

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

June 18, 2019

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on June 18, 2019, at the offices of Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton, LLP, at 106 Main Street, Nyssa, Oregon, at 7:00 p.m. Jerry Nagaki, President of the District, presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn	Frank Ausman
Dan Tschida	Eric White
Jerry Nagaki	

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager; Michael W. Horton, Attorney; Harvey Manser, Assistant Manager; Linda Henderson, District Patron; Brian Richins, Auditor; and Kevin Shaw and Lynn Larson, NRCS.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice as to the meeting was given on June 12, 2019.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on May 21, 2019, were mailed to the Directors prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director Tschida, 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. The gopher fund was discussed.

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 White, seconded by Director Corn, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable.

WATER MANAGEMENT WITH USBR. Mr. Chamberlin explained issues with reclamation on going into surcharge at the dam. Directors Ausman and Corn said that Mr. Chamberlin and staff managed the reservoir perfectly during the high river flows.

FLOOD STAGES ON OWYHEE RIVER. Mr. Chamberlin reported on a tour of the lower Owyhee River he had with Troy Lindquist of the National Weather Service and Reclamation staff on setting flood stages.

MUD SLIDES NEAR DAM COMPOUND. Mr. Chamberlin reported on mud and rock slides which happened near the Dam Compound as a result of thunderstorms and the

efforts of District staff during the event. He said the County Judge declared a disaster following the slides.

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the Tunnel Power Project. The Directors reviewed the report.

Tunnel #1 Power Project Accounts Payable. Mr. Chamberlin presented a list of accounts payable for the month. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable for the Tunnel Power Project as follows:

AT&T	\$86.79
Oregon-Idaho Utilities	112.20
Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton	1,136.00
Brian Richins	2,350.00
Nichols Accounting	<u>350.00</u>
TOTAL	\$4,034.99

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project. The Directors reviewed the report.

Owyhee Dam Accounts Payable. Mr. Chamberlin presented a list of accounts payable for the month. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Director Tschida, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable for the Owyhee Dam Power Project as follows:

Brian Richins	\$2,350.00
Oregon-Idaho Utilities	298.58
Nichols Accounting	<u>350.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,998.58

MITCHELL BUTTE POWER PROJECT.

Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin handed out a financial report for the Mitchell Butte Power Project. The Directors reviewed the report.

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

Century Link	\$314.18
Brian Richins	2,350.00
Nichols Accounting	<u>130.00</u>

Total \$2,794.18

2018 AUDIT. Brian Richins presented his audit of the District for 2018. He handed out charts to each Director, along with a copy of the audit. He went through the charts and the audit as the Directors reviewed them. Mr. Richins said that it was a clean audit and that the District is in compliance with all auditing standards. He said what the Board sees on a monthly basis is pretty accurate. He said the bottom line is that the audit is all clean. He said the test work on controls all came back good. He said District staff worked really well on the audit. Linda Henderson interrupted the meeting and asked questions of Mr. Richins which were answered by him. After reviewing and discussing the audit the Board thanked Mr. Richins for his work.

NRCS REPORT. Kevin Shaw who is the Basin Engineer out of the Baker office for NRCS, along with Lynn Larson, addressed the Board. They said they want to be involved when FCA comes out with their modernization plan for the District. They said there is a lot of funding opportunities which will become available once the plan is completed. Mr. Shaw said the new farm bill presents a great opportunity for funding options. Mr. Larson said the District will most likely need a dedicated person to manage the large grants which may become available. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Larson explained potential RCPP projects. After a lengthy discussion, Mr. Chamberlin and the Board members agreed that the main delivery structures for the District are what need addressed before new pipeline projects.

SNIVELY SIPHON INFRASTRUCTURE PROBLEMS. Mr. Chamberlin said that the Snively Siphon inlet blew out. He explained the temporary repairs which were made and the planned additional temporary repair to be done once the water goes out. A possible long-term repair was discussed.

