

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

March 17, 2026

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on March 17, 2026, at the Owyhee Irrigation District office located at 422 Thunderegg Blvd., Nyssa, Oregon, at 10:00 a.m. President Frank Ausman presiding.

The following Directors were present:

- Bruce Corn
- Gregory Clark
- Joseph Davis
- Eric White
- Frank Ausman

Also present were:

- Clancy Flynn, District Manager
- Michael W. Horton, General Counsel
- Linda Henderson, Member of the Public
- Darla Sebasto, Member of the Public
- Chris Gerando, Member of the Public
- Leroy Loomis, Member of the Public (who joined the meeting at 10:57 a.m.)
- Cameron Skeen, Member of the Public (who joined the meeting at 10:57 a.m.)

MEETING NOTICE.

The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on March 12, 2026.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

President Ausman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Mr. Flynn said that he has proposed resolutions to apply for grants for different projects. He explained that one of the grant applications will be for phase two of the Shoestring Canal automation. He explained the planned automation process. He said the next grant application is for pumping plant efficiencies and getting variable speed pumps. He said the third grant application is for lining of the North Canal at 42.3 mile and the final resolution is for a check structure on the North Canal at 32.2 mile. He explained the proposed projects. He then presented Resolution numbers 2026-1, 2026-2, 2026-3, and 2026-4. The proposed resolutions were reviewed and discussed. After discussion, Director Corn made a motion to adopt Resolution numbers 2026-1, 2026-2, 2026-3, and 2026-4, copies of which are attached to these minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Clark. The motion passed with all the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

LOCKING HEAD GATES.

The locking of head gates was discussed by the Directors.

SURPLUS VEHICLES.

Mr. Flynn presented a list of vehicles he wants to have surplus as they are no longer needed, but he would also like to not get rid of all of them until replacement vehicles come in. He explained that he is working on getting leased vehicles in. He explained the issues he is running into on getting the leased vehicles. The list of vehicles, which is attached to these minutes, was reviewed by the Directors. A motion was made by Director White declaring the vehicles on the list as surplus and authorizing Mr. Flynn to sell the vehicles. The motion was seconded by Director Davis. The motion passed with all of the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

MINUTES.

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held February 17, 2026, were mailed to the Directors prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Director Clark to approve the minutes as mailed. The motion was seconded Director Davis. The motion passed with all the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT.

Mr. Flynn handed out a financial report for the month. The Directors reviewed and discussed the report. Mr. Flynn explained how the Dunaway transformer cost is being listed on the financial statement.

DISTRICT ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.

A list of District accounts payable for the month, together with a breakdown of credit card charges, were included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed, questioned, and discussed the accounts and credit card charges. Director White made a motion to approve the accounts payable. Director Clark seconded the motion. The motion passed with all the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

At 10:57 a.m., Larry Loomis and Cameron Skeen joined the meeting.

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT:

Financial Report.

A financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Project was handed out by Mr. Flynn. The Directors reviewed and discussed the financial report.

Accounts Payable.

Accounts payable for the Mitchell Butte Power Project were listed on the agenda. Director Clark made a motion to approve the accounts payable. Director White seconded the motion. The motion passed with all the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

STAFF RESTRUCTURE.

Mr. Flynn outlined a plan for restructuring staff at the District and he presented a proposed Organizational Chart which the Directors reviewed. He explained that he is wanting to move back to some North and South separate management structures. He explained his ideas behind the

proposed plan. The proposed plan was discussed. Mr. Flynn explained that most of the plan has already been implemented.

LEROY LOOMIS PIVOT.

Leroy Loomis and Cameron Skeen addressed the Board with regard to a pivot which was installed last year by Agri-Lines. Mr. Loomis owns property on the Oregon Slope, which Mr. Skeen rents. It was explained that Agri-Lines installed the pivot, but the tile which conveys water to the pivot failed. Temporary repairs were made and they explained that it was their understanding that a more permanent repair would be made this offseason. They explained that if the repair is not made, they fear that the canal could be breached. They expressed their worries about the timing of getting this done and the integrity of the canal bank this spring. They requested that this becomes a high priority project prior to water coming in.

