

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

March 31, 2022

A special meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held on March 31, 2022, 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	Frank Ausman
Chris Landa	Bruce Corn
Dan Tschida	Brett Nielsen

Also present were: Clancy Flynn, Manager of the Hydro Projects; Michael W. Horton, Secretary and Legal Counsel; Jerry Nagaki, Outgoing OID Board Member; Monty Culbertson, Old Owyhee Manager; John Eells, South Board Manager; Leslie Thompson, *Argus Observer* (by conference telephone); Michael Blackaby, Old Owyhee Secretary; Jay Chamberlin, Outgoing OID Manager; and Linda Henderson, Kirk Sessions, Lance Peterson, Rob Wagstaff, Van Schulthies, Terry Oft, Darla Sebasto, Debra Odette, Theodore Frahm, Greg Clark, Carl Morton, Ryan Martin, Scott Kesler, Ryan Penny, Chris Payne, Jeremy Peterson, and Logan Skeen, Members of the Public.

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

WATER OUTLOOK. Mr. Flynn said that as of 9:53 a.m., this morning, there is enough projected inflows in storage to have the allotment set at 2.1 foot per acre. Mr. Corn asked how much the pumping helped to add to the allotment. Mr. Flynn said that he factored that into his calculation and that it added about a tenth. Mr. Flynn said that Old Owyhee Ditch Company has 19,388 acre feet of water in storage at the reservoir. He then went through historical low allotments and lengths of seasons. He said that USBR is predicting between 280,000 to 350,000 acre feet of inflows from April through September. He said they predict there is a 50% chance of receiving those inflows.

John Eells gave a report on South Board's pumping capacity.

WATER ALLOTMENT. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, and unanimously carried to set the allotment at 2.1 foot per acre for water from the reservoir and 4 foot per acre for water from the pumps, with such allotments to be revisited next month.

TURN ON DATE. Chairman White asked for public comment on setting a turn on date. Public comment was split with half being in favor of an earlier turn on date and the other half being in favor of a later turn on date. Mr. Eells said that he would prefer a turn on date of April 12, with the pumps coming on April 6. Mr. Culbertson said that Old Owyhee will be starting up tomorrow.

The matter was discussed by the Committee members. Mr. Ausman said that it would seem reasonable to compromise on the turn on date. Discussion continued. After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Ausman to set the turn on date for water from the reservoir on April 13. The motion was seconded by Mr. Corn. A vote on the motion was had with Committee members Corn, Ausman, and Tschida voting in favor. Committee members White, Landa, and Nielsen voted against. The motion failed for lack of a majority vote.


A motion was made by Mr. Landa to set the turn on date for water from the reservoir for April 11. The motion was seconded by Mr. Landa. The Committee members discussed the motion. After discussion, a vote on the motion was had. Committee members White, Nielsen, Landa, and Corn voted in favor. Committee members Tschida and Ausman voted against. The motion passed on a vote of four to two.

Logistics of turning on the water was discussed. Chairman White asked for additional public comment. Mixed comments were received. One question which came up from the public was the confidence in a 40% water loss in calculating available water. Mr. Flynn said that he is confident in the 40% water loss which is based off of previous years.

Mr. Flynn gave an update on OID Kingman Lateral repairs.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

APPROVED: _____