FLETCHER GULCH FILM STORY. Lynn Larson said that NRCS will be shooting a film which will be an overview of the Fletcher Gulch Project. He said the water quality improvement from the Project is a great story to tell.

DEAD OX PUMPING PLANT. Mr. Chamberlin said that the small pump at Dead Ox is acting up and is going to be pulled this week.

RECLAMATION INSPECTION. Mr. Chamberlin reported on the recent Reclamation inspection. He said that Reclamation engineers came out and completed their inspection and will be getting a report to the District soon.

B2H POWER LINE. Mr. Horton and Mr. Chamberlin reported on the B2H hearing they attended today prior to tonight's meeting. They both testified at the hearing.

MALHEUR SIPHON FINAL INSPECTION. Mr. Chamberlin said that the final inspection with Reclamation on the Malheur Siphon work has been postponed. Mr. Manser said the dirt work still needs to be done. Mr. Chamberlin said that overall everything is functioning well.

PALISADES PROJECT LETTER. Mr. Horton reminded the Directors that John Eells presented a letter to Reclamation regarding the planned Palisades Project which will have an impact on power costs at a recent Joint Committee meeting. He said that at the meeting Mr. Eells requested that Owyhee Irrigation District write a similar letter to Reclamation requesting the timing of the project be moved to during the off season so that pumping costs will not be impacted as much as they would be if the project is done as planned. The matter was discussed and after discussion, a motion was made by Director Ausman, seconded by Director Tschida, and unanimously carried authorizing Mr. Horton to prepare and Mr. Chamberlin to sign a letter to Reclamation requesting a change in the scheduling of the project.

HOUSE BILL 2437 REGARDING CANAL AND DITCH CLEANING. Mr. Horton reported and explained House Bill 2437 which will regulate canal and ditch cleaning throughout the State of Oregon. He explained the pros and cons of the bill and said that Senator Bentz is asking for opinions on the proposed bill. The Board members discussed the proposed bill and after discussion, did not take a position.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED: _____

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

January 22, 2019

A meeting of the Joint Committee of the Owyhee Project was held at the offices of Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton, LLP, at 106 Main Street, Nyssa, Oregon, on January 22, 2019, at 1:05 p.m. Eric White, Chairman, presiding.

The following members of the Joint Committee were present:

Eric White	Frank Ausman
Bruce Corn	Brett Nielsen
Dan Tschida	Rick Smith

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager of the Hydro Projects; Ryan Nash, South Board Watermaster; Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manger; Michael W. Horton Secretary and Legal Counsel; Linda Henderson, OID Patron; and Larry Meyer, Newspaper Reporter.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on January 16, 2019.

MINUTES. The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Committee held on December 18, 2018, were mailed to the Committee members prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Corn, seconded by Mr. Nielson, and unanimously carried approving the minutes.

REORGANIZATION. Chairman White stated that this, the first meeting of the year, is the time for the reorganization of the Joint Committee.

Representatives. Mr. Horton said that the OID Board has designated Dan Tschida, Frank Ausman, Eric White, and Bruce Corn as representatives to the Joint Committee with Jerry Nagaki being the alternate. Brett Nielson said that the South Board has designated Brett Nielson and Rick Smith as representatives to the Joint Committee with John Eells being the alternate.

Chairman. Chairman Eric White opened nominations for the office of Chairman. Eric White was duly nominated and elected as Chairman.

Vice-Chairman. Chairman White opened nominations for the office of Vice-Chairman. Brett Nielson was duly nominated and elected as Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee.

Secretary and Legal Counsel. Mr. Horton stated that he is willing to serve as Secretary of the Joint Committee and that his law firm would agree to act as attorneys for the Joint Committee. These services will be billed at \$192.00 per hour. A motion was made by Mr. Nielson, seconded by Mr. Tschida, and unanimously carried that Michael W. Horton be appointed Secretary and general

counsel for the Joint Committee and that his law firm of Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton, LLP be appointed as attorneys for the Joint Committee all at an hourly rate of \$192.00 per hour, plus expenses.

