

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

March 17, 2020

A regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Owyhee Irrigation District was held on March 17, 2020, at 10:02 a.m., telephonically due to the continuing COVID 19 social-distancing recommendations. Jerry Nagaki, President of the District, presiding.

The following Directors were present:

Bruce Corn	Dan Tschida
Eric White	Jerry Nagaki

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager; Michael W. Horton, Attorney; Jake Conde, Attorney, Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manager; and Carl Morton, Ditch Rider.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice as to the meeting was given on March 11, 2020.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was dispensed with owing to the telephonic nature of the proceedings.

MINUTES. Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on February 18, 2020, were mailed to the Directors prior to this meeting. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director Tschida, and unanimously carried approving the minutes as read.

DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT. A financial report for the District was included in the Directors' packets. The Directors reviewed the report.

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.

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 Corn, seconded by Director Tschida, and unanimously carried authorizing payment of the following accounts payable:

AT&T	\$40.77
Tekfinity	42.95
Century Link	166.43
WIN-911	495.00
Nichols Accounting	<u>125.00</u>
Total	\$870.15

KINGMAN SIPHON. Mr. Manser reported on work on the Kingman Siphon. He said that over the past 10 days prior to the meeting repairs were made on the siphon clearing away old mortar and other undesirable materials before. Workers had to use chipping hammers to hand repair sections and take out crumbling mortar in places. New mortar was applied to the siphon inlet on March 11, 2020 and to the outlet on Friday, March 13, 2020. After a few more hand repairs were completed the project appears to be done. An outside inspection was performed on Monday March 16, 2020 which indicated the repairs were done in good order. Director Tschida asked Assistant Manager Manser about the final cost of the repairs. Manser responded that the contract for the repairs had been for 100,000 dollars and he believed based on the amount of work that was required on the project that final bill would be about that same amount. Chairman Nagaki thanked Assistant Manager Manser and said he was pleased to hear the repairs had been completed in a timely fashion.

OFF SEASON WORK. Mr. Chamberlin said he is planning on releasing water from the reservoir by March 26, 2020, and staff are currently making preparations. He said some further repairs were made to prevent leaks and new pipeline is being installed. He said that the District has hired several temporary workers to dig ditches and lay pipe.

Mr. Chamberlin said that the Vista View Pipeline construction continues. He said the pipeline off of Foothill Drive (through Butler property) should be finished soon.

Mr. Chamberlin said the Vista view pipeline construction continues. The pipeline off foothill drive (through Butler property) should be finished soon. Carl Morton spoke and said that the projects are progressing and the work force is in good spirits. However, Mr. Morton himself is retiring after 20 years working for the District. The board thanked him for his years of service.

DIRECT PAYROLL DEPOSITS. The District recently switched to direct deposit. The cost was minimal, and according to Mr. Morton it has been well received by the work force. Almost every member of the District has signed up for the service.

FCA UPDATE: Due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, this matter was moved to next meeting to see if there would be any updates.

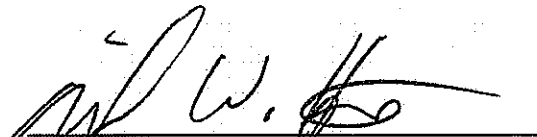
SURPLUS VEHICLE. Mr. Manser handed out a list which is attached to these minutes identifying vehicles which need to be surplus and disposed of. A motion was made by Director White, seconded by Tschida, and unanimously carried authorizing the vehicles listed to be surplus and disposed of in compliance with the District's Surplus Policies.

WAIVER OF INTEREST FOR LATE PAYMENT: Mr. Chamberlin said that with the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, he recommends that interest be waived on late payments for incurred charges. He said that water would still not be delivered until payment is made. He said by doing this, it would help protect the staff from getting a bunch of people in right at the deadline to pay their water bill. A motion was made by Director Corn, seconded by Director White, and unanimously carried to waive interest on the first 30 days of delinquency on annual incurred water charge payments due April 15, 2020.

WORKER SAFETY: Mr. Chamberlin reported on procedures being implemented to try to help with workers' safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. He said that right now employees are maintaining a 6-foot distance and meetings are limited to groups of less than five to ten. He said that staff is attempting to keep material sterile and follow hygiene guidelines. He said that tours, field days, and other activities that incorporate the public have been suspended. He said that equipment is being wiped down to prevent lingering germs on surfaces. He said that the Safety Committee will be providing input.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael W. Horton, General Counsel

APPROVED: _____

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

March 17, 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 March 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m., by teleconference pursuant to Oregon law. Each Committee member was able to hear the other. A speaker phone was available for members of the public to listen in on the meeting. Eric White, Chairman, presiding.

The following members of the Joint Committee were present:

Eric White	Bruce Corn (OID Alternate)
Dan Tschida	Chris Landa
Brett Nielsen	Jerry Nagaki

Also present were: Jay Chamberlin, Manager of the Hydro Projects; Michael W. Horton, Secretary and Legal Counsel, Harvey Manser, OID Assistant Manager, John Eells, South Board Manager; and Larry Meyer, Newspaper Reporter.

MEETING NOTICE. The meeting agenda showed that public notice of the meeting was given on March 11, 2020.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. The Pledge of Allegiance was dispensed with due to the telephonic nature of the proceedings.

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

OWYHEE DAM POWER PLANT OPERATION. Mr. Chamberlin said that the Owyhee Dam Power Plant has been started since the operating parameters were met. He said it initially started at 250 cfs. He said that he then became concerned with the snow pack and inflows and it was dialed back down to 100 cfs where it is operating right now.

TUNNEL #1 POWER PROJECT.

Tunnel #1 Financial Report. The financial report for the Tunnel #1 Power Project was included in the meeting packet which each Committee member received. The Committee members reviewed the financial report.

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. Corn, and unanimously carried approving payment of the accounts payable as follows:

Spiegel & McDiarmid, LLP	\$76.25
AT&T	83.97
Stunz, Fonda, Kiyuna & Horton	2,646.75
Frank Ausman	806.25
Jerry Nagaki	812.50
Bruce Corn	855.00
Dan Tschida	812.50
Eric White	742.00
Win-911	680.00
Oregon Idaho Utilities	973.52
South Board	1,455.25
Nichols Accounting	<u>375.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$10,318.99

OWYHEE DAM POWER PROJECT.

Owyhee Dam Financial Report. The financial report for the Owyhee Dam Power Project was included in the meeting packet which each Committee member received. The Committee members reviewed the financial report. Mr. Corn said that the report is not showing any income received from the operation of the Dam Power Plant. Mr. Chamberlin said that the income has not been reported yet.

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. Nagaki, seconded by Mr. Nielsen, and unanimously carried:

AT&T	\$ 46.41
Oregon Idaho Utilities	564.00
Nichols Accounting	<u>350.00</u>
 TOTAL	 \$ 985.41

WATER FORECAST AND STORAGE REPORT. Mr. Chamberlin said that after he flew the snow course, that things looked good, but since then, there have been cold nights which have changed things. He said he will be flying the course again. Currently the snow pack is at 83%. He said inflows have been sluggish. He said he ran the numbers today and the reservoir has received 91,000 acre feet of inflows since January.

Mr. Chamberlin report on a meeting he recently attended where National Weather Forecast staff participated. He said they are predicting the next three to four weeks of above normal precipitation and below normal temperatures. He said some of the snow pack is being lost to evaporation and freezing.

Mr. Chamberlin said that Reclamation is predicting inflows from March through the end of June of 413,000 acre feet while NRCS is reporting inflows during the same period of 230,000 acre feet.

Mr. Chamberlin said that the reservoir storage is 80% full. He recommends holding steady with the releases. He said that he anticipates some bump in inflows, but does not see a major inflow unless there is a major storm event. He said he recommends leaving the Dam Power Plant operating.

WATER DELIVERY DATE. Mr. Chamberlin said April 1 is the target delivery date he is looking at. He said he would like to start charging the system to the North on March 26. He said the office has been getting inquiries about water. He said they have received demands from Dead Ox users.

Mr. Eells said the South Board of Control is shooting for the same charging date and delivery date. Mr. Chamberlin said that Old Owyhee Ditch Company will be following suit with charge up starting on March 26 and deliveries on April 1. Mr. Chamberlin said the Dead Ox Pumping Plant will start later that week. Chairman White said that this meets with the Joint Committee's tentative turn on date set last month.

OWYHEE DAM OPERATION. Mr. Chamberlin said that the ring gate at the dam is working well. He said it is being floated right now.

ELEVATOR AT OWYHEE DAM. Mr. Chamberlin said that the elevator at the dam has been tested and is working very, very well.

OWYHEE EMPOWERMENT ACT. Mr. Chamberlin said that he has received some correspondence on the proposed bill. He said that he responded with some more correspondence. He said that BLM's comments were that they were wanting a general description of the Wild and Scenic boundaries rather than a specific description. He said he responded that a specific description is wanted from the districts. Mr. Horton explained that there is a possibility that the bill could get attached to another bill as an amendment and passed quickly without the changes which the districts have requested.

RECLAMATION POWER MEETING REPORT. Mr. Chamberlin reported on a recent Reclamation power meeting he attended. He said that currently the Districts pay 27 mills for power. He said it looks like that rate will stay in place for awhile, but then in 2024 or 2025, there will be a big increase. He said the districts are requesting if the increases can be spread out over five years rather than hit all at once. He said that he also learned that with the fast tracking of the carbon reduction movement, that the power industry is predicting the west coast will experience significant energy shortages with potential rolling blackouts in 2025.

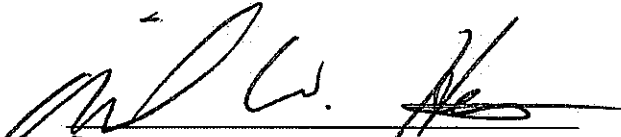
OWYHEE PROJECT HISTORY. Mr. Chamberlin reported on a presentation he made to the Malheur County Historical Society on the Owyhee Project. He said the presentation went really well and that he would like to make a similar presentation to the Joint Committee in order to provide them with some history of the project and how it relates to today's operations.

COVID-19 IMPACT. Mr. Chamberlin said that the Owyhee Field Day and Watershed Management Meetings have been cancelled because of Covid-19 pandemic. He said that OID is implementing some procedures to minimize employee and patron exposure.

WATER DELIVERY (Continued). Mr. Chamberlin said that OID patrons have been completing their RRA forms and getting payments in earlier than normal. He said the north and south systems will start charging on March 26 with deliveries starting on or after April 1 depending upon weather conditions and demand.

ADJOURNMENT. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

APPROVED: _____