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The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) was called to order by Brad Clarno, at 9:02 a.m. on March 10, 2026, in the district office.

The Directors present were Tom Burke, Brad Clarno, Jeff Larkin, and CB Foss. Craig Horrell, Secretary - Managing Director, Jon Skidmore, Deputing Managing Director; Jenny Hartzell-Hill, HR Manager; Kelley O'Rourke, Internal Operations Manager; Jessi Talbott, Water Rights Director; and Mikaela Watson, Water Rights Project Assistant, all attended in person. Heidi Dennison, Accounting Consultant; Douglas Watson, Hydro Manager; Cary Penhollow, Water Master; Baxter Davies, Operations Manager, and Matt Singer, General Counsel participated via zoom. In-person guests are listed in Exhibit "A". Additional participants on Zoom: Scott Martin, Emily Cureton Cook, and Michael (No last name).

**1. OPEN FORUM:**

Seth Flanders, DSWCD, shared that the partnership with COID and Jessi Talbott, Mikaela Watson and Jason Heinrick have been very helpful and they are working hard to develop and promote on-farm improvements.

**2. MINUTES:**

The minutes of the 1/29/26 Special Meeting and the 2/10/26 Regular Meeting were provided to the Board. A motion was made by Tom Burke to approve both the meeting minutes as presented. Following a second by CB Foss the motion was approved unanimously.

**3. TRANSFERS / INCLUSIONS:**

The water rights memorandum was provided to the Board prior to the meeting, Exhibit "B". Mikaela Watson provided a summary of water rights, and projects. Tom Burke 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 meeting and updated them on levels at Crane Prairie and Wickiup. Deschutes River flows and season start up was discussed.
- B. Operations and Maintenance Report  
A written report (Exhibit "D") was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Baxter Davies informed the Board that construction projects that are occurring around and in our facilities are on track and will be completed by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Equipment purchase update, field staff have tested two machines to determine which piece of equipment will do what we need them too. Baxter will bring the figures to the Equipment Committee as soon as it comes in.
- C. Hydro Report -  
A written report (Exhibit "E") was provided to the Board at the meeting. Doug Watson joined the Board meeting and updated them on operations. Water has

been running and generating since the stock water run. It will power down tomorrow for the day for some inspections.

D. Internal Operations & Communications-

A written report (Exhibit “F”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Craig Horrell reminded the Board that March 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm at Redmond Senior Center is the final EIS Public meeting. The DBBC Town Hall with Season Outlook for 2026 is March 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at The Riverhouse in Bend.

E. Finance -

The written report (Exhibit “G”) was provided to the Board prior to the meeting. Heidi Dennison joined the meeting to answer any questions. She also informed the Board that the 2025 audit is submitted to the accountant.

F. Manager Report-

Craig Horrell gave an office staff update and informed that that we have made two hires that will start later in March.

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**

Craig Horrell updated the board that the EIS is in final stages. Timeline: public meeting March 17<sup>th</sup> and then there is a window for public comment. We are already receiving a lot of comments. We are expecting people to be at the meeting that are supportive of the piping and opposed.

• **Grant Funding Update**

- RCPP Grant has been awarded – working to get this one completed.
- IRA Funding – Working to get a contract. When Craig goes to DC in April, he will work on this.
- USDA Funding – The funding is there, just taking time to get it completed and released.

• **DBWC**

Craig Horrell updated the Board that staff are still participating in the meetings. There was a meeting two weeks ago and each irrigation district brought one Board member. Tom Burke represented COID Board at this meeting. Tom provided a summary of the meeting and said with the tribes stepping back he thinks the irrigation districts should step back as well. Board discussion followed.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

• **DBBC Town Hall**

March 18, 2026, at the Riverhouse Convention Center. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. and presentation starts at 5:30 p.m.

- **2026 Season Start-Up**

Cary Penhollow joined the meeting to discuss the options. Pilot Butte will start first followed by the Central Oregon Canal. The Board agrees to start on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Brad Clarno recessed the regular session to go into the Executive Session at 9:53 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 11:39 a.m.

9. **BOARD COMMENTS:**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. following a motion by Tom Burke and a second by CB Foss.

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Craig Horrell, Manager

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Tom Burke

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Brad Clarno

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Jim Fields

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C.B. Foss

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Jeff Larkin