Depositories. It was the consensus of the Joint Committee members to maintain the same depositories for funds of the Joint Committee as last year.

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin said that the accountants have not yet completed the financial report for the Tunnel #1 Power Project.

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

Oregon-Idaho Utilities	\$112.50
AT&T	168.64
Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton, LLP	635.50
SDAO	<u>46,385.00</u>
TOTAL	\$47,301.64

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. Mr. Chamberlin said that the accountants have not yet prepared the financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project.

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. Tschida, seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously carried approving payment of the following accounts:

AT&T	42.65
Oregon-Idaho Utilities	301.88
SDIS	<u>23,895.00</u>
TOTAL	\$24,239.53

RING GATE WORK. Mr. Chamberlin updated the Committee on maintenance work being done on the ring gate. He said the concrete is being further inspected. He said he believes that it is just superficial damage, but they will have inspections done from inside the chamber. He said there will be some contractors looking at the damage.

TUNNEL POWER PLANT. Mr. Chamberlin said there is nothing showing up for a maintenance concern for the Tunnel Power Plant. He said the computers are still getting straightened out. He explained the maintenance being done on the plant.

CONTROL GATES AT DAM. Mr. Chamberlin said that the control gates at the Dam have been looked at and lubricated.

DAM POWER PLANT. Mr. Chamberlin said that the work crew is just getting into the Dam Power Plant. He said the wicket gates will be looked at. He said staff is working on a Dam Plant starting checklist.

DAM MAINTENANCE CREW. Mr. Tschida asked about education for staff working on the Dam. Mr. Chamberlin said that two staff members are being sent to Denver for Reclamation training in dam maintenance.

OLD OWYHEE PUMP. Mr. Chamberlin said that one of the Old Owyhee pumps at the Dunaway Pumping Plant had a wobble in it. He said the pump was pulled out and repaired and put back in the hole. He said the estimated cost of the repair was \$25,000.

OWYHEE DAM FOUNDATION DRAINS. Mr. Chamberlin said that Reclamation monitoring has noted more drain seepage at lower water levels at the Dam.

HELLS CANYON RE-LICENSING. Mr. Horton gave an update on Idaho Power's re-licensing of the Hells Canyon Dam Complex. He gave a summary of a draft agreement between Idaho Power, the State of Oregon, the State of Idaho, and FERC. The proposed agreement is to settle disputes between the State of Oregon and the State of Idaho on fish reintroduction. He said that Oregon Water Resource Congress is going to be commenting on the proposed re-licensing. He said that the Joint Committee may want to join in those comments. A motion was made by Mr. Nielsen, seconded by Mr. Ausman, and unanimously carried that the Joint Committee join in comments on the proposed Hells Canyon Complex re-licensing and that the Joint Committee supports the re-licensing, but is opposed to any fish reintroduction.

OWYHEE POWER PROJECT RE-LICENSING. Mr. Horton advised the Committee members that they need to start planning for re-licensing the Owyhee Dam and Tunnel Power Plants. He said that the FERC licenses are 50-year licenses and that those licenses were issued around 1985. He explained that the re-licensing process is quite a lengthy process. He explained that another option to re-licensing with FERC would be to seek licensing through Reclamation. The Joint Committee members discussed the matter and the consensus was to have Mr. Horton and Mr. Chamberlin begin exploring licensing the projects through Reclamation when the current FERC license expire.

WATER FORECAST. Mr. Chamberlin handed out water forecasts and reports from USDA. He said the current prediction for February and March predicts warmer and drier than normal weather. The current stream flow forecasts 70% to 90% of average runoff volume for the Owyhee watershed. He said that based upon these forecasts, it looks like a full allotment should be available to the districts this year. He said he will fly the snow course. He noted that pumping early last year helped keep some water in storage for this year.

OWYHEE WATERSHED COUNCIL FIELD DAY. Mr. Chamberlin said that the Owyhee Watershed Council field day will be in April. He said that Ontario School District is wanting to do its own field day in mid May.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

APPROVED: _____