BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 11, 2026
64697 Cook Avenue
Bend, Oregon 97703

BOARD: Jack Billings, Martin Warbington, Yves Teirlynck, David Hampton, Jeffrey Stuermer
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Spath
ATTORNEY: Garrett Chrostek
GUESTS: Sam Davis, Carolyn Airriess, Greg Mohnen, Dave Arnold, Becky Arnold, Hana Cooper, Casey Roscoe, Ben Hayner, Carol Shull, Bob Varco, Shawn Teevin, Susie Hart, Seth Flanders, Joel Marshall, Marianne Walker. Zoom Attendees: Michael Miller

Chairman Billings called the regular board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and appointed April Spath scribe.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT

At 10:00 a.m. the Board recessed the regular session and entered executive session per:

- ORS 192.660(2)(e): To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to negotiate real property transactions.
- 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 10:38 a.m. It was noted that Susie Hart was recording the meeting.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO AGENDA

Manager Schull stated he needed approval from the Board to replace the 2017 Dodge Ram. The Board discussed what type of vehicle was needed for a ditchrider. Schull stated he would gather some information on pricing for the Board.

Director Teirlynck stated that he would like to discuss how the Board operates and suggested creating a to-do list prior to each meeting, as well as maintaining a calendar to track completed and outstanding items. He recommended including an in-depth financial review at least quarterly and ensuring that policy updates are completed in a timely matter. The Board agreed with Teirlynck's recommendation, and Chairman Billings stated that the discussion would be placed on the agenda for next month's meeting.

In addition to a financial report, Director Stuermer asked if someone from the field could attend future meetings to provide an update on current field activities. Director Hampton stated he would like to take a tour of the District. Manager Schull stated that he had previously taken Chairman Billings and Director Teirlynck on a tour of the District when they joined the Board earlier in the year and would be happy to provide a tour for Hampton and Stuermer as well.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 2026 BOARD MEETINGS

Director Stuermer noted that the Bylaws require any action taken during an emergency meeting to be ratified at the next regular meeting. Since the action taken during the emergency meeting held on July 6th was not ratified at last month's regular meeting, the Board determined that ratification should occur at today's meeting.

Director Stuermer made a motion to ratify the decision made at the emergency meeting held on July 6, 2026. Director Teirlynck seconded the motion. Chairman Billings, Vice Chair Warbington, and Director Hampton voted in favor. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 5-0.

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

WATER SUPPLY REPORT

The current water supply report and graph indicated that Crescent Lake was 16% full at ~ 13,500 AF. Manager Schull commented that the long-term forecast does not look good.

GRANT UPDATE

The District received the fully executed grant agreement for Bureau of Reclamation Award No. R26AP00089 for the Group 5 Couch Lateral piping project in the amount of $8,400,000. Manager Schull stated that construction for Group 5 was expected to begin in the fall of 2027.

NRCS AMENDMENT APPROVAL

The Board was provided with copies of the proposed amendment from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for Grant No. NR230436XXXXC006. The amendment provides the federal match needed to complete Group 6B, as well as funding for engineering and design for the remaining projects included in the Watershed Plan (WSP). The amendment included an increase of $3,605,616 for Group 6B construction activities and management and an additional $755,864 for archaeological surveys, land surveying, and 100% engineering design for Groups 5, 6C, and the remaining sublaterals referred to as Group 7 in the WSP.

Director Teirlynck inquired about Black Rock Engineering’s expenses and requested clarification as to whether the funds designated for engineering were intended solely for Black Rock Engineering’s services. He also asked whether the District had solicited bids for the design and engineering work before hiring Black Rock Engineering for the first piping project and whether the firm’s continued involvement represented a continuation of that original work. Manager Schull stated that he would investigate the matter.

Vice Chair Warbington provided background on how Kevin Crew of Black Rock Engineering came to work for TID and stated that he had full confidence in Mr. Crew’s qualifications. However, Warbington agreed that Black Rock Consulting should provide TID with a bid for the work.

Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to authorize Manager Schull to sign the amendment to NRCS Grant No. NR230436XXXXC006. Director Hampton seconded the motion. Chairman Billings voted in favor, while Director Stuermer and Director Teirlynck abstained, stating they had not taken part in the preceding steps and were unclear about what they would signing off on. The motion passed with a vote of 3-2.

Manager Schull explained the bid process and timeline. The bid proposal was advertised in the Daily Journal of Commerce and through EO Media Group. A pre-bid meeting was scheduled for August 17, 2026, and notification was sent to affected property owners. Written proposals were scheduled to be publicly open and read at 2:00 p.m. on August 27th at the District office. Cost proposals would be publicly opened and read at 2:00 p.m. on September 1st. Schull stated that construction could begin as early as September 9, 2026.

ELECTION POLICY

The Board determined that additional time was needed to review the proposed updates to the Election Policy.

OTHER

Office Manager Spath stated that petitions for the 2026 election for Divisions 2, 4, and 5 would be available for pickup beginning August 27, 2026. She also noted that detailed information regarding the upcoming election was available on the front page of TID's website.

Director Teirlynck and Manager Schull discussed the next steps for updating the Employee Handbook and suggested that the Board review the draft soon. Director Stuermer suggested that each Board member conduct an independent review and then collectively review a list of items requiring an executive decision by the Board. Manager Schull stated he would contact HR Answers to obtain a list of the decisions that needed to be made.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patron Becky Arnold asked about noxious weeds and whether the District had the authority to enforce weed management. It was explained that Deschutes County was the only entity that has that authority.

Patron Shawn Teevin commented on the importance of ensuring compliance with the requirements associated with federal grants. He shared that he had previously been involved with a wetland mitigation project for which the government returned five years after the project had been completed and all requirements had been met, requesting additional compliance measures. Manager Schull explained that piping grants were subject to different requirements.

Patron Joel Marshall expressed his concerns about the Couch lateral being abnormally high this year, yet he won't receive water into September when he needs it. He stated he had made several calls reporting the issue but never received a response. Manager Schull explained his thoughts on the challenges with the culvert in that section of the District and stated he would take TID's Operations Manager out to Marshall's property to assess the situation.

Patron Susie Hart commended the Board for the work accomplished so far this year. She suggested that the meeting minutes include more detail, particularly when patrons ask questions, by documenting the response provided or noting when an answer was not available. Scribe April Spath noted the suggestion.

Hart also requested clarification regarding BLJ's May 2026 invoice, specifically the time billed for a conversation involving Manager Schull and Ron Cochran. She questioned why Mr. Cochran's name appeared on the invoice, as he was no longer serving on the Board. Manager Schull explained that the District's legal counsel may provide legal advice to former board members regarding complaints that were filed while they were serving on the Board. He further clarified that the conversation concerned SDAO's insurance coverage for former board members and that, although the discussion involved Mr. Cochran, he was not present for the conversation.

APPROVE VOUCHER LIST

Office Manager Spath answered the Board's questions about the voucher list.

Director Stuermer made a motion to approve the August 2026 voucher list, 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.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The date of the next regular board meeting was set for Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Executive session at 10:00 a.m. and returning to regular session at approximately 10:30 a.m.)

Chairman Billings directed Board members to notify Office Manager Spath and/or Manager Schull of any items that should be included on the carry-over list for future meetings.

ADJOURN

Director Stuermer made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:32 p.m., 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.