

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

February 18, 2020

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on February 18, 2020, at the District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd, Nyssa, Oregon, at 10:00 a.m. Jerry Nagaki, President of the District, presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn	Frank Ausman
Eric White	Dan Tschida (who joined the meeting at 10:15 a.m.)
Jerry Nagaki	

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager; Michael W. Horton, Attorney; Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manager; Carl Morton, Ditch Rider; and Linda Henderson and Darla Sebasto, District Patrons.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice as to the meeting was given on February 12, 2020.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on January 21 2019, 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. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the District. The Directors reviewed the report. Mr. Horton read an email from Tyler Sweet, the District's accountant, which said that the report is just a draft.

At 10:15 a.m., Dan Tschida joined the meeting.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE. Two lists of the District accounts payable for the month were included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed the lists and asked questions. 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. The financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Project was in the Directors packets. The Directors reviewed the report.

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

Tekfinity	\$42.95
Century Link	163.43
Nichols Accounting	<u>125.00</u>
Total	\$331.38

KINGMAN SIPHON. Mr. Manser reported on work on the Kingman Siphon. He said it is in the same place as it was last month. He said the contractor had their equipment break down. They understand that they are not to start back up until they meet with District staff. He said that because of the repair work removal which has not been done, they will need to adjust their contract price.

DISTRICT PROPERTY SALE. Mr. Nagaki said that he signed papers to sell the lots by the old shop and the money has been received. Mr. Chamberlin said there have been a few people looking at the building which is still for sale. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried that the proceeds from the property sale go towards the purchase of the new building property.

OWRC MEETING. Mr. Chamberlin reported on a recent OWRC meeting he attended. He said that the meeting did not go well because of the current legislative session.

USBR CHANGE. Mr. Chamberlin said that Rolland Springer is no longer the area manager and that Brian Horsbrogh, Mr. Springer's assistant, is currently the acting area manager.

TRIBAL VISIT. Mr. Chamberlin said that he advised Reclamation staff that he would like to wait until later in the year when the weather has improved before having the tribal visit.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTATION. Mr. Chamberlin said that he has been asked to speak on the history of the Owyhee Project to the County Historical Society. He advised the Board of his planned presentation.

IDAHO WATER USERS' MEETING. Mr. Chamberlin reported on the recent Idaho Water Users' meeting which he attended. He also reported on Idaho Power's presentation at that meeting.

WINTER WORK PROJECTS. Mr. Chamberlin reported on winter work projects being done and to be done this off season. The Directors discussed the projects. Mr. Chamberlin explained the needed repair near Buchholz and the type of pipe planned to be used. He said that Old Owyhee Ditch Company will help with equipment and manpower.

WATER TURN ON DATE. The Directors discussed a possible water turn on date. Mr. Chamberlin said his goal would be to have the water in the system the last week in March, with delivery the first week in April. He said there is still ditching to be done. He said that the District will see some employee overtime.

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE TRAINING. Mr. Chamberlin said that the annual employee training went well. Mr. Manser reported on the details of the training, including safety training.

DIRECT DEPOSITS. Carl Morton addressed the Board. He said that the employees are in favor of direct deposits. He said that only two employees are not in favor. Mr. Chamberlin explained to Mr. Morton that the Board had expressed that they are in favor of moving forward with direct deposits and are investigating the process. He reminded Mr. Morton that if he would like to address the Board during their monthly meeting, he needs to give advance notice so that he can get on the agenda.

2020 BUDGET. Mr. Manser handed out the budget with the changes which were requested at last month's meeting. The Directors began the review of the revised budget.

NICHOLS' ACCOUNTING ENGAGEMENT LETTERS. Mr. Chamberlin presented proposed engagement letters with Nichols Accounting Group. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director Ausman, and unanimously carried authorizing Mr. Chamberlin to sign the engagement letters on behalf of the District. Director Corn said that the Nichols Accounting Group has done an excellent job with the District's accounting.

PRESIDENT NAGAKI COMMENTS. President Nagaki said that he received an inquiry from a water user about hearing that Ontario employees are having to come to Nyssa to punch in on a time clock before then reporting back to Ontario. Mr. Chamberlin explained the situation.

DIRECTOR TSCHIDA COMMENTS. Director Tschida suggested the crew have a "safety shout-out" each morning when they meet to emphasize a point of safety awareness for the day.

RECESS. At 11:54 a.m., President Nagaki declared the meeting in recess to be reconvened after the Joint Committee meeting after lunch.

MEETING RECONVENED. At 2:40 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

2020 BUDGET (continued). The Directors said that they have had time to review the revised budget. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried approving the revised budget as presented.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED: _____

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

February 18, 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 February 18, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. Eric White, Chairman, presiding.

