BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 14, 2026
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD:	Jack Billings, Martin Warbington, Yves Teirlynck, David Hampton, Jeff Stuermer
STAFF:	Chris Schull, April Spath
ATTORNEY:	Mark Reinecke
GUESTS:	Greg Mohnen, Carolyn Davis, Sam Davis, Patrice Spyrka, Bob Varco, Shawn Teevin, Ben Hayner, Mary Wallis, Carol Shull, Susie Hart, Hana Cooper, Marianne Walker, Casey Roscoe, Julian Caballero, Lauren Cramer, Bob Sexton, Nunzie Gould, Jack Farley, Ed Galazzo, Joel Gisler, Julia Gisler. Zoom Attendees: Gail Hill, Mike Wilkie, Michael Miller

Chairman Billings called the regular board meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. and appointed April Spath scribe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 10:06 a.m. the Board recessed the regular session and entered executive session per:

- ORS 192.660(2)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney.

RECONVENE

Regular session was reconvened at 10:35 a.m. It was noted that Susie Hart was recording the meeting (audio), and Mike Wilkie recorded the meeting on Zoom.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO AGENDA

None.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 2026 BOARD MEETINGS

Director Hampton made a motion to approve all meeting minutes for the month of June 2026. Director Stuermer seconded the motion. Chairman Billings, Vice Chair Warbington, and Director Teirlynck all voted in favor and the motion passed with a vote of 5-0.

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

The current water supply report and graph indicated that Crescent Lake was 21% full at ~ 18,416 AF. Once the lake goes below 10,000 AF, head pressure is lost and water cannot be drawn from it.

WATER SHUT OFF

Manager Schull stated there was enough water in Crescent Lake to get through the month of August. He proposed setting the shut off date to be Monday, August 31st for the 2026 irrigation season. Based on the current rotation schedule, Rotation 1 (piped) would be shut off first thing Monday morning, August 24, 2026. Therefore, Sunday, August 23, 2026, would be the final full day of water delivery for Rotation 1 patrons. That would leave the lake at ~11,000 AF after the two-week ramp down that is required for the Oregon spotted frog. Director Teirlynck verified that a notification would be sent out to patrons.

PIPING UPDATE

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) was in the process of completing the amendment for Grant #NR230436XXXXC006, which was used to pipe Group 4. The amendment would provide the District with the grant funds needed to pipe Group 6B this winter. Once that amendment is complete, a special meeting will be scheduled for the Board to review it.

K&E PROJECT UPDATE

As discussed at last month's meeting, K&E Excavating contacted Manager Schull regarding the potential removal of one of TID's divider boxes located within the county right-of-way while performing work for Deschutes County as part of the Tumalo Reservoir Road Improvement Project. As an additional effort outside the County's project scope, K&E Excavating proposed connecting the affected properties to the pressurized Parkhurst pipeline, which would benefit the District. K&E Excavating offered to perform the labor associated with this additional work at no cost to the District, provided that TID supplied the necessary materials. Deschutes County ultimately decided not to allocate funding toward a cost-sharing arrangement with TID; therefore, the proposed additional work will not move forward as part of the County's project.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT

The Board reviewed the written motion that was made at the last regular board meeting to amend the Bylaws, removing the sentence on page 3 that states: "To the extent permitted by these Bylaws and applicable law, the Chair shall hold all powers and perform all functions of the chief executive officer of the District or as otherwise designated by the Board." Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to accept the amendment. Director Hampton seconded the motion. Chairman Billings, Director Teirlynck, and Director Stuermer all voted in favor and the motion passed with a 5-0 vote. Director Stuermer recommended reviewing the Bylaws further and clarifying what the Board Chair's responsibilities are.

ELECTION POLICY

The Board reviewed proposed updates to Section IV.B of the TID Election Policy, which added clarification on the process of collecting and maintaining voter registration cards. Manager Schull recommended having legal counsel review the proposed changes and review again at the next board meeting. Chairman Billings explained the reason for the proposed change. Director Stuermer inquired about the percentage of patrons currently registered to vote. Office Manager Spath confirmed that as of September 2025, 75% of the District was registered, and that before the next election she would be mailing out registration cards to anyone who was not yet registered.

