's meeting.

RILEY PEASTER DRAIN. Mr. Flynn said that Riley Peaster is still working on paperwork with USBR regarding his proposed drain relocation.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE. Mr. Flynn said that a D7 CAT was purchased for \$9,000 for ditching or as parts. He said that it currently runs. He said that the Komatsu blew up and caught on fire. He said the old long stick also started to fall off the boom. The stick was fractured but has been repaired. Mr. Flynn said he has now implemented inspection procedures for the long stick. He said that a new motor for the Komatsu is \$12,000. He said he will get pricing for a new motor with an injector pump and wiring. He said the machine is useful for the District.

RADIAL GATES. Mr. Flynn said that after replacing the radial gate at Tunnel Canyon and seeing its condition, it brings concern that other gates of similar vintage should be inspected and possibly replaced at a rate of maybe one per year. He said there are seven more

radial gates throughout the District. He said that the cost of the radial gate was approximately \$80,000, but that others should be slightly cheaper.

DITCHING. Mr. Flynn said that they started burning ditches last week. He said that they still need to hire a ditchrider.

EQUIPMENT TO SURPLUS. Mr. Flynn said that a 1998 Dodge pickup and two lowboy trailers need to be surplus. A motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director Clark, and unanimously carried declaring the 1998 Dodge pickup and two lowboy trailers as surplus and authorizing the manager to sell them.

DITCHES. Mr. Flynn said that ditches can be ready for water by April 1 and the Dead Ox Pumping Plant may be ready by April 1.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:

  

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

March 19, 2024

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on March 19, 2024, at the Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 1:00 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); Monty Culbertson and Dillon Mitchell, Old Owyhee Ditch Company; Peter Cooper, Tim Clark, 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 March 13, 2024.

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

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on February 20, 2024, 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. Questions about the financial report were asked and answered.

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. Clark, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

AT&T	\$66.51
E4 Connect	<u>114.94</u>
TOTAL	\$181.45

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. Mr. Flynn said that the Project is getting full rate from Idaho Power for off-season power generated.

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

USBR PRESENTATION. Peter Cooper from USBR made a video presentation on the snow and water situation. Mr. Corn said that they haven't seen flows yet for the weather conditions. Mr. Cooper said that the snow is still out there. He said that in his opinion, runoff has not started yet and he believes there will be more snowpack. He said he spoke to NRCS staff and they feel that one of the two sensors at Mudflat is accurate and the other is having issues. Mr. Corn said they will be starting irrigation soon. Mr. Cooper pulled up a satellite comparison between 2020 to today and said there is more snow at Mudflat today than in 2020. He said he predicts a couple of peaks of over 10,000 cfs of inflows. He said he still thinks there is 300,000 acre feet of inflows still to come. He said the weather forecast for 8 to 14 days out is colder and wetter than normal, with it getting warmer the first part of April. He said that USBR predicts 542,000 a.f. of inflows between March 18 through June 30 and RCS predicts 487,000 a.f. of inflows. He said that the current storage is 565,227 a.f. Mr. Cooper said he predicts that the reservoir will be full by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The Committee discussed the presentation.

TURN ON DATE. Mr. Flynn said that April 1<sup>st</sup> is the first day water users can start irrigating under the water right certificates. He said that Owyhee Irrigation District can start filling the canal to Lockett Gulch. Mr. Sieders said that the weeds have been burned and the South is ready to start filling. The matter was discussed by the Committee members. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ausman to set the turn on date for water from the reservoir for April 1. The motion was seconded by Mr. Corn. A vote on the motion was had with Committee members White, Corn, Clark, and Ausman, voting in favor with Committee members Landa and Nielson voting against. The motion passed on a vote of four to two. Mr. Landa and Mr. Nielson said they would like the water to be started sooner.

WATER RELEASES. Mr. Cooper stated that he does not think things will change in the next couple of weeks. A motion was made by Mr. Corn and was seconded by Mr. White, to continue releases from the reservoir through the Dam Power Plant at 250 cfs, unless storage gets above 600,000 a.f. and inflows get above 5,000 cfs, then a special meeting of the Committee is to be called. A vote on the motion was had. Committee members Corn, White, Ausman, Nielson, and Landa voted in favor. Mr. Clark voted against, saying he thinks releases should be greater. The motion passed on a vote of 5 to 1.

The USBR representatives left the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

RESERVED POWER MEETING. Mr. Flynn stated that he and Mr. Sieders attended a recent reserved power meeting. He said there will be an increase of 27 to 30 mil in wholesale power costs. He said that it looks like this will require a \$1.00 per acre increase in the assessments to cover the increase in power costs and most likely the same increase the next year. A discussion on the matter was had.

PUMP BACK STORAGE. Mr. Flynn and Mr. Horton reported that the company pursuing the pump back system has requested that the project be put on hold.

BOAT RAMP. Mr. Flynn said that he is planning on meeting with the County regarding the boat ramp before the next Joint Committee meeting. He said there are several tours of the Dam coming up.

BACKHOE AT COMPOUND. Mr. Nielson asked about the need for a backhoe at the Dam Compound. Mr. Flynn said that he is still looking and a backhoe is still needed.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING. A discussion was had that next month's regular meeting will be at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



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Michael W. Horton, Secretary

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