The following members of the Joint Committee were present:

Eric White	Frank Ausman
Dan Tschida	Chris Landa
Brett Nielsen	Jerry Nagaki

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager of the Hydro Projects; John Eells, South Board Manager; Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manager; Michael W. Horton, Secretary and Legal Counsel; Linda Henderson and Darla Sebasto, OID Patrons; Bruce Corn, (OID Alternate); Kathleen Cathey, Senator Wyden's office; and Larry Meyer, Newspaper Reporter.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on February 12, 2020.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on January 21, 2020, were mailed to the Committee members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Tschida, seconded by Mr. Nagaki, and unanimously carried approving the minutes.

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the Tunnel #1 Power Project which the Committee members reviewed and discussed.

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

Spiegel & McDiarmid, LLP	\$3,818.00
Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton	666.00
Nichols Accounting	<u>1,300.00</u>
TOTAL	\$5,784.00

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project which the Committee members reviewed and discussed. Mr. Chamberlin said that the power plant has been started since the parameters for operating it have been met. He said that it has been running good. He said that Idaho Power was contacted and they are purchasing the power. He said the rate is about 75% of what is received during the normal season. He said this lower rate will be in effect until April 1.

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

Nichols Accounting	<u>\$350.00</u>
TOTAL	\$350.00

WATERSHED FLIGHT. Mr. Chamberlin reported on his flight over the watershed to check on the snow pack. He said that he was very pleased with what he saw. He said that from his observations, it appears that the snotel reports are accurate and are showing the snow pack at 115% of normal. He said that storage in the reservoir is 75% full. He said there needs to be about 180,000 acre feet of inflow to fill the reservoir. He then handed out USBR's stream flow forecast. Chairman White said that the Joint Committee may need to meet if flows start to come up.

OWYHEE RIVER FLOOD STAGE SETTINGS. Mr. Chamberlin said that the National Weather Service has come up with some new targets for flood stage warnings on the Owyhee River. He said that they will be getting in touch with him to discuss those targets. Kathleen Cathey offered her assistance in dealing with the National Weather Service if it is needed.

WATER TURN ON DATE. Mr. Chamberlin said that Reclamation is running more models on inflow forecasts. He said there is sufficient storage in the reservoir right now to allow for a full allotment. Both Mr. Chamberlin and Mr. Ells recommended that a tentative turn on date be set for April 1.

WATER ALLOTMENT. The Committee members discussed the water allotment. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Nagaki, and unanimously carried setting the allotment at 4 acre feet.

TENTATIVE WATER DELIVERY DATE. The Committee members discussed setting a tentative water delivery date. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Landa, and unanimously carried setting a tentative water delivery date for April 1.

HYDRO REPORT. Mr. Chamberlin said there is still some work to do at the Tunnel Power Plant before it will be ready to be turned on. He said he received a report on downsizing the batteries at the Tunnel Power Plant. He said that using smaller batteries would jeopardize the system. He said that we will have to go with the larger batteries. The matter was discussed. Mr. Horton said that the Joint Committee authorized the purchase of the larger batteries at their November 19, 2019, meeting.

ELEVATOR. Mr. Chamberlin said that the elevator got put back together. He said that in the process, some bearings got wiped out, but have since been replaced and repaired. He said that everything got put back together today. He said that the elevator still needs to have testing done on it before it will be put back into service.

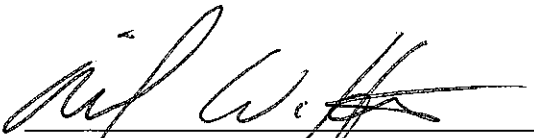
MALHEUR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FOR THE OWYHEE ACT. Kathleen Cathey gave a presentation on the Malheur Community Empowerment for the Owyhee Act. She gave an update on the status of the legislation. She said that Senator Wyden's office has received the requested changes to the bill which Mr. Chamberlin submitted. She said that any changes to the bill would be made when it goes through committee markup. Mr. Horton summarized the concerns of the Joint Committee with the bill as it was originally drafted. He said that the Wild and Scenic designation needs to be moved downstream from the face of the dam and the ending of the Wild and Scenic section needs to be moved upstream above the Owyhee Siphon.

Kathleen Cathey then went on to explain the proposed Wilderness Designation portion of the bill. Various Committee members expressed their dissatisfaction with closing off parts of the Owyhee desert to recreational use.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE BUDGET. Mr. Manser handed out a proposed Operations and Maintenance Budget for the Owyhee Dam. He said that the budget is the same as last year's budget. The proposed budget was reviewed and discussed. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Nagaki, and unanimously carried approving the budget as presented.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

APPROVED: _____