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The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) was called to order by Brad Clarno, at 9:02 AM on April 8, 2025, in the district office.

The Directors present were Tom Burke, Brad Clarno, Brian Lepore, CB Foss, and Jeff Larkin. Craig Horrell, Secretary - Managing Director, Jon Skidmore, Deputing Managing Director; Jenny Hartzell-Hill, HR Manager; and Jessi Talbott, Water Rights Director, Kelley O'Rourke, Internal Operations Manager; and Matt Singer, General Counsel; all attended in person. Heidi Dennison, Finance Consultant; Cary Penhollow, Water Master; Baxter Davies, Operations Manager; Doug Watson, Hydro Manager; Erin Bathke, Accounting and Administrative Assistant; and Mikaela Watson, Water Rights Project Assistant participated via zoom. In-person guests are listed in Exhibit "A".

**1. OPEN FORUM:**

None.

**2. MINUTES:**

The minutes of the 3/11/25 Regular Meeting and 4/2/25 Special Meeting were provided to the Board. A motion was made by Tom Burke to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Following a second by Brian Lepore the motion was approved unanimously.

**3. TRANSFERS / INCLUSIONS:**

The water rights memorandum was provided to the Board prior to the meeting, Exhibit "B". Brian Lepore made a motion to approve the transfers as presented. Following a second by Jeff Larkin the motion was approved unanimously.

**4. REPORTS:**

- A. Watermaster Report –  
A written report (Exhibit "C") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Cary Penhollow joined the Board and discussed current reservoir levels and flows in the river. He also informed the Board that both canals were turned on yesterday.
- B. Operations and Maintenance Report –  
A written report (Exhibit "D") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Baxter Davies updated the Board on season start up.
- C. Hydro Report -  
A written report (Exhibit "E") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Doug Watson joined the meeting in person and updated the Board on the off-season maintenance status and processes. He is also working on contract negotiations for a new power contract.
- D. Internal Operations & Communications-  
A written report (Exhibit "F") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Craig Horrell informed the board that the questions from the town hall meeting have been answered and will be posted on the COID website. He also informed

them that we are working on our communications that he will take to DC at the end of the month. The new internal program FLOW is coming together and should be ready to test within the next month. Arnold Irrigation District is behind schedule on their construction and water is not expected to be turned on until May 31<sup>st</sup>.

- E. Finance -  
The written report (Exhibit “G”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Heidi Dennison joined the meeting. Nothing additional to report.
- F. Manager Report-  
Craig Horrell reported that he is going to Washington DC the week of April 24<sup>th</sup>. He is going with ShanRae Hawkins, Josh Bailey and Mike Britton.

5. **BILLINGS & PAYROLL:**

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

6. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Merkley PL 566**  
Craig Horrell updated the board that we have \$25,000,000 on hold through RCPP funds. We will get an update on the funds when we go to DC. The draft EIS is currently being reviewed and approved so we can begin the public meeting process this summer.
- **SPP Property Update**  
Jon Skidmore reported that the forest plan is in the works for the fire fuels reduction work.
- **USDA Water Savings Grant Program**  
Craig Horrell reported that this funding is still on hold.
- **BOR Grant Awards**  
These funds are also on hold. Expecting to see them start to release money late spring/early summer.
- **DBWC**  
Craig Horrell reviewed the talking points that Scott Aycock brought to the Town Hall meeting. See exhibit H attached. As this plan is developed, all the irrigation district boards are getting informed of the process and development.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

- **Pilot Butte Canal Conserved Water Projects and Certificate Updates**  
Tom Burke made a motion to proceed to finalize the Pilot Butte Canal certification modifications for conserved water including the conditions as discussed and authorized the manager to sign final affidavit with OWRD. Following a second by CB Foss the motion was approved unanimously.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Brad Clarno recessed the regular session to go into the Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. under the following ORS:

- 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 the general session at 11:32 a.m.

**8. BOARD COMMENTS:**

CB Foss asked about COID water that is delivered to NUID and what they pay. Craig explained the calculation on the fee. At the fall strategic planning meeting we can explore using NUID funds for specific purposes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. following a motion by Brian Lepore and a second by Jeff Larkin.

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Craig Horrell, Manager

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Tom Burke

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Brad Clarno

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C.B. Foss

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Jeff Larkin

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Brian Lepore