

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

September 22, 2020

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held at the Owyhee Irrigation District office at 422 Thunderegg Boulevard, Nyssa, Oregon, on September 22, 2020, at 7:02 p.m. Eric White, Chairman, presiding.

The following members of the Joint Committee were present:

Eric White	Frank Ausman
Jerry Nagaki	Dan Tschida
Chris Landa	

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager of the Hydro Projects; Michael W. Horton, Secretary and Legal Counsel; Jake Conde, Attorney; Bruce Corn, OID Alternate; John Eells, South Board Manager; Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manager; J.L. Eldred, J.J. Eldred, and Kenny Kimball, OID Employees; Larry Meyer, Newspaper Reporter; and Darla Sebasto and Bruce Cruickshank, OID patrons.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on September 17, 2020.

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on August 18, 2020, were reviewed by the Committee members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Tschida, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried approving the minutes.

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. The financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project was included in the Committee member packets. The Committee members reviewed the report. Mr. Chamberlin discussed the income differential between the same months in the previous years. An adjustment had been made between the Mitchell Butte plant and the dam hydro project. Mr. Chamberlin said that Old Owyhee has dropped down the amount of water they are taking, so there is now less water going through the Dam Power Plant.

Owyhee Dam Accounts Payable. The agenda listed accounts payable for the Owyhee Dam Power Project. A motion was made by Mr. Ausman, seconded by Mr. Tschida, and unanimously carried authorizing payment of the following accounts payable:

Oregon Idaho Utilities	\$171.12
Nichols Accounting	<u>375.00</u>
Total	\$546.12

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. The financial report for the Tunnel #1 Power Project was included in the Committee member packets. The Committee members reviewed the report. A brief discussion of the financial situation was had.

Tunnel #1 Power Project Accounts Payable. The agenda listed accounts payable for the Tunnel #1 Power Project. A motion was made by Mr. Tschida, seconded by Mr. Nagaki, and unanimously carried authorizing payment of the following accounts payable:

Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna, Horton	\$795.50
Oregon Idaho Utilities	245.30
Nichols Accounting	<u>375.00</u>
Total	\$1,415.80

WATER SHUT OFF. Chairman White opened discussion on setting the date to shut off water for the season. Mr. Corn said that the patrons in his area are asking for more time, especially with the beet harvests still pending in middle October. Mr. Landa concurred, saying that the majority of people he has spoken with need the time because of the local soils requiring constant watering. Chairman White and Mr. Nagaki said they are hearing the same thing.

Mr. Ausman and Mr. Tschida expressed support for the previously-set tentative date of October 2, 2020. Mr. Chamberlin said that significant flows of water will be necessary to maintain ample supply for the patrons in the effected areas. He said there is stored water in the reservoir, but he is reluctant to use it now in case lower precipitation in the winter affects ready water supply during spring planting season. Mr. Chamberlin said that demand this year was lower than normal due to weather and atmospheric conditions in the early summer. A hotter-than-average summer next year could significantly impact water resources.

John Eels said that many patrons in the South Board area are asking for the water to remain on. He said patrons waited to access their water until June, and need the water now for seeding hay and harvesting beets prior to the colder fall weather. The issue was discussed at length.

A motion to set the shut-off date for October 9, 2020, was made by Mr. Landa, and seconded by Mr. Nagaki. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2, with Mr. Nagaki, Mr. Landa, and Chairman White voting in favor and Mr. Ausman and Mr. Tschida voting against.

CONCRETE REPAIR ON RING GATE. J.L. Eldred addressed the Committee next at the request of Mr. Chamberlin. He stated that crews had installed scaffolding in and around the ring gate and that they should be able to begin work by the end of the week. Mr. Corn asked if the materials would be brought in by boat. Mr. Chamberlin said it was not decided. The nature of the ring gate precludes the use of heavy machinery, so handwork will be necessary.

BOAT RAMP AT OWYHEE DAM. Mr. Chamberlin said that a portion of the boat ramp at the Owyhee Dam needs repaired. He said there will probably be some concrete work to do.

MISCELLANEOUS WORK AT OWYHEE DAM. Mr. Chamberlin said that the flagpole has been installed. He said the road repairs to the Dam Power Plant should be done before the end of October.

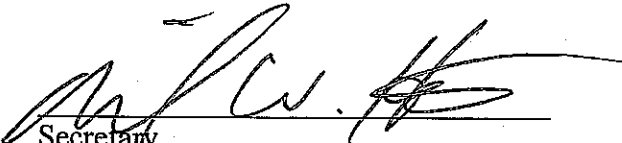
HYDRO INSURANCE. Mr. Chamberlin said that he was contacted by a gentleman out of the Portland area wanting to insure the hydros. He said that the gentleman came and looked at the facility, but that he has not heard back from him yet. The Committee members discussed the fact that Ray Waldo is currently the insurance agent of record for the Joint Committee and they are currently satisfied with his services. The possibility of putting the insurance agent of record position out for bids was discussed. Mr. Chamberlin said that according to the agent out of Portland and Mr. Waldo, the Committee may want to have an appraisal of the hydro projects done.

WYDEN BILL. Mr. Horton gave an update on the status of the Malheur County Empowerment proposed legislation which Senator Wyden has introduced in the United States Senate. Mr. Chamberlin said that he has not heard anything recently from Senator Wyden's staff with regard to proposed changes to the legislation.