Mr. Flynn explained the situation. He said that the weir was bypassed and that the line to the pivot was installed directly into the tile without Mr. Flynn's knowledge. He said that the bank cannot be cut, but could be lined by a contractor at an estimated cost of \$8,000. Mr. Loomis explained that it was his understanding that District personnel approved the project before it was installed. Mr. Flynn explained that the tile did not leak before the pivot was installed. He said that the installation caused the damage to the tile. Mr. Loomis explained that he received a permit to have the pivot installed and paid a fee. Director White explained that a pivot system is not able to be hooked into tiled pipe. Mr. Flynn explained that after the District came in and did a repair of the system, that it held for the rest of the year. Mr. Loomis said that he is willing to share in the cost of a more permanent fix. Mr. Flynn said that he will check with a contractor and try to get the repair scheduled. Director Clark expressed his belief that, though he is glad that the pipeline will be fixed, he does not believe that Mr. Loomis should have to share in the cost. At 11:49 a.m., Mr. Loomis and Mr. Skeen left the meeting. The Directors continued discussions on how to avoid similar situations in the future.

MEETING RECESS.

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

MEETING RECONVENED.

At 1:40 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

OWYEE SIPHON INLET.

Mr. Flynn reported that the concrete for the Owyhee Siphon inlet is being poured this week and that another pour will be needed next week.

DITCHING AND FIBEROPTICS.

Mr. Flynn reported on ditching and fiberoptic installations going on throughout the District. He said that he has been sending the fiberoptic companies weekly bills for staff time related to the fiberoptic installations. He said that burning crews have been doing good. He said there are a lot of weeds in the canals and ditches.

PUMPING PLANTS.

Mr. Flynn reported on work being done at the pumping plants.

VACATION TIME RESTRUCTURE.

Mr. Flynn said that he would like to restructure vacation time and comp time policies. He said that he would like to see the amount of comp time capped. Mr. Flynn was directed to begin drafting a proposed policy on vacation and comp time and present it to the Board for consideration.

RADIAL GATE AT TUNNEL CANYON.

Director White asked on the status of the radial gate at Tunnel Canyon. Mr. Flynn said that he will put together a plan and cost estimate for the gate. Director Corn said that South Board's gate needs to be discussed at the next Joint Committee meeting.

LIFE FLIGHT INSURANCE.

Director White asked about getting life flight insurance for District employees. Mr. Flynn said that it looks like it would cost \$75 per employee for such insurance. The matter was discussed and after discussion, Director Davis made a motion that the District provide life flight insurance for each full-time District employee. Director White seconded the motion. A vote on the motion was had. The motion passed with all of the Directors present voting in favor of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED:



Board of Directors
 To: ~~Joint Committee~~

Meeting Date: 17 March 2026

RE: Surplus vehicles

Attachments:

1. Varies

Background/Summary/Discussion:

Plate #	VIN #	Year	Make	Model	Mileage	Reason(s)
265788	1F1PW14S28KD01099	2008	Ford	F150	230829	high miles random electrical and running issues
272113	1FTEX1EM1EFC01939	2014	Ford	F150	212841	engine misfires and oil leaks
271594	1GCEK19009Z222524	2009	Chevy	1500	150617	beat up runs bad
260983	1GCSKPE33AZ36864	2010	Chevy	1500	208572	high miles
291685	1C6RR7FG4F5677938	2015	Dodge	1500	135082	electrical problems & sometimes won't run
272114	1FTEX1B45DKF28114	2013	Ford	F150	215560	high miles, expensive tires & beat up
271593	1GCSKPE36AZ35868	2010	Chevy	1500	177219	engine knock and smoke
291683	1GBHC34F1VF041093	1997	Chevy	3600	82957	not used dies sometimes old chevy diesel
265082	1GQRKSE73C2202186	2011	Dodge	2500	218875	HIGH MILES
<i>C1440</i> 255759	1GBHDG482GF416297	1986	Chevy	2500	60000	electrical problems/reliability old chevy diesel
255786	1GCHK2328E310548	2005	Chevy	2500	274003	high miles intermittent fuel delivery issue
290384	1FTEX1QM9DKF38714	2013	Ford	F150	77899	2WD lighter duty... it could bring good \$ at auction
255214	1GCEC14C17592943	2007	Chevy	1500	147956	2WD extra shop truck might bring decent \$ at auction

1970s *beat-*

Budget Impact

None.