TUMALO RESERVOIR IMPROVEMENTS

Former Field Supervisor Bob Varco provided historical context regarding the District's experience with Tumalo Reservoir, and shared recommendations for its maintenance and long-term improvement. He emphasized the importance of maintaining the District's ability to utilize the reservoir, when possible, to deliver water to patrons served by the Couch Lateral. Chairman Billings inquired about the feasibility of lining the reservoir. Varco suggested a three-step approach: (1) be capable of utilizing the reservoir in its current condition, (2) automate the reservoir inflow, and (3) line the reservoir as a long-term improvement. Manager Schull and Director Hampton discussed the current wetland determination, noting that it remains the District's primary obstacle to maintaining and improving the reservoir. Varco agreed that the District's immediate priority should be to pursue removal of the wetland classification, consistent with the direction discussed by the Board at its August 14, 2024, meeting.

OTHER

Chairman Billings requested an update on the Tumalo sewer project. Manager Schull stated he informed Rob Fish that he would need to provide the Board with a proposal to review before they could make any decisions.

Manager Schull received a request for the District's support of the Deschutes County 4-H & FFA Youth Livestock Auction. He recommended providing a $40 add-on contribution to the participant's 4-H livestock project using Community Outreach funds. The Board expressed no objection to the proposed donation.

Vice Chair Warbington and Director Teirlynck reported on their recent work group meeting with HR Answers. The group reviewed applicable legal requirements, including mandatory policy provisions and areas where the Board had discretion in establishing policy. Director Teirlynck stated that a draft of the handbook should be ready for Board review soon.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patron Nunzie Gould asked what was included in the District's Asset Management Plan and if Tumalo Reservoir was included in that. She also stated she would like the Board to provide individual contact information for all directors.

Paton Julian Caballero asked for clarification on the purpose of obtaining voter registration cards, and the location of the next piping project that was discussed. The Board answered questions about the District's current view regarding public participation in board meetings.

Patron Susie Hart pointed out that the District's Bylaws and Policies were posted on TID's website.

Oregon Water Resources Department hosted an open house in Redmond last month regarding the Department's proposed rulemaking to amend OAR Chapter 690, Divisions 250, 260, 300, and 340. They had requested public input on proposed revisions related to waste of water, bulges in the system, exempt uses, and violations and penalties. Patron Casey Roscoe expressed concerns about the proposed changes, requested that the District keep them informed as the rulemaking progresses, and inquired about opportunities to participate in the public comment process.

Patron Bob Sexton asked Manager Schull about the District's recent message regarding illegal dumping on TID property and recommended that the District send a follow-up notice reminding patrons that motorized vehicles, including electric vehicles, were also prohibited on District property.

Susie Hart requested an update regarding Knife River's proposed mining project on the Coats property. Nunzie Gould asked Attorney Reinecke whether his firm's representation of the Coats family presented a conflict of interest. Attorney Reinecke stated that his firm represents the interests of Tumalo Irrigation District and advised that, if a conflict of interest were to arise, he would promptly recommend that TID obtain alternate legal counsel.

APPROVE VOUCHER LIST

Director Teirlynck requested clarification regarding the Farmers Conservation Alliance (FCA) and GSI Solutions invoices. Manager Schull explained that both invoices were for consulting services. FCA is assisting the District with the process of securing EPA grant funding intended for the Group 6C project. GSI Solutions provides consulting services related to Conserved Water applications, which are required as part of the process for obtaining state grant funding.

Director Teirlynck also inquired whether the hazardous tree removal invoice was associated with a specific property.

Director Stuermer made a motion to approve the July 2026 voucher list, and Director Teirlynck seconded the motion. Chairman Billings, Vice Chair Warbington, and Director Hampton voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The date of the next regular board meeting was set for Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Executive session at 10:00 a.m. and returning to regular session at approximately 10:30 a.m.)

ADJOURN

Director Stuermer made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:31 p.m., and Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion. Chairman Billings, Director Teirlynck, and Director Hampton voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously with a 5-0 vote.