B2H POWERLINE. Mr. Horton gave an update on the current status of the B2H powerline. He said that a couple of environmental groups have filed a lawsuit attempting to stop the siting of the powerline as proposed by Idaho Power.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

APPROVED: _____

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

September 22, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held at the Owyhee Irrigation District office at 422 Thunderegg Boulevard, Nyssa, Oregon, on September 22, 2020, at 7:45 p.m. Jerry Nagaki, President of the District, presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn	Jerry Nagaki
Frank Ausman	Eric White
Dan Tschida	

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager; Harvey Manser, Assistant Manager; Michael W. Horton, General Counsel; Jake Conde, Attorney; J.L. Eldred, J.J. Eldred, and Kenny Kimball, OID Employees; Darla Sebasto, and Bruce Cruickshank, OID patrons.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on September 17, 2020.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on August 18, 2020, 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. A financial report for the District was included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed and discussed the report. Mr. Manser said there are some errors in the report on where items are being reported. Mr. Chamberlin said he will address this with Nichols Accounting staff. Mr. Chamberlin reported on aquatic chemical use and said that two shipments of acrolyien were stopped.

District Accounts Payable. Two lists of accounts payable for the District were presented. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried authorizing payment of the accounts payable.

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT:

Financial Report. A financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Project was included in the Directors packets which the Directors reviewed and discussed. The Directors received reports that a one of the gates at the facility had become immobile and required a local machine shop to make necessary parts and spares. During the time when the gate was immobile flow was reduced as well as power. J.L. Eldred explained possible repairs and issues with the trash

rack. The Directors discussed the need to use budget funds to make general repairs and improvements to the project.

Accounts Payable. The Directors reviewed the accounts payable for the Mitchell Butte Power Project. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

Tekfinity	\$42.95
Owyhee Irrigation	67,262.00
Century Link	350.82
AT&T	4.66
Nichols Accounting	<u>125.00</u>
TOTAL	\$67,785.43

MIDDLE LIFT DITCH BREAK: BRUCE CRUICKSHANK. OID patron Bruce Cruickshank addressed the Board. Mr. Cruickshank spoke of several concerns he had. He said that vols had been digging into the canal. He said that canal maintenance had been insufficient. Mr. Cruickshank said that vegetation in the canals has restricted water flow, leading to a backup that, in Mr. Cruickshank's opinion, led to the break in the ditch that flooded part of his alfalfa fields, depositing silt as well. Mr. Cruickshank said he had previously laser-leveled his fields and the District needed to help with the repairs. He wanted to know what the District would do to help clean his fields up and repair damage. Mr. Chamberlin expressed a willingness to work with Mr. Cruickshank, and Mr. Cruickshank reciprocated the sentiment. The Board thanked Mr. Cruickshank for his comments.

PROPOSED PIPELINE: MORGAN AVENUE. Mr. Chamberlin told the Directors that the installation work is still on schedule. However, there is a current nation-wide shortage of available pipe necessary to build the pipeline. Bids have not been let out yet. Mr. Chamberlin expressed doubts it can be completed in the fall. This was a grant-funded project, and if the District is unable to complete it in time, there may need to be an extension requested.

REVIEW OF EMPLOYEE PROPOSAL. At the last meeting the Board received the employee proposal from Kenny Kimball representing the District employees. Mr. Horton noted that the Board still does not have estimated figures for insurance costs and retirement costs, and as yet cannot truly calculate the proposed costs associated with the proposal. Chairman Nagaki said the Board cannot yet discuss the proposal without more information. Mr. Chamberlin said he will try to get the information. The matter will be discussed at another meeting.

Director Tschida thanked the employees for their hard work. He noted that employees have been working well. He also said that there have not been any workplace accidents or other matters falling within the purview of OSHA, which is a great benefit to the District.

MITCHELL BUTTE HYDRO BATTERIES. Mr. Chamberlin said that some batteries at Mitchell Butte had to be replaced.

MANAGER'S REPORT: FALL WORK. Mr. Chamberlin said the pipe has not arrived as planned for the Jacobsen Gulch and other pipelines the District had planned to work on this fall, which will free staff to work on other projects. These include: clearing laterals and canals, knocking down trees, trimming encroaching vegetation, and cleaning the canals. Mr. Chamberlin told the Board the water quality in the canal has been very good this year, and has been running fairly clean.

Director Ausman stated that if pipeline projects fall through, it would be a good time to focus on cleaning and maintaining the laterals. The Kingman lateral is not currently scheduled for maintenance in this maintenance cycle, but could be a good target for extra cleaning.

Mr. Chamberlin informed the Board that an excavator retired and listed for sale by the District had been sold with the District receiving \$24,200 from the sale. The Board approved of the sale, noting it was more than expected.

FCA STUDY. Mr. Chamberlin told the Board that a District study reviewing the current hydraulic models and watershed systems of the District is pretty much completed. A presentation on the purpose of the study and its initial findings should happen in November.

MISCELLANEOUS. The Board had not met in person for some time, and used the time to discuss matters. Director Corn asked Mr. Chamberlin if the District had enough excavator operators to keep them all running through the winter. Mr. Chamberlin said there were enough, and vacancies in the District's employee positions were being constantly filled.

The Board thanked the safety committee for its efforts. It was noted that the employees had been highly effective and their efforts were directly linked to the lack of incidents involving OSHA.

Mr. Chamberlin addressed the COVID-19 virus. The District has been following the governor's criteria, and there have been no reports of a spreading event or hospitalization of District employees.

Nichols Accounting will make a report on the status of PPP funds and loan forgiveness. At this time, the process appears to be proceeding on track.

The next legislative session could have several bills that may impact the District. The number of fires in the state will make environmental issues a priority with a strong political support for legislation that may not favor agriculture or the District's interests generally.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED: _____