Recommended Motion:

None.

**OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Shoestring Canal Automated Gates Phase Two
Resolution 2026-1**

WHEREAS, the Owyhee Irrigation District is actively seeking to automate as much of the canal system as possible annually; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes the benefits that canal automation brings to operations including safety and water savings; and

WHEREAS, the Shoestring Canal (aka Ontario-Nyssa Canal) captures considerable return waters while only having some automated wasteway gates; and

WHEREAS, said lateral provides service to an estimated 5,491 irrigable acres; and

WHEREAS, by adding automated gates the District will more efficiently use these return waters and conserve water to ensure reliable service to these acres; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation has available WaterSmart grants to help with financing water projects that have environmental benefits.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes a project to add six automated gates to the Shoestring canal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes the pursuit of Reclamation WaterSmart monies to help cover the cost of said project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Owyhee Irrigation District is capable of and commits itself to providing the funds/in-kind contributions outlined in the grant application and to work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement.

Dated this 17th day of March 2026.

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Frank Ausman, Vice-President

**OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Pumping Plant Efficiencies Project
Resolution 2026-2**

WHEREAS, the Owyhee Irrigation District is actively seeking to automate as much of the canal system as possible annually; and

WHEREAS, the District recognizes the benefits that pumping plant automation brings to operations including safety and water savings; and

WHEREAS, the Dunaway and Dead Ox Pumping Plants have no VFDs and very little automation and data acquisition equipment currently installed; and

WHEREAS, said pumping plants provide service to farms on two ditch rides irrigable; and

WHEREAS, by adding VFDs and automation the District will more efficiently pump river water leading to energy and water conservation; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation has available WaterSmart grants to help with financing projects that are environmentally beneficial.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes a project to add VFDs and automation to these pumping facilities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes the pursuit of Reclamation WaterSmart monies to help cover the cost of said project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Owyhee Irrigation District is capable of and commits itself to providing the funds/in-kind contributions outlined in the grant application and to work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement.

Dated this 17th day of March 2026.

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Frank Ausman, Vice President

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
Lining of the North Canal 42.3 mile
Resolution 2026-3

WHEREAS, the Owyhee Irrigation District has had difficulty with seepage and slope stability in this canal reach; and

WHEREAS, these difficulties have in years past resulted in settling of the Malheur River Siphon; and

WHEREAS, the District would like to protect against future damage to the Malheur River Siphon; and

WHEREAS, the project would save an estimated 454AF each irrigation season; and

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation makes money available through WaterSmart grants for this type of water saving project; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes a project to line the North Canal beginning at the outlet of the Malheur siphon and continuing downstream;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes the pursuit of Reclamation WaterSmart monies to help cover the cost of said project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Owyhee Irrigation District is capable of and commits itself to providing the funds/in-kind contributions outlined in the grant application and to work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or cooperative agreement.

Dated this 17th day of March 2026.

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Frank Ausman, Vice-President

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
North Canal 32.2 Check Addition
Resolution 2026-4

WHEREAS, the District has difficulty with deliveries at times due to insufficient head;
and

WHEREAS, the laterals and turnouts on the North Canal between mile 31 and mile 32
are the most impacted by this problem; and

WHEREAS, said laterals and turnouts provide service to an approximately 400 acres; and

WHEREAS, adding a canal check with an automated gate will ensure reliable service to
these acres during these conditions; and

WHEREAS, additionally the District recognizes the benefits that canal automation brings
to operations including safety and water savings; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation has available WaterSmart grants to help with
financing small-scale water efficiency projects.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes a
project to add the 32.2mi check and automated gate to the North Canal.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Owyhee Irrigation District authorizes the pursuit of
Reclamation WaterSmart, Small-Scale Water Efficiency monies to help cover the cost of
said project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Owyhee Irrigation District is capable of and commits
itself to providing the funds/in-kind contributions outlined in the grant application and
to work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a grant or
cooperative agreement.

Dated this 17th day of March 2026.

OWYHEE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Frank Ausman, Chairman *Resident*