

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 8, 2023**  
**64697 Cook Avenue**  
**Bend, Oregon 97703**

BOARD: Ron Cochran, Martin Warbington, Steve Putnam, Carol Shull  
STAFF: Chris Schull, April Harris Spath  
ATTORNEY: Garrett Chrostek  
GUESTS: Bob Varco, David Hampton, Greg Mohnen, Marianne Walker, Susan Hart, Todd Peplin, Stephen Newell, Jennifer Newell, April Snell

Chairman Cochran called the regular board meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and appointed April Harris 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)(f): To consider information or records that are exempt from disclosure by law, including written advice from your attorney.
- ORS 192.660(2)(h): To consult with your attorney regarding your legal rights and duties in regard to current litigation or litigation that is more likely than not to be filed.
- ORS 192.660(2)(e): To conduct deliberations with persons you have designated to negotiate real property transactions.

**RECONVENE**

Following the executive session, the regular session was reconvened at 11:02 a.m.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 2023 BOARD MEETINGS**

Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 2023 board meetings. Director Putnam seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**WATER SUPPLY REPORT**

Manager Schull reviewed the current water supply report and attached graph, which indicated that Crescent Lake was 13% full at ~11,000 AF. Schull stated that we will have just enough water to finish the season on September 8<sup>th</sup> and hopes we have a better winter next year.

**STEIDL DAM UPDATE**

The last two automated river gates have been ordered and will be installed during the upcoming maintenance season. After a couple more years, TID should have enough funds to replace the last two diversion gates. The dam was built in 1926 and should last another 100 years once this maintenance has been completed.

**GROUP 4 UPDATE**

Manager Schull is working with Kevin Crew on Group 4 and plans to go out to bid soon. This project consists of piping 12.5 miles of open canals so there will be a lot of ground to cover. Schull stated that the completion of this project will be a turning point in the way that the District delivers water. The amount of water that will be saved will be significant.

### **OWRC INTRODUCTION**

Manager Schull introduced April Snell, Director of the Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC). Director Snell discussed what the OWRC does and how they advocate for water districts in Oregon. They offer tours, educational workshops, and help districts look for grants. OWRC works closely with various natural resource organizations around Oregon. They also work with lobbyists in Washington D.C. to help districts on a federal level. Snell discussed the \$50 million they recently secured for irrigation districts. The grant will be funded through the Oregon Water Resources Department and is available to irrigation districts and similar entities with eligible projects (as described in HB 5030).

### **ODOT LAWSUIT**

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) filed a complaint against Eakins Properties, LLC regarding Proceedings in Eminent Domain. TID sold the subject property to Eakins in 2017. TID should have been removed from the property at that time. However, the title company forgot to remove TID as having an interest in subject property. As a solution to the title company's error, Manager Schull can sign a Statement of Non-Interest in Condemnation Proceedings. Director Putnam made a motion authorizing Manager Schull to sign the statement. Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Todd Peplin, Programs Lead with the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District (DSWCD), handed out flyers for the workshop that will be held August 15<sup>th</sup> at Tumalo Aspen Ranch. The workshop will be hosted by the DSWCD in partnership with The High Desert Food and Farm Alliance, and School of Ranch with guest speakers from Nelson Irrigation & Thompson Pump and Irrigation. Peplin stated that the main focus will be on pivots, but that people are welcome to ask other questions as well.

Susan Hart asked Manager Schull why we can't just deliver 50% to everyone instead of going on rotation. Manager Schull explained that we need enough "carry water" in the system to get the water down to the end of the ditches and laterals, and that is why we cannot reduce the flow to 50% all the time and still deliver to the entire district. Hart also asked about the status of the prospective petition that was filed by Kelly Hugulet to recall Steve Putnam. Hart stated that Hugulet reached out to her but was unable to answer her questions. She requested a copy of his reason for petitioning the recall. Hugulet has 90 days from the date he submitted the prospective petition to get the required amount of signatures. The prospective petition was submitted July 14, 2023 and is due October 12, 2023. The completed petition must contain 21 valid signatures. This is 15% of the 134 qualified electors for Division 1.

Stephen and Jennifer Newell discussed their concerns with Manager Schull and the Board. They stated they were also approached by Kelly Hugulet and had questions as well. They suggested TID have a representative that can inform people about what is happening in the District. The Board encouraged anyone who has questions or concerns to reach out to the Director that represents the division that they live in. Chairman Cochran also stated that there is an abundance of information on TID's website and encouraged them to look there. Contact information for all 5 directors is also available on our website. Copies of the board meeting minutes are uploaded every month once they have been approved. There are resources, news links, and updated water supply information. Manager Schull stated that he is available by phone as well and is happy to return calls and answer questions.

### **MOTION TO APPROVE AUGUST 2023 VOUCHER LIST**

Vice Chair Warbington made a motion to approve the August 2023 voucher list. Director Shull seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The date of the next board meeting was set for September 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

Director Putnam made a motion to adjourn the regular board meeting at 12:20 p.m. Vice Chair Warbington seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.