



The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) was called to order by Brad Clarno, at 9:01 AM on, March 12, 2024, in the District office.

Directors present were Tom Burke, Brad Clarno, C.B. Foss, Jeff Larkin, and Brian Lepore. Craig Horrell, Secretary - Managing Director, Jenny Hartzell-Hill, HR Manager; Erin Bathke, Accounting & Administrative Associate; Kelley O'Rourke, Business Operations Manager; attended in person. Heidi Dennison, Finance Consultant; Cary Penhollow, Water Master; Jessi Talbott, Water Rights Director, Baxter Davies, Water Distribution Analyst; participated remotely by Zoom. Matt Singer, General Counsel attended via Zoom. In-person guests are listed in Exhibit "A".

1. OPEN FORUM:

AJ Rosengarth, patron off of the A lateral. Proposing realigning the lateral and reimbursing COID for the easement. He provided the background, drawings, and additional information (Exhibit "B"). The Board will discuss the request in Executive Session.

Mark Malott, asked for the actual amount of water delivered to Powell Butte in 2023. Staff will provide the number to him via email.

2. MINUTES:

The minutes from the 2/13/24 Regular Meeting were provided prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Tom Burke to approve the minutes as presented. Following a second by Jeff Larkin the motion was approved unanimously.

4. TRANSFERS / INCLUSIONS:

The water rights memorandum was provided to the Board prior to the meeting, Exhibit "C". Jessi Talbott updated the Board, no transfers. She reviewed two quick claim requests and updated the Board on the status of the 2024 instream lease amounts.

5. REPORTS:

A. Watermaster Report –

A written report (Exhibit "D") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Cary Penhollow joined the Board and discussed reservoir levels. The Central Oregon Canal stock run ran smoothly the first part of March. He discussed current flows and planned releases. Tentative season start up dates were discussed. If weather patterns continue as predicted, tentative start up would be April 15th. If it appears to be dry warmer weather as we get closer, we will consider moving it to the 8th of April. Cary explained releasing flows from Wickiup and Crane Prairie. Board discussion followed.

B. Operations and Maintenance Report –

A written report (Exhibit "E") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Kelley Hamby joined the meeting to discuss the current projects and maintenance season wrap-up. Kelley also provided input operationally regarding the A Lateral project proposal from AJ Rosengarth. Board discussion followed regarding ditch

maintenance, approach, and planning. There was also discussion regarding a patron education best practices educational series on social media or other means.

C. Hydro Report -

A written report (Exhibit “F”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Doug Watson joined the meeting to answer any questions. Brian Lepore asked about the projects list and the transformer replacement. Doug gave an overview of what that job entails. Tom Burke had some suggestions on what type of transformer to research to purchase. Discussion followed regarding maintenance and upkeep on the hydro facilities.

D. Internal Operations & Communications-

A written report (Exhibit “G”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Craig Horrell updated the Board on the information that is going out for the Joint Townhall with NUID.

E. Finance -

The written report (Exhibit “H”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Heidi Dennison joined via Zoom. She explained that we are within the budget and on track through January. The 2023 audit is in process.

F. Manager Report-

Craig Horrell gave an overview of his recent trip to New Zealand. He will provide a slide show and summary of his trip in an upcoming Board meeting.

6. **BILLINGS & PAYROLL:**

Tom Burke made a motion to approve the Billings and Payroll as presented. Following a second by Jeff Larkin the motion was approved unanimously.

7. **OLD BUSINESS:**

• **Merkley PL 566**

EIS Update: Craig Horrell updated the Board. The process is still in progress. Hoping for May, on the draft EIS, but could go into early summer because of the government process.

• **SPP Property Update**

Craig Horrell updated the board on the property sale. We are still waiting on FERC to approve our easement and remap.

• **L Lateral Piping Project**

Kelley Hamby provided an update. The plan for completion is by April 1st.

• **New Board Member On-Boarding**

The on-boarding for HCP 101 will be coming up March 19th. Craig Horrell gave an overview of what will be presented in this training session.

• **Union Meeting Update / Committee Report**

Discussion occurred in Executive Session.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

• **Joint Townhall Meeting**

Craig Horrell is hoping for a good turnout from both districts. Many of our partners will be there. If we can gather questions prior to the meeting that would be helpful so we can get those answered in the presentation.

• **A Lateral Easement Request**

Discussion in Executive Session. Craig Horrell will contact Mr. Rosengarth per Board instruction.

• **DRC On-Farm Pilot – J & L Laterals**

Kate Fitzpatrick with DRC presented the proposed on-farm pilot project. She explained that the goal is to incentivize patrons to use less water due to conservation efforts and the new piping. North Unit would then pay the patrons for the water that was conserved by them and provided to NUID. As a pilot, it is limited to patrons in the piped section of the Pilot Butte Canal that have the ability to improve their on-farm applications and plant low water crops to conserve. Their water would be metered and tracked and if they used less water than what is the full delivery rate they could get money back for the conservation. This would be a one-year pilot and then evaluated and reconsidered. Board discussion followed. She also discussed the draft cost structure and how the calculations were determined. It is projected that 4 patrons would participate in this year's pilot. More discussion followed. It was proposed that Kate attend the joint board to board breakfast to be scheduled (April 1st or 2nd) to discuss the proposal with NUID and COID together.

At 11:05 a.m. the Board recessed the General Session and moved to the Executive Session.

- ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to carry on labor negotiations.
- ORS 192.660(2)(e) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.
- ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

The executive session recessed and returned to general session at 12:21 p.m.

9. BOARD COMMENTS:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m. following a motion by Tom Burke and a second by CB Foss.

Craig Horrell, Manager

Tom Burke

Brad Clarno

C.B. Foss

